



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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**November 20, 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:** Let us gather together in thanksgiving to God.

**Many:** For God has made us and the earth  
that nurtures us.

**One:** Let us gather together in gratitude to one another.

**Many:** For we are the bearers of divine blessing for the  
earth and its people.

**All:** Let us praise God; let us join hands; let us reach  
out in care and courage so that the goodness of  
life may be for all God's children.

**INVOCATION**

**UNISON**

**We gather before you, God, thankful that you receive  
us when we come to you. Skillfully, through your  
Spirit's fire, find the places where we hurt and shine on  
them with healing light. Find the places where we run  
from you and gather us home. Then mold us, shape us,  
make us one as the grains on many hillsides become  
one loaf, one bread, one body in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

**“We Gather Together”**

**NO. 81**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Even when we have been too busy to notice, God has been constantly loving us and encouraging us to grow in the light of God’s love. We can trust God with our deepest confession.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**UNISON**

**God of remembrance, whose mercy is not forgotten. Remind us of your desire for us to share the fullness of life with all your children. We forget those who deserve our gratitude. We take our friendships too much for granted. We too often do not remember the right gesture until it is too late. Make us thankful and generous with all that has been given us. Restore us to the joy of your salvation. Inspire us that we may rightly remember the past by building a legacy of hope for those who follow us, that they also may know the goodness of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE**

There is no life that cannot be redeemed by the grace of God in Christ Jesus! All you who reject vain desires and put away unwarranted fears and who put your confidence in the mercies of God may assuredly know that you are forgiven and that the ability to begin again is yours. Glory be to the Holy One who can make all things new! Alleluia!

**\*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

Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God.  
It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

John 6:25-40

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?” Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.” Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?” Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.” So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

“Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.”  
Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

**SERMON**                    “Jesus the Bread of Life”

**\*HYMN**                    “We Come As Guests Invited”                    NO. 702

**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**      “Let us Talents and Tongues Employ”      NO. 698

**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**

Eternal God, we thank you for your presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. By the power of your Holy Spirit, unite us with all whom Christ welcomes, that we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN**                      “The Fruit of All Creation”                      NO. 723

**GOING WITH THE WORD**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

## Announcements

- ⇒ **We will be decorating the Church today** for Christmas after worship service. Missions will be providing lunch for us. Plan on staying to help. *Many hands make light work*

## On The Calendar

Search Committee Meeting, November 21, 2—4:00 PM—  
Parrish Hall

Deacons Meeting, November 28, 7:00 PM via Zoom

**PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Rev. Anne Rodman, Guest Pastor  
Dana Dahl, Liturgist  
Kim Whitehead, Guest Musician  
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music  
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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