



*Glory to God
In The
Highest*

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
First Sunday After Christmas
December 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** *responsively*

Hebrews 1:1-2; Isaiah 9:2, 8; John 1:14-16

L: Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many
and various ways by the prophets.

P: **But in these last days God has
spoken to us by a Son.**

L: For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us.

P: **He is called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Prince of Peace.**

L: The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

P: **Those who lived in a land of deep darkness
– on them light has shined.**

L: The Word became flesh and lived among us,
full of grace and truth.

P: **And from Christ's fullness we have all received,
grace upon grace.**

L: Let us worship God.

All: **O give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose
steadfast love endures forever.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” No. 189

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Eternal God, you have filled the earth with the light of Christ, your incarnate Word. Grant that this light may shine in our hearts and in all that we say and do, so that we may serve others in joy and peace all our days, until at last we see you face to face; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

No. 191

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 wondrous gift of life, we give you thanks, O God. You fill the world with beauty, our lives with joy, and our hands with abundance. Bless these gifts we now bring, and use them, that we may share the good news of your grace with others in all that we say and do. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Luke 2:22-33

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought the child Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took the child in his arms and praised God saying,

“Master, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

SERMON

“Has Anything Changed?”

SENDING PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

unison

Holy God, in the birth of Christ your boundless love for all people shattered the power of darkness. Be born in us with that same love and light, that our song may blend with all the choirs of heaven and earth to the glory of your holy name.

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**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

No. 218

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Praising God’s Glory
the flowers are presented by,
Cindy Broderick in memory of loved ones



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of December 29, 2024

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

Janey
Jeff
Jen
Lisa
Don K
Bernie & Rachel
Bill and Olive D
Caitlyn
Jim T
Jeff C
Krista
Charlotte
Cassie W
Sylvie
Tom B
Lorraine

ON THE CALENDAR

- Deacons Meeting - Monday, December 30, 7:00 PM via zoom

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sign-up sheet for 2025 flower donations is hanging in the Parish Hall
- Del, our Administrative Assistant, is on vacation and will be returning Monday, December 30th.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor
Dana Dahl, Liturgist'
Guest Musician

Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Congregation, Ministers to the World

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