



Blessed

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 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 4:7-12 *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: Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.

P: **God's love was revealed among us in this way:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.**

L: In this is love, not that we loved God
but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the
atoning sacrifice for our sins.

P: **Beloved, since God loved us so much,
we also ought to love one another.**

All: **No one has ever seen God;
if we love one another, God lives in us,
and God's love is perfected in us.
Let us worship God.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

“God of Creation, All Powerful” No. 27

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

God of blessing and hope, shape our souls by your Word and Spirit. Teach us what it means when Jesus says, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers....” Strengthen our faith, that in our words and deeds others may be blessed, as we are blessed. Amen.

MISSION POSSIBLE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN “Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song” No. 327

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

For the beauty of your good earth, for the people you have given us to love, for the tasks you call us to do, we give you thanks, O God. Bless these gifts we bring, and use them for your purposes in our church, our community, and the world. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain;
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for
righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were
before you.”

SERMON

“Blessed”

(First in a series: The Beatitudes)

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**

"Savior, Again to Your Dear Name" No. 711

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Praising God's Glory,
the flowers are presented by
Pete and Stephanie Ouellette
in memory of loved ones



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of September 29, 2024

Please keep the following persons in your thoughts
and prayers this week:

Janey
Jeff
Jen
Lisa
Joanna E
Bill C
Don K
Rose & Steve
Tom H
James
Krista D
John Hanlon
Donna
Brenda
Bernie & Rachel
Mary Ellen
David V
Bill D
David
Eva
Lorin
Caitlyn
Deb D
Family of Tom H

On The Calendar

Deacons Meeting, September 30, 7:00 PM via Zoom
Fidget Blankets, October 1, 9:00 AM—Parish Hall

Announcements

Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering - will be received on Sunday, October 6, 2024

In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is “**Mental Health Justice For All!**” This year’s focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life’s mental health journey. As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

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