



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Anniversary Sunday
October 8, 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* 1 Corinthians 12

- L: We gather in the presence of God,
bringing our individual stories,
our unique gifts, our different callings to serve.
- P: **There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.**
There are varieties of service, but the same Lord.
- L: Christ's church is like a human body
that has many parts.
- P: **The body, though made up of different parts,**
is still one body.
- L: To each of us is given gifts from
God for the common good of all.
- P: **We are the body of Christ and**
individually members of it.
- L: Come let us worship God!
- All: We lift our hearts and voices in praise**
to the living God!

***GATHERING HYMN**

“The Church’s One Foundation” No. 544

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Holy God, you have called us to be your church.
You give us varieties of gifts to fulfill our calling.
Renew us in our work and life together. Make us eager
to do your will. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we
may hear your call, dream your dreams, and see your
vision for us and for the world, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LITANY FOR THE CHURCH

see insert

PRAYER RESPONSE

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PASTOR

“A Great Cloud of Witnesses”

HYMN

“They Did Not Build in Vain” No. 542

CALL TO 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**

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Gracious God, with these gifts we offer ourselves. Here
we are, your hands and feet in the world. Help us reach
out and serve others with the love you have shown us in
Jesus Christ, our Friend and Savior. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

SERMON

"Leaving Our Mark"

The Rev. Gordon M. Rankin, Conference Minister

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

unison

Gracious God, we give thanks for the beauty of worship, and for the words sung and spoken on this day. Guide and renew us that we may be your faithful people and live the life you call us to live. Praying now the prayer 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.

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**

“God of Grace and God of Glory” No. 569

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Praising God’s Glory, the flowers are presented by
Jessie Salisbury and Verna Porter
in loving memory of husband/father Pat Salisbury



On The Calendar/Announcements

- Dinner Play Rehearsal, October 8, 5:00 PM
- Linus Blankest, October 10, 10:00 AM
- Lunch with the Pastor, October 12, 12:00, Sign-up sheet on back table - reservations required so we know how much food to have and how many tables/chairs to set up
- Blessing of the Animals – Sunday October 22 – after worship service on the front lawn
- Church Council – Tuesday October 17 7pm via Zoom

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

In support of that, Missions is collecting items for the local women's shelter in our area, Bridges. Here is a wish list if you would like to bring in items to be donated. Consider adding a product or two to your cart when you shop. Donations can be brought to the front of the sanctuary and added to the basket through October. Thank you for your generosity.

Tracfores with minutes, cleaning products, deodorant, dishwashing soap, gas cards, hand and body soap, laundry detergent, paper towels, full size shampoo/conditioner, shaving cream and razors, tissues, toilet paper, toothbrushes and paste, trash bags, and non-perishable food such as canned food, cereal, coffee/tea, pasta, rice, sugar and flour.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor
Rev. Gordon M. Rankin, Conference Minister
Debra Klingsporn, Liturgist

Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Congregation, Ministers to the World

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