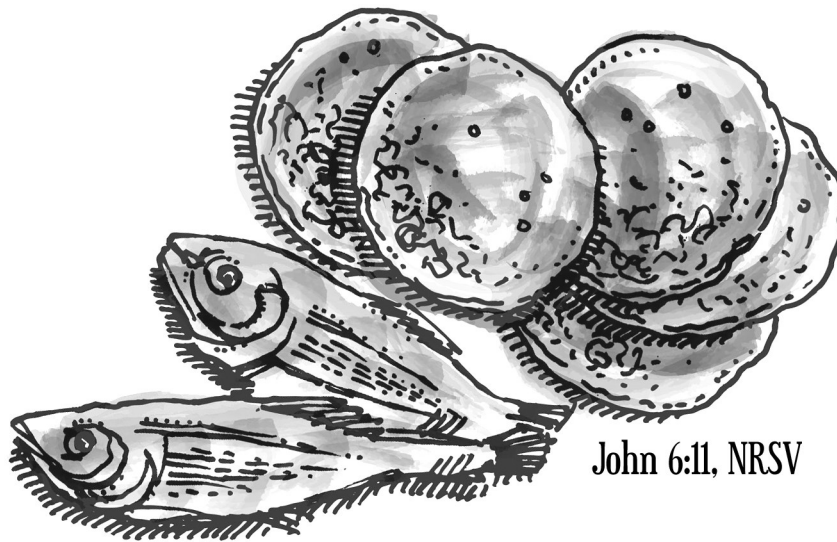

Then Jesus took the loaves,
and when he had given thanks,
he distributed them to those
who were seated; so also the fish,
as much as they wanted.



John 6:11, NRSV

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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
WORLD FOOD SUNDAY
October 16, 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: Are you hungry today?

**Many: We are hungry for meaning in our lives,
for hope in our hearts, and for service
to others. And we remember all who are
physically hungry today.**

One: Are you thirsty today?

**Many: We thirst for right relationships with one
another, for justice to be done, for everyone,
for food to be shared equitably, and for
knowledge of God's presence in our lives.**

One: We come in worship today,
mindful of the world's needs and of our own—

Many: Let us worship God.

***HYMN "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come " NO. 721**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

(UNISON)

Gracious God, we know we live in a world of want and abundance existing side by side. Yet we know that is not how it was in the beginning. In the beginning, you planted a garden with enough food for everyone to eat. Today, O God, we realize the earth garden is not as healthy as it once was. Droughts and floods, wild fires and tropical storms have wreaked havoc in the garden so that food supplies are disrupted. We realize too that not everyone has the same access to food. Some are employed; some are unemployed. Some have good access to education while others cannot afford it or it is not available. Some have stores full of food and other supplies while others are met with empty shelves and limited options. Help us, O God, to make it possible for all of us, all the people of the world, to have access to good education, training, jobs, and food, so that no one goes hungry. As Jesus said at the feeding of the five thousand, 'You yourselves give them something to eat.' Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(UNISON)

You asked for my hands that you might use them for your purposes. I gave them for a moment then withdrew them for the work was hard. You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice. I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused. You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty. I closed them for I did not want to see. You asked for my life that you might work through me. I gave you a small part that I might not get "too involved."
Lord, forgive me for calculated efforts to serve you only when it is convenient for me to do so, and only in those places where it is safe to do so, and only with those who make it easy to do so.
Lord, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument, that I may take seriously the meaning of your cross.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Our God is close to all who call. God receives us as we are, lifts us up, and calls us again to be people of love and mercy – salt and light in a hungry, hurting world. Receive God’s pardon and peace; your sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA PATRI TUNE: GREATORIX**

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

John 6:1-15

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. The Jewish Passover Festival was near. When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?” He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. Philip answered him, “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!” Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?” Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing

be wasted.” So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

Matthew 7:7-12

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

SERMON	“World Food Sunday”	
*HYMN	“A Place at the Table”	NO. 617

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

Lord give us today our daily bread.
Let us remember those who do not have bread for today.
May we willingly share your generous provision,
With all who hunger and lack.
In our own communities and across the globe.

***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 mercy, the gifts we bring
are so small in comparison
to the vast needs in our world –
nowhere near enough to save the
thousands who are dying of
starvation or malnutrition,
or even to meet the needs of the
hungry and homeless in our town.
Yet we come with open hands,
bringing what we can.
As You once multiplied
the five small loaves and two fish,
multiply these gifts as well, so that, once
again, the hungry may receive all they need,
and more. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Here I am, Lord ”

NO. 559

GOING WITH THE WORD

*BENEDICTION

Christ has come to proclaim God's Kingdom:
to free the hungry, to give sight to the blind,
to strengthen the weary, to set the prisoners free.
May Christ who shared food with the multitude
teach us how to share. May the Spirit who makes a new
world possible help us to make it real.
Amen

*POSTLUDE

On The Calendar

Fall Dinner Play Rehearsal—October 16, 4:00 PM
Council Meeting—October 18, 7:00 PM via Zoom
Budget Meeting—October 20, 7:00 PM via Zoom
Fall Rummage Sale - October 22 - help needed
see Lori Dick or Cindy Broderick

Praising God's glory the flowers are given by
Jessie Salisbury and Verna Porter in loving memory of
Jesse's husband and Verna's dad, Pat Salisbury.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Kermit Williams, Worship Leader
Ingrid Howard, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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