



*Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ*

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Eighth Sunday of Easter
June 5, 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.*

MEDITATIVE PRAYER

for personal meditation before the service begins:

Breathe on us, Breath of God, as we gather to worship you. Attune our lips to sing your praise; sensitize our hearts to hear your Word; open our minds to receive your guidance; challenge our lives to emulate him whom as Christians we adore and profess to follow. Then when the worship ends, let our service begin! Amen. — *John Biegert*

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Gathered as a portion of Christ's church, Jesus reminds us of his promise: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am among them."

All: So may our good and faithful Shepherd be with us as we lift up our voices to praise God for our many blessings ... be with us to guide and uphold us in his way ... be known to us this day, even in the breaking of bread, as our joy / our inspiration / and our strength. Amen.

***HYMN** "This Is My Father's World " NO. 21

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

(UNISON)

God of glory, Lord of love, we thank you for the new day. We recognize your handiwork in the beauty and wonder of nature, and your goodness in the ties that bind us together as a people of faith. In this glad hour, bless us with your presence in every hymn we sing ... in every prayer we offer ... in the joy of giving and the privilege of receiving, even as we partake of the symbols of your grace when we eat the bread and drink from the cup of communion. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***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

ANTHEM

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR OFFERINGS

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**

(Unison)

Gracious God, we are grateful for this day and for all the many ways you bless our lives and enable us to be a source of blessings to others. Use us and the gifts we bring for the good of your church and the welfare of our neighbors near and far who are in need. Transform our caring into bread for the hungry ... healing for the sick ... and hope for all who long for peace and justice. Amen.

ENGAGING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 11:1-7; 32-34

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead. By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith. And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson

and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

SERMON "Living by Faith"

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN (seated)
Let Us Break Bread Together NO. 699

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

We welcome all people to join in receiving this sacrament. Children may participate at the discretion of their parents (guardians). The cup contains grape juice and the cracker in the small bowl is gluten free.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

When receiving the bread, eat it when you are ready as a sign of your personal relationship with God, and when receiving the cup, please wait for the minister to initiate when we drink after all have been served as a sign of being in the community of Christ.

*HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God" NO. 14

GOING WITH THE WORD

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*All who are able are invited to stand



Praising God's glory the flowers
are given by Mike and Deb Degan
in loving memory of Mike's parents,
James and Gail Degan.

Announcements

ALL CHURCH MEETING

Information has been sent out to all church members regarding ONA. There will be an all church meeting immediately following service on **Sunday, June 12, 2022**. At that time a vote will be taken to approve or disapprove of ONA designation for our church.
Please come and vote - your vote matters

Covenant

We are a church, believing that each of us is created in God's Image. We celebrate everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual and religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry and mission of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe and nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

Accepted into by-laws, June 2021

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Smith (Guest Pastor)
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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