



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
October 9, 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: God has given us this beautiful earth and all that
grows and runs upon it.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

One: God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

One: God has gathered us into a community of
care and worship.

All: **Let us worship God with love,
thanksgiving and praise.**

***HYMN** "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" **NO. 68**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (UNISON)

God of love and mercy, in the quiet peace of morning we
gather in this holy place to sing our praise to you and to
be touched by your gentle Spirit. We offer grateful
thanks for the gift of healing, rest and renewal. We pray
that through our worship we may be recreated in your
likeness once more. Let your cleansing Spirit enter our
lives, that the shadows of our souls may be pierced by

the brilliance of your Light. Let our destructive thoughts be transformed into expressions of beauty and faith, reflecting your uncompromising love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The path to authentic renewal is through repentance. In order to become more like Jesus, we must be willing to let him reveal those aspects of our lives which need to be changed. Let us accept the invitation “Come unto me . . .” by gratefully, confidently laying our lives before Christ now.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(UNISON)

God, our Creator, we offer our prayer as persons who often feel less than whole. We have experienced losses that have diminished us. We have found our attention to your will divided by other claims upon us. We have discovered how difficult it is to fulfill our best intentions. Forgive us and enable us to enjoy the fullness of your love. Strengthen us and inspire us to whole hearted devotion. We pray with voices united in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God sent Jesus not to judge us, but to save us.
God accepts both our courage and our fears.
In the name of Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Dare to accept the gift of new beginnings.

***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**2 Kings 5:1-15a**

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy." As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" So he went down and dipped

himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant.”

Luke 17:11-19

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy] met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

SERMON “With a Thankful Heart”

***HYMN** “Give Thanks For Life” NO. 518

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

God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, and in the never ending gift of the Holy Spirit! God has abundantly blessed us 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)

Gracious God, receive our offerings as sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. Amen.

***HYMN “We Are Called to be God’s People” NO. 580**

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

It is good to walk in the freedom that God has obtained for us. It is good to give thanks, offering peace, God’s peace. Go in peace. Shalom.

***POSTLUDE**

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On The Calendar

Fall Dinner Play Rehearsal—October 9, 4:00 PM

Community Day of Service - October 15 -
see Stephanie, Cindy, Ingrid, Jan or Becky

Council Meeting—October 18, 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 Kevin & Susan Jean
in loving memory of her mother,
Priscilla E.(Conti) Jowders

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Anne Rodman, Guest Pastor
Lori Dick, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music

All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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