

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany February 2, 2025

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 95:1-7 responsively

- L: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- P: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!
- L: For the Lord is a great God.
- P: In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains also.
- L: The sea belongs to God, who made it, along with the dry land.
- P: O come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All: For this is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

*GATHERING HYMN

"For the Beauty of the Earth" No. 40

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Loving God, you call us to come and follow you in the name of Christ. Strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may be faithful to the tasks you give us. Lead us to walk in the light of your presence, that we may serve you with joy by serving others. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

unison

Holy and most merciful God, we have not loved you as you love us, nor have we loved others as we ought. Forgive our sin. Lift us above our past regrets and present failures; and give us grace to grow more and more in your likeness. In your name we pray. 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

Loving God, we now bring our gifts to you in grateful response for your blessings to us. May all that we give, and all that we do, be a blessing to others. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Mark 1:16-20

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

SERMON "Follow Me"

HYMN "Will You Come and Follow Me?" No. 350

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

SHARING THE MEAL

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 "We All Are One in Mission" No. 552

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Sometime when the river is ice ask me mistakes I have made. Ask me whether what I have done is my life. Others have come in their slow way into my thought, and some have tried to help or to hurt: ask me what difference their strongest love or hate has made.

I will listen to what you say.
You and I can turn and look
at the silent river and wait. We know
the current is there, hidden; and there
are comings and goings from miles away
that hold the stillness exactly before us.
What the river says, that is what I say.

—William Stafford, "Ask Me," The Way It Is: New and Selected Poems (Graywolf Press, St. Paul, MN).



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of February 2, 2025

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

Jeff Jen Lisa Don K Bernie & Rachel Bill and Olive D Caitlyn Jim T Jeff C Krista Charlotte Cassie W Sylvie Tom B Lorraine Regina K Joe Courtney John S Darrel B Donna Diane Beckett Kanisha Carol K Debbie David O Noel

Family and friends of Patricia S

ON THE CALENDAR

• Making Fidget Blankets, Tuesday, February 4–9:00 AM

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor Loretta Smith, Liturgist Karen Nelson, Guest Musician 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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