



*“This is my Son,
the Beloved,
with whom I am well pleased.”*

Matthew 3:17

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
First Sunday after Epiphany
Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 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 100 *responsively*

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

P: **Worship God with gladness;
come into God's presence with singing.**

L: Know that the Lord is God.

P: **It is God who made us, and not we ourselves;
we are God's people.**

L: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving.
Give thanks; bless God's name.

All: **For the Lord is good.
God's steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

"O Splendor of God's Glory Bright" No. 144

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Eternal God, as you proclaimed Jesus your “Beloved” at his baptism, pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may be faithful in our calling as your beloved sons and daughters. By acts of love, mercy, and justice, lead us by your Spirit to share with others the healing power of your grace. Then bring us at last, we pray, to the full vision of your glory. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

unison

Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us, 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

HYMN “When Jesus Came to Jordan” No. 241

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

Holy God, with these gifts we offer ourselves. Here we are, your hands and feet in the world. Help us reach out and serve others with the love you have shown us in Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

SERMON

"Beloved"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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** “Be Thou My Vision” No. 502

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**



Praising God’s Glory
the flowers are presented by,
Peter and Stephanie Ouellette
in celebration of 49 years of marriage



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of January 12, 2025

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
Regina K
Joe
Courtney
John S
Darrel B
Donna
Diane
The Crooker Family

ON THE CALENDAR

- Linus Project, Tuesday, January 14—9:30 AM
- Lay Visitation Group, Tuesday, January 14, 12:00 PM
- Game Night, Saturday, January 18, 6:00—8:00 PM
- Church Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 19, following worship—lunch provided

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

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