



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Third Sunday After Pentecost
June 18, 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.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER
Words of Welcome and Announcements

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** responsively Psalms 130; 143:8

L: Out of the depths I cry to you, O God.

P: **Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!**

L: Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,
for in you, O God, I put my trust.

P: **Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up
my soul.**

L: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in God's
word I hope.

P: **My soul waits for God more than those who watch
for the morning.**

L: Hope in God!

All: **For with God there is steadfast love and great
power to redeem.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

No. 59

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

unison

Holy God, you entrust to us the care and use of the abundance of your creation. Through our gifts and offerings, we return to you a portion of that which you have given us. May these gifts be a means of serving you in the ministries to which you have called us, in the name of Christ. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Epistle Reading

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

ANTHEM

SERMON

“Just Keep Praying”

“Hold on to me when it's too dark to see You
When I am sure I have reached the end
Hold on to me when I forget I need You
When I let go, hold me again....”
(Lauren Daigle, *Hold On To Me*)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

***SENDING HYMN** “Be Thou My Vision” No. 502

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Praising God's glory the flowers are presented
by Joseph & Liz Torre
in loving memory of Jim Goodale.



On The Calendar/Announcements

Council Meeting, June 20, 7:00 PM Via Zoom

Summer Fest, Saturday June 24
Help is needed for the booth we will have downtown

New Member Sunday, June 25
if you are interested in becoming a member,
speak with a Deacon or Rev. Gary

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor
Violet Blake, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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