



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 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 "Angels We Have Heard on High" -(trad. French)

***LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE** *responsively*
Advent Family: Peter and Stephanie Ouellette

- L: Today is the beginning of Advent.
Advent is the cry of need spoken out of
the darkness of this world.
- P: Advent is the cry of longing that our world
and our lives might be different,
that God would come and act.**
- L: Advent is the promise that we are not alone.
God comes to redeem, to heal, and to restore.
- P: God comes to us in the One we call Emmanuel,
God with us.**
- L: We light this candle of Hope as a sign of Christ
as the hope of the world.
- P: We watch and wait in hope, as we prepare to
celebrate the One who came in quiet humility
as a child in Bethlehem.**
- L: We watch for the One who comes into our lives
today, and for the One who will come in majesty
at the end of time.
- All: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come.
Take away our sin, and make us ready
to celebrate your birth, that we may receive
you in joy and serve you always. Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

No. 154

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

God of hope, renew us in faith as we watch and wait for Christ’s coming into our lives now, and at the end of time. Strengthen us by the power of your Spirit, that we may be faithful in your service all the days of our lives. Come, Emmanuel God, be light that guides us to the manger and shines hope into all the world. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

unison

Merciful God, we know that you love us and that you call us to fullness of life, but around us and within us, we see the brokenness of the world and of our ways. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown. Renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

Generous God, Giver of all that is good, may the gifts we bring today – gifts of money, commitment, and time – be gathered up into your great love, and through us, may your love overflow into the lives of others. Amen.

ANTHEM

Celtic Medley "Christ Child Lullaby" -
traditional melody Hebrides, Scotland/"Baloo, Lammy"

THE WORD OF GOD

The Hebrew Scriptures

Psalm 130:5-7

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in God's word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with God there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem.

The Epistle Reading

Romans 8:24-26

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

Romans 12:9-12

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

SERMON

"Rejoice in Hope"

HOLY COMMUNION

***HYMN**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

No. 153

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

SHARING THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER unison

O Lord, you have opened to us the Scriptures, and have been made known to us in the breaking of bread and sharing of the cup. Stay with us, we pray, that we may go in the strength of your grace and truth all our journey through, and at its end behold you in glory, one God forever and ever.

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**

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates" No. 176

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

"Il est né, le divin Enfant" - 18th cent. French melody



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of December 1, 2024

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

Janey
Jeff
Jen
Lisa
Don K
Bernie & Rachel
Bill D
David
Caitlyn
Jim T
Jeff C
Krista
Charlotte
Cassie W
Sylvie
Tom B
Family and Friends of Deb D
Family and Friends of John D
Family and Friends of David K

On The Calendar

- Fidget Blankets, December 3, 9:00 AM
- Wreath Decorating for the Christmas Fair, December 5, 6:00 PM
- Christmas Fair, December 7, Sign up Sheets are in the link.

Announcements

- Cindy Broderick is taking orders for Memorial Poinsettias to be placed in the Church.
Last day to order is December 15
Red or White
 - ⇒ Small - \$5.99
 - ⇒ Medium - \$ 12.99
 - ⇒ Large - \$35.00

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor
Laura Hogan, Liturgist
Guest Musicians: Sandy Lafleur, Dulcimer
and Charlene Ledoux, Cello
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Congregation, Ministers to the World

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn
Email: revgklingsporn@icloud.com
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

