

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 16, 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 Isaiah 40:28-31

responsively

- L: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
- P: God does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
- L: God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
- All: Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Let us worship God.

*GATHERING HYMN "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" No. 59

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Eternal God, show us again the mystery of your love which is offered to all people. When race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or politics divide us, remind us that in Christ all are one. Teach us to know your love for all, and lead us to serve others by doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with you. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West" No. 603

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 of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for the work of mercy, compassion, and caring for the needs of people around us. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Luke 4:16, 22-30

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom.... All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"

And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The Epistle Reading

Galatians 3:26-28

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

SERMON "G

"God's Inclusive Love"

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 "God of Grace and God of Glory" No. 569

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of February 16, 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

> > Noel Emily Mary Sue

On The Calendar/Announcements

- Today after worship: Church Meeting
- Fidget Blankets, Tuesday, February 18 9:30 AM
- Church Council Meeting, Tuesday, February 18 - 7:00 PM via Zoom

We will continue to collect items for the Blessing Bags for the homeless in Manchester. Some ideas are:

 Hand and foot warmers, hand lotion, lip balm, socks, gloves/mittens, small bottles of water, juice boxes, Yoohoo boxed drink, snacks

Items will be placed in large zip loc bags - so small and trial size items make the most sense.



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor Jane Herlihy, Liturgist Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music Karen Nelson, Guest Musician All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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