

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost September 25, 2022 Second Congregational Church in Wilton,

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: Come to this place and time of promise. Many: We are becoming the house of hope,

the field of sunflowers, the vineyard of great caring.

One: Come to a shared commitment

to abundance possible for all people.

Many: We are an earthenware jar,

to keep safe the tomorrow of children. Our security question is - the word of God,

and our password is love.

#### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

(UNISON)

God, we give you thanks that you make us redeemers, not just receivers of redemption. You bring us among friends and then ask for each one of our signatures to change your world. We hold the earthenware jar you call the church and fill it with all your promises. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(UNISON)

God, I have defaulted to un-hope in my life and I have encouraged un-hoping in others. I have criticized plans before hearing them out and I have turned to family, church, friends, colleagues with my face painted, "we've tried that before and it didn't work." Together we have laughed at new ideas and circulated only bad news. Plant your promises deep in the field of our lives, and forgive us our presuming to define your future. Amen

#### **WORDS OF GRACE**

God wipes pessimism from the open heart and sends others to affirm in us even the most fragile possibilities of the future. We are 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** 

MISSION POSSIBLE OFFERING

Praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord, my soul.

I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing.

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—he remains faithful forever.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free,

the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord.

**SERMON** "Who is my God"

\*HYMN "Blessed Assurance" NO. 426

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 invited to offer resources, time, abilities, compassion, in a tangible expression of our hope for the future for ourselves, this community of faith and many others near and far away. Be generous, my friends, with your trust in the future.

#### \*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, we have received hope; we give you time. We have received hope; we give one another the church. We have received hope; we offer these gifts that they may become the change or simply the promise of change among those who need this clear image that they are not abandoned. Amen

\*HYMN

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

NO. 72

#### **GOING WITH THE WORD**

#### \*BENEDICTION

May you be as blessed as Jeremiah - with a word-of-God whisper when you are waiting, a glimpse of freedom when you are confined, a friend to show you the way forward, an earthenware jar of God's love in which your signature is precious.

# \*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.

## **Neighbors In Need Offering**

Will be taken on October 2—Please mark check NIN so we are able to direct the funds correctly.

# On The Calendar

Fall Dinner Play Rehearsal—September 25, 4:00 PM Deacon's Meeting—September 26, 7:00 PM, via Zoom Dana Blake Memorial service—Sunday October 9, 1:00 PM

> Praising God's glory the flowers are given by Lori Dick in celebration of family birthdays.



# PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Joshua Bartsch, Worship Leader Ingrid Howard, Liturgist Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music

All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

# **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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