

**“What are human beings that  
you are mindful of them, mortals  
that you care for them?”**

*Psalm 8:4*

**“The Lord is my shepherd,  
I shall not want.”**

*Psalm 23:1*

**“Out of the depths I cry to you,  
O Lord.”**

*Psalm 130:1*

**“Have mercy on me, O God... For I  
know my sin is ever before me.”**

*Psalm 51:1,3*

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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
Second Sunday in Lent  
March 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**

Psalms 27:7, 14; 130:5-7; Isaiah 40:31 *responsively*

L: Hear, O Lord, when we cry aloud,  
be gracious to us and answer us!

P: **For you alone, O God, our souls wait in silence;  
our hope is in you.**

L: For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and great power to redeem.

P: **Those who wait for the Lord shall  
renew their strength.  
They shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.**

L: Let us worship God.

All: **Wait for the Lord; be strong,  
and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” No. 136

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*unison*

Holy God, you give life to all who seek refuge in you.  
In the difficult times of crisis, fear, suffering, or loss,  
help us walk by faith; reaching out to you; trusting  
that you are there; and that your love and power will  
see us through. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**HYMN**           “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”           No. 500

**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*

Gracious 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  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**ANTHEM**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### The Gospel Reading

Mark 8:31-34

Then Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

### SERMON

"Psalms of Disorientation"

(Second in the Series, "Telling Our Stories: The Psalms")

### 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** “God of Grace and God of Glory” No. 569

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Praising God’s Glory  
the flowers are presented by,  
Jessie Salisbury & Verna Porter  
in loving memory of parents & grandparents,  
Charles & Dorothy Warner



**CHURCH PRAYER LIST**

For the week of March 16, 2025

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

Jen  
Don K  
Bernie & Rachel  
Bill and Olive D  
Caitlyn  
Jim T  
Krista  
Charlotte  
Sylvie  
Tom B  
Lorraine  
Courtney  
John S

Darrel B  
Donna  
Diane  
Carol K  
Noel  
Mary Sue  
Bob D  
Shawn D  
Allison M  
Gail C  
Amanda  
Dennis F  
Janet

## On The Calendar/Announcements

- Fidget Blankets, Tuesday, March 11 - 9:00 AM
- Church Council, Tuesday, March 18, 7:00 PM via Zoom, please have reports to Del by 1:00 PM on Monday, March 17.
- Sunday March 23 we will be taking the UCC offering for One Great Hour of Sharing - below is a bit of information regarding this offering and how it is used.

### **Be the Light**

**One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery. Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, micro-financing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

## **PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor  
Dana Dahl, Liturgist  
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music  
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

## **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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