

ORDER OF WORSHIP
The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
July 31, 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**

One: Your love, O God, reaches to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the skies.

All: **Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your justice like the great deep.**

One: Earth's children take refuge in the
shadow of your wings.

All: **We feast on the abundance of your house;
you give us drink from your river of delights.**
**For with you is the fountain of life; in your light
we see light. Glory be to you, O God,
our life and our light.**

***HYMN** "God, You Spin the Whirling Planet" **NO. 24**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

(UNISON)

We come before you as we begin a new week, O God, knowing that you are always ready to receive us, short-comings and all. We take time out to consider how our lives might better reflect your broad view of life, your forgiving spirit, your wisdom, your creativity, your patience. Today we consider what it means to live abundantly, like Jesus Christ, the shining light we follow. You call us to inspiring, difficult, and sometimes frightening missions to bring your realm into our midst. You challenge us to have courage in the face of possible ridicule and failure. We seek to be like Jesus Christ in refusing to be dead in the midst of life, and in refusing to ignore glaring needs and insistent cries for help. Bring us to new life that the spirit of the resurrection might be magnified in each of us. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has always been there for us, loving us and calling us to be all that we can be. Let us tell God all about ourselves, not leaving anything out.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(UNISON)

God, if we carry excess baggage on life's journey, teach us to travel more simply. If our possessions own us, free us to trust you and share with others. If our need for control keeps us anxious and demanding, help us to relax. If we carry loads of guilt, may we hand them over to you, trusting you to forgive us. God, make us simple: simple in trust, simple in life, simple in commitment to you. Prepare us for your mission. Allow us to join your labor to heal the hurting, feed the hungry, and bring good news to the poor. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

God is merciful and gracious, offering forgiveness freely and willingly. All that we regret shrinks in importance all that we hope blossoms and grows.

***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

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

SERMON

“More Than Enough”

***HYMN**

“All Things Are Yours!”

NO. 687

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

CALL TO THE OFFERING

We are reminded of the many ways God interacts with the world in order to meet its many needs. The cycle of life goes on and we are among that forward movement. But more importantly, we are stewards and caretakers of the earth because we are made in God's image. Let us share in that responsibility as we set aside a portion of our resources to fulfill our task as good stewards.

***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)

God of abundance, you who have everything, we bring our offering into your presence. How amazing! This is your generosity to us - we can share with you in the giving and receiving of gifts. May these be blessed for their uses and may we be blessed by the joy of not holding on to them. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Now thank we All our God ”

NO. 14

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

May we live faithfully this day and all our days, embracing God’s abundant simplicity in every aspect of life. Create in us hearts like those of children, wide open with wonder and acceptance in the presence of Jesus, through his Holy and Loving Spirit. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

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Announcements

Church Pictures/Memorabilia

we will continue to go through pictures and memorabilia each Sunday after the service until we get the majority of items labeled.

On The Calendar

Deacon's Meeting—August 1- 7:00 PM Via Zoom

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Pastor, Rev. Anne Rodman
Violet Blake, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music

All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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