



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 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: Look now to see the glory of God.
Open your eyes and see the risen Christ.
- Many: **God is our rock and our refuge, a strong
fortress. Christ leads and guides us every day.**
- One: You have known the presence of Christ,
God's chosen one. Come now and enter the place
God prepared for us.
- Many: **We come here to find the way and the truth
and the life. Each day we are inspired by the
living Christ.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Loving and gracious God, we are Your people, sisters and brothers of the risen Christ. Help us to continue to be a community of Your faithful people. Help us to be open and accepting of those whose views may differ from our own, knowing that there are many ways to know You. Draw us into a relationship with You and help us each day to discern more deeply and clearly the way of Christ. This we pray as Jesus taught us: 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. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

***HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory" NO. 569**

CALL TO CONFESSION

We know that we use our doubts and questions as excuses to not have to follow the way of Jesus. In doing so we hurt others by our actions and our inaction. Let us take a moment of silence to reflect on how we have missed the mark.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

We confess that we hear Your word but often do not follow it. We often feel it is inconvenient and gets in the way of how we wish to live. Rather than engage with the whole of life, we seek to engage only with those things that give us comfort and feel good. In doing so, we neglect our brothers and sisters who are suffering. We come before You now, O God, and ask Your forgiveness. Cleanse us from our failure and help us to become the presence of Christ in the world. Amen

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

***GLORIA PATRI TUNE: GREATOREX**

**Glory to the Creator
and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, in now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen
ENGAGING THE WORD**

ANTHEM

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

SERMON “The Way, The Truth, and The Life”

***HYMN** “O Master Let Me Walk With Thee” NO. 589

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL TO THE 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

We recommit ourselves to You, O God, as we dedicate the gifts that we bring here this day. Taking the time to look at the world You created, we are grateful and filled with awe and wonder. Help these gifts to multiply so that we may continue here as a community of faith, built strong on the teachings of Jesus. Amen

On The Calendar/Announcements

Project Linus, May 9, 10:00–11:30 AM
Council Meeting, May 16, 7:00 PM Via Zoom

Rummage Sale, May 20, 9:00 AM–2:00 PM
Help is needed—Sign up Sheet in Link

Praising God's glory the flowers
are presented by Kevin & Sue Jean
in loving memory
of Kevin's father, Roland Jean.



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Dr. Rev. Rhonda MacLeod, Guest Pastor
Dana Dahl, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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