



“DO NOT BE ANXIOUS
ABOUT ANYTHING,
BUT IN EVERYTHING,
BY PRAYER AND
PETITION, WITH
THANKSGIVING,
PRESENT
YOUR
REQUESTS
TO GOD.”

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
August 7, 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: Quiet your minds and still your restlessness.
Come before God.

Many: Like a bird that lights on a branch,
we come to the pause of God.

One: Warm your hearts, stir up your spirits.
Come before God.

Many: Like the flame dancing on a candle's wick,
we come to God.

One: Open your hands, meet the eyes of your neighbors.
Come before God.

Many: Like the lilies in a field each adorned with
beauty, we bring a beauty and fragrance more
lovely when gathered together in the
presence of God. We have come, let us worship!

INVOCATION

UNISON

Loving God, we need peace - so we come for quiet. We need joy - so we come for singing. We need to let things go - so we come for forgiveness. We need hope - so we come for scripture and community. We come this morning from our own agendas - help us to leave with the blessings and peace we long for and your unexpected gifts. Amen.

***HYMN** “Spirit, Working in Creation” NO. 128

CALL TO CONFESSION

Beloved, God does not disappoint those who come in hope, nor does God turn away those who approach in faith. Let us make our confession to God in hope and faith.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

UNISON

Loving God, you are Sovereign over all our days. When the winds of faith blow strong and our spirits are invigorated, you are with us. When the burdens of life seem oppressive as humid hot air and our spirits become listless, you are with us. When a sense of calm purpose moves us from the depths of our being, you are present. And when a turbulence of confusion or pain storms within us, you are present still. Forgive us when we neglect to acknowledge or to rely upon your steadfast love. Sometimes we do not want to see you. At other times we try stubbornly to do without you. Sometimes we lock you in the past as if your best efforts were concluded long ago. At other times we put you off until tomorrow. Great God, forgive us, and grant us the wisdom to trust you, the courage to serve you through Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

God's forgiveness slows us down and opens us up.
It is freely given: receive it freely.

***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 12:22-40

Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?"

"Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

SERMON **“What Steals Our Hearts and Minds?”**

***HYMN** **“Be Still and Know”** **NO. 450**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL TO THE OFFERING

God has blessed us abundantly and called us to be a community that blesses others through the sharing of our love, our talents, and our material possessions. Let us rejoice now in what we have been given and in what is ours to give as we present our morning offering.

***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

Receive this offering, Holy One, as a sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable and generous toward one another. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

***HYMN** "As We Gather at Your Table" **NO. 695**

CALL TO THE TABLE

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.

BREAKING AND POURING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

For the healing you have given us in the brokenness of bread and the pouring out of cup, we thank you. For the community that you have restored in us through the sharing of life, we thank you. For the courage and strength that you have promised to us, even as we have honored the ones of courage in our own past, we thank you. Send us forth from this place in love, freeing us to work out justice with gentleness and power known in the presence of your Spirit. Amen.

***HYMN** **“How Can I Keep from Singing?” NO. 424**

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. (Romans 15:13)

***POSTLUDE**

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Praising God's glory the flowers are given
by Michael and Cindy Broderick in memory of loved ones.

Announcements

Mark the Date!

Sunday August 28th our service will be held at
10:30 AM at Cathedral of the Pines.

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

Cathedral of the Pines Worship Service – August 28, 10:30 AM

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Guest Pastor, Rev. Anne Rodman
Dana Dahl, Liturgist

All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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