

“What If?”

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17, 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 146 *responsively*

L: Praise the Lord, O my soul!

P: I will praise God as long as I live.

L: Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Most High God,

**P: who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.**

L: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.

P: The Lord loves the righteous.

L: The Lord watches over the strangers;
and upholds the orphan and the widow.

**All: Praise the Lord, O my soul!
I will praise God as long as I live.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

No. 347

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Gracious God, Source of all life and love, we come before you with open hearts, lifting up those who seek a better life.

We pray for those arriving in lands unknown, navigating challenges with courage in search of safety and hope. Surround them with protection, guide their steps, and give them safe passage and a welcoming community.

Help us to see Your presence in each person seeking refuge. Let us set aside fear and prejudice, and open our hearts to compassion. Guide us to work toward just and humane policies, creating spaces where all people can live with dignity and peace.

Make us agents of love and hope, bridging divides, sowing understanding, and building a future where no one is compelled to flee their home and all are received with open arms. In Your boundless mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN

“For the Healing of the Nations”

No. 621

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

“We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.” Bless our offering, O God, that it may strengthen our church’s ministries, touch the lives of those in need, and bring hope to all. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

Leviticus 19:33-34

“When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

Hebrews 13:1-2

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Matthew 25:34-40

Jesus said, “Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’”

SERMON

“What If?”

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

“Here I Am, Lord”

No. 559

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

On The Calendar/Announcements

- Fidget Blankets, Tuesday, August 19, 9:30 AM



Praising God's Glory
the flowers are presented by
Stephanie and Pete Ouellette
in loving memory of family



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of August 17, 2025
Please keep the following persons
in your thoughts and prayers this week:

Ryan
Sandy B
Nora
Linda K
Leslee S & Ashley C
Jim K
Martha & Lou
Fred D
Madeleine D
John S
Donna S
Mary Sue
Ellen V
James P
Marsha
Jerry S
Heather
John H
Bob M
Matt S

Mary Ellen
Jen
Don K
Caitlyn
Jim T
Krista
Sylvie
Lorraine
Courtney
Darrel B
Donna
Diane
Carol K
Bob D
Shawn D
Gail C
Amanda
Kathy & Dennis F
Janet
Shawna



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. Dr. Gary Klingsporn, Pastor
Kermit Williams, Lay Worship Leader
Jeff Gilson, Liturgist
Patricia Cauchon, Director of Music
Carol Yetto, Guest Musician
All the Congregation, Ministers to the World

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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