



*Second Congregational Church in Wilton,  
United Church of Christ  
Open and Affirming*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**The Third Sunday After Pentecost**  
**June 26, 2022**  
Second Congregational Church in Wilton,  
United Church of Christ

**Welcome to the worship of God at the  
Second Congregational Church in Wilton,  
United Church of Christ.**

**We are glad you are here today!**

***Bold print means congregational participation.***  
*An asterisk (\*) indicates to please stand, if you are able.*

**GATHERING FOR THE WORD**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 42)

**One:** As a deer longs for flowing streams of water,  
our souls reach out to seek our God.

**Many:** **Where is our God? In the cleansing of the rain,  
in the refreshing of a pool, in the predictability  
of a faucet.**

**One:** With glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,  
our voices lift toward our God.

**Many:** **Where is our God? In the melody of voices raised  
in concert, in the stillness of silence,  
in the cacophony of spontaneous praise.**

**One:** As deep calls to deep,  
we come to worship the Living God.

**Many:** **Where is our God? In the echoes of our prayers,  
in the reverence of bowed heads, in the hope of  
raised faces. The Holy One is with us.**

**\*HYMN** "I Love to Tell the Story" NO. 560

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

(UNISON)

Holy Wisdom, we hear you calling us to gather and to hope in your name. Ignite sacred courage in us to proclaim the good news of justice from the comfort of the sanctuary to the public witness of the city gates. Inspire a compelling vision of a gracious, beloved, and empowered community that propels us to confront inequities, challenge privilege, and participate in your creative work in our time. Renew our hope for humanity so that we might rejoice in this inhabited world and delight in our siblings. Amen.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

(UNISON)

Holy and Gracious God, fear seeks to be our constant companion. It stifles us with its overwhelming presence and prolific imagination. Fear surrounds us and blocks our vision and your path. Fear keeps us from picking up our cross as much as it suppresses our joy in you. Fear invites us to believe the easy lie rather than confronting the hard truths necessary for your kingdom to come. Too often, we cast off your perfect love in favor of insidious fear. Forgive us for choosing fear when we could have you, your presence, and your way as our companion on our journey. Empower us to reject fear and all that fall complicit in dampening your truth.

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Romans 5:1b-2a reminds us that “We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand.” That grace promises the glory of transformation through the acknowledgement of need for it. New life awaits as “hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” (v.5) Receive grace, embrace transformation, and enter the newness of life in which Christ fashions our struggles into character and hope.

**\*GLORIA PATRI TUNE: GREATOREX**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

**ENGAGING THE WORD**

**ANTHEM**

**MISSION POSSIBLE OFFERING**

**READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Luke 24:13-31

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did

not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.

**SERMON** "I Saw Jesus"

**\*HYMN** "Softly and Tenderly" NO. 348

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those  
who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

The gifts of God come generously and abundantly.  
We hold, nurture, and amplify them as they are entrusted  
to our care. We respond faithfully by sharing them for the  
good of community and creation. In this act of faith and  
trust, we transform our resources of time, talent,  
and finances into the good news in the world.

**\*OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

**\*DOXOLOGY Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING (UNISON)**

We give you thanks, God Our Help, for the abundance of the gifts you have planted in us as seeds that we may share in bloom. May these offerings be received and magnified for your glory.

**\*HYMN "O, How I Love Jesus" NO. 109**

**GOING WITH THE WORD**

**\*BENEDICTION**

May peace be with you as you confront lies with truth and fear with hope. May the Abiding One strengthen you to stand in truth and hope. May the Living Water refresh you with new streams of righteousness. May Wisdom be the voice you follow now as you go out into the world, encouraged and embolden, and renewed.

**\*POSTLUDE**

Praising God's glory the flowers are given  
by Lori Dick in celebration of Summer

## Announcements

### **Picture Day—June 26th, following worship**

Come and review some OLD pictures (black and whites of events at the church) found upstairs. Help us identify and decide what to do with these pictures

Communion will be on July 10th

## On The Calendar

Deacon's Meeting - June 27, 7:00 PM, Sanctuary

Job Description/Procedure Committee—

June 28, 7:00 PM, Parish Hall

**PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Jane Herlihy (Worship Leader)  
Lori Dick, Liturgist  
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music

All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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