

Will
You Come
And
Follow Me?

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 2024

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** 1 John 3:16-18; 4:7,16 *responsively*

L: Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is from God.

P: **Everyone who loves is born of God
and knows God.**

L: We know love by this,
that Christ laid down his life for us.

P: **And we ought to lay down our lives
for one another.**

L: Let us love, not just in word or speech,
but in truth and action.

All: **God is love.**
Those who abide in love abide in God,
and God abides in them.
Let us worship God.

***GATHERING HYMN**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

No. 59

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Gracious God, we thank you for your Son Jesus, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example. Free us from images of you which keep you enthroned in power and triumph, apart from the pain and suffering of the world. Teach us the way of Christ, who took the form of a servant and chose the way of self-giving love for all. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

unison

Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path, we confess that we have often sinned and fallen short of your call to be people of love. Forgive us, renew us, and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

MISSION POSSIBLE COLLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN "Will You Come and Follow Me" (The Summons)
No. 350 vv. 1,2,4

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**

unison

Holy God, we give you thanks for your generosity to us.
Bless these gifts and use them, that they may nurture
faith, care for the needs of others, and make a difference
in people's lives. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Mark 8:27-35

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."

Sermon

"Will You Come and Follow Me?"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

unison

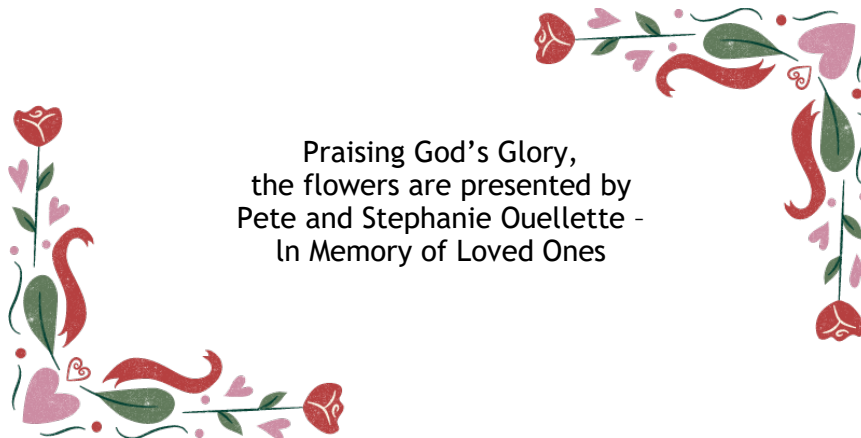
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"All the Way My Savior Leads Me" No. 505

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**



Praising God's Glory,
the flowers are presented by
Pete and Stephanie Ouellette -
In Memory of Loved Ones

On The Calendar/Announcements

February 26, Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 PM via Zoom
February 27, Project Linus, 9:30 AM

**We will be taking a UCC collection
One Great Hour of Sharing
On Sunday—March 10.**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor
Paul Martin, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Congregation, Ministers to the World

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn
Email: gklingsporn@comcast.net
Phone: (508) 680-4007

Email for Church Administration
Del Mogavero, 2ccwilton@gmail.com
Church Phone Number: 603-654-9045
Website: 2ccwilton.org

The Second Congregational Church in Wilton,
United Church of Christ
25 Gregg Street, P. O. Box 246
Wilton, NH 03086

