



Whoever
does not carry
their cross and
follow me cannot
be my disciple.

Luke 14:27, NIV

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 4, 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: Hear the choices that are set before us?
Do we choose God's kingdom or the way life is?

Many: O God, You search our hearts and You know us.
You know our innermost thoughts

One: We are called to walk in the way of Christ -
to walk in the way of love. This is the way of the
kingdom of God.

Many: Gracious God, open our hearts to hear Your
words. Show us how to live into Your kingdom.

INVOCATION

UNISON

**O God, Creator of all, You have made each of us in Your
image. You know us better than we know ourselves.
Your love for us extends beyond space and time.
We want to help to build Your kingdom here on earth.
Show us how to become fully engaged disciples of Christ.
Help us to redefine our priorities so that we can live into
Christ's vision of Your kingdom. This we ask in Jesus'
name. Amen.**

***HYMN** “Come, Thou Fount of every Blessing” NO. 68

CALL TO CONFESSION

God’s forgiveness is available to all those who seek it.
Come now, before God and acknowledge all the times
where you have fallen short of the life you profess to live.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

UNISON

God, we confess that we have become slaves to our own narrowmindedness and self-interest. We seek for possessions and wealth instead of for Your kingdom. We strive for our own comfort while ignoring others who are in need. We claim to be followers of Jesus, but do not follow His teachings. We neglect the poor and the hungry, the lonely and the outcast - in our thoughts and words and deeds. We come before You now, acknowledging that we need Your forgiveness and Your grace. We wish to begin anew. Hear the silent prayer that we offer now to You.

*A short time of silence while we reflect
and speak to God in our hearts*

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

Grace and Peace to you! God has heard your prayer.
Our creator creates you anew, here this moment.
Know that You are loved by God and forgiven.

***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 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

SERMON “You Want Me To Do What????”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL TO THE OFFERING

God, You have blessed us in so many ways and we are grateful. It is out of gratitude for all that You gave done for us that we gather today. Let us now give back some of those blessings as a sign of our thanks for our blessings.

*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 and loving God, our words of praise and thanksgiving fall short as we consider the many ways that You have blessed us. We ask that You accept, bless and multiply the gifts we bring this day. We now dedicate not only our offering, but ourselves as well to the bringing about of Your kingdom. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

***HYMN**

“One Bread, One Body”

NO. 689

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

Gracious and loving God, we thank You for this simple meal of bread and wine, given to us by Jesus. We thank You for the grace You have poured out upon us through the sharing of bread and cup. Help us to continue to follow the teaching of Jesus and to love others as we are loved by You. Amen

***HYMN**

“Amazing Grace”

NO.422

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

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

Rummage Sale Set up Dates—

September 15, 6:00 PM and September 16

Rummage Sale — September 17, 8:00 AM—2:00 PM

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Rhonda Mcleod, Guest Pastor
Loretta Smith, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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