

**“But Jesus would withdraw to
deserted places to pray.”**

Luke 5:16



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 30, 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

Psalm 46:10-11; Romans 12:9-13

L: "Be still and know that I am God!"

P: **The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is
our refuge.**

L: Let your love be genuine; hate what is evil,
hold fast to what is good.

P: **Love one another with mutual affection.**

L: Contribute to one another's needs;
extend hospitality to strangers.

P: **Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering,
persevere in prayer.**

L: Let us worship God.

All: **The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" No. 358

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

unison

Loving God, you have gifted us with life in Christ. In joyful response we now bring the gifts of our hearts, our work, and our resources. May all that we bring, and all that we are, be your means of grace in the world, that all people may experience your good news. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Luke 6:12-19

During those days Jesus went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them.

SERMON

“Barking Dogs”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD’S PRAYER

unison

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**

The neighbors' dog will not stop barking.
He is barking the same high, rhythmic bark
that he barks every time they leave the house.
They must switch him on their way out.
The neighbors' dog will not stop barking.
I close all the windows in the house
and put on a Beethoven symphony full blast
but I can still hear him muffled under the music,
barking, barking, barking,
and now I can see him sitting in the orchestra,
his head raised confidently as if Beethoven
had included a part for barking dog.
When the record finally ends he is still barking,
sitting there in the oboe section barking,
his eyes fixed on the conductor who is
entreating him with his baton
while the other musicians listen in respectful
silence to the famous barking dog solo,
that endless coda that first established
Beethoven as an innovative genius.

*Billy Collins, “Another Reason Why I Don’t Keep a Gun in the House,”
Sailing Alone Around the Room: New and Selected Poems
(New York: Random House, Inc., 2001), p. 3.*

Praising God’s Glory, the flowers are presented
by Kevin & Susan Jean
in loving memory of Sue’s dad, Allen “Rollie” Jowders



On The Calendar/Announcements

Deacon's Meeting, July 30, 7:00 PM via Zoom

Lunch with the Pastor, August 10th at noon, sponsored by Missions. Sign up in the link or email ouellette99@gmail.com for a reservation. All are welcome.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor
Jeff Gilson, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Karen Nelson, Guest Musician
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

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