

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost October 20, 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 Psalm 103:1-5,8,11 responsively

- L: Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless God's holy name.
- P: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits—
- L: who forgives your iniquity, who heals your diseases,
- P: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- L: who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- P: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- L: As the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who honor him.
- All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless God's holy name.

*GATHERING HYMN

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" No. 71

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Holy God, we thank you for your mercy, and praise you for your enduring love. Help us to show mercy to others as you are merciful to us. Give us pure hearts, devoted to you, that we may always seek your will and do it, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

unison

Gracious God, we confess that we have often turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing No. 68

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

Blessed are you, O God. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and the gifts we bring, to care for the needs of others in our church, our community, and beyond. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:7-8

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

The Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:4-5,8-10

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ... For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

SERMON

"Blessed Are the Merciful"
(Fourth in the 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

"I Then Shall Live"

No. 372

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

On The Calendar

• Linus Project, October 22— 10:00 AM

Upcoming Events

- Deacons Meeting, October 28—7:00 PM via Zoom
- Fall Dinner Plays are November 8 & 9. Help is needed— Sign-up sheets are now available or speak with Sue Jean.

Praising God's Glory, the flowers are presented by Kevin and Sue Jean in loving memory of Sue's mom, Priscilla Jowders



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of October 20, 2024

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

Janey Jeff Jen Lisa Don K Rose & Steve Donna Bernie & Rachel Mary Ellen David V Bill D David Caitlyn Deb D Jim T Alan Cindy C Brentton Family of Bill C Family of Derek M Barbara

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn Email: revgklingsporn@icloud.com Phone: (508) 680-4007

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