



“Look,
the **Lamb of God,**
who takes away the sin of the world!”

JOHN 1:29, NIV

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Second Sunday After Epiphany
January 15, 2023

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 into worship, and see what God has
in store for us today!

All: **We have busy lives, but still, we are curious.**

One: Come into God's presence,
and see the difference love makes!

All: **We may have been burned by love before,
but still, we are needy.**

One: Come into the light and see the glory of God!

All: **Our eyes have been closed for so long,
but still, we yearn for the light.**

One: Come and see! Come and see!

***HYMN** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" NO. 358

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

(UNISON)

With different gifts, with a variety of talents, with an array of interests, we come to worship you, our creating God. We are here to unite our spirits, to be made one in Jesus Christ, to be merged in hope as your children. Bless our differences, that the unique gifts and perceptions of each may strengthen our oneness. Drawn into your Spirit, we give you the thanks of our hearts, in the name of the living Christ. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

What God asks of us is to remember the promise: that God will be with us and work in us. Come before God now, ready to be a part of all that is good. Let go of what keeps us from God's powerful call.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(UNISON)

Infinite God of all peoples and all places, you created the earth, with its mountains and valleys, oceans and plains, with no boundaries. Yet we have parceled out your good earth, and built great armaments to protect our separate parcels. Forgive us, and breathe your Spirit of unity into all peoples, that the world may live in harmony, and war shall be no more; through Jesus, the power of peace. 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

John 1:29-42

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.” Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ I have seen and I testify that this is God’s Chosen One.” The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!” When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?” “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which, when translated, is Peter).

SERMON

“An Awesome Revelation”

*HYMN

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore” NO. 347

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

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.**

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Let us put our trust in the living God, who is faithful.
Let us praise God for the abundance of creation in the
sharing of our gifts of time, talents and treasures.
Let us now offer generously back to God what we have
been given and in what is ours to give as we present our
morning offerings.

***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)

Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive these offerings as signs of our intentions 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** “Jesus Calls us O’er the Tumult” **NO. 345**

GOING WITH THE WORD

***BENEDICTION**

Remember the songs we sang.
 They are still blessing you with joy.
Remember the prayers we prayed.
 They did not stop with “amen.”
Remember the scripture words.
 They are making their way from head to heart.
Remember the offering you gave.
 Its generosity is already flowing back to you.
Remember that God is here, still blessing you right out the
 door and into every moment of the days to come.

***POSTLUDE**

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On The Calendar

Council Meeting, January 17, 7:00 PM via zoom

Rummage Sale

Set up, January 19, 6:00 PM

Set up, January 20

Sale: January 21, 8:00 AM–2:00 PM

Church Annual Meeting, January 22 following Worship (also available on zoom) Light lunch will be provided

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Anne Rodman, Guest Pastor
Marilyn Warner, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music

All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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