

*“Seek first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness...”*

Matthew 6:33



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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 5, 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**     Psalms 19, 24, 136     *responsively*

L: The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

P: **The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,  
the world and those who live in it.**

L: O give thanks to God,  
whose steadfast love endures forever,

P: **who made the heavens,  
who spread out the earth on the waters,  
who created the plants and trees,  
and every living creature.**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

P: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L: These are the hearts and voices God has given us.

All: **Let us praise God and be joyful together!**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

"All Creatures of Our God and King"     No. 23

**PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

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

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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The Second Congregational Church in Wilton,  
United Church of Christ  
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Praising God's Glory,  
the flowers are presented by  
Kevin & Sue Jean  
in loving memory of friends and family



### On The Calendar/Announcements

- Fidget Blankets, May 7, 9:00 AM
- Bible Study, May 8, 6:30–8:00 PM
- Boys and Girls club will be hosting a Parent Café in the Parish Hall, May 16, 5:00–7:30pm
- Rummage Sale , May 18 - purses, jewelry and other accessories. Watch for sign up sheets

**Church Missions will be collecting items for the homeless in Manchester.**

We are requesting the following items:

- ⇒ Small packages of snack items
- ⇒ Small packages of tissues
- ⇒ Deodorant
- ⇒ Chap Stick
- ⇒ Small boxes of Yoo Hoo chocolate milk drink
- ⇒ Small bottles of water
- ⇒ Socks
- ⇒ Toothpaste, toothbrushes and mouthwash

All of these items will be packed in gallon size bags.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

*unison*

Creator God, the world in all its beauty proclaims your glory. We give you thanks for the wonder of life itself. You bless our lives with beauty. You turn our tears to joy and our mourning into dancing. By your Spirit, lead us to respond by living for you, that our souls may praise you and not be silent, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### PRAYER RESPONSE

#### 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*

Gracious God, bless this offering, that it may be an expression of ourselves now offered more fully to you. Use these gifts, we pray, that they may reach out and touch those who are in need, those who hurt, and those who seek new hope. Amen.

#### ANTHEM

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Matthew 6:25-33

Jesus said, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith?”

“Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

### SERMON

“Seek Ye First”

### HYMN

“Come, Share the Lord”

No. 696

## HOLY COMMUNION

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

### BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

### SHARING THE MEAL

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

*unison*

O Christ, you have opened to us the Scriptures and have been known to us in breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup. Stay with us, we pray, that we may go in the strength of your presence and your truth all our journey through, until at last we dwell in your presence.

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

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

No. 712

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE