

“Whoever wants
to be first
must be last of all
and servant of all.”

Mark 9:35

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Second Sunday in Lent
March 1, 2026

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** Matthew 5:3-9 responsively

L: Jesus said: Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

P: **Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.**

L: Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

P: **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they will be filled.**

L: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

P: **Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

All: **Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
Let us worship God.**

***GATHERING HYMN**

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

No. 68

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

unison

Gracious God, help us lay aside all human assumptions about power, status, self-interest, and greatness. Teach us what it means to be “servant of all,” that we may walk in your ways and serve others in love. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

unison

Holy and merciful God, we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our failure to love others as you call us to love them. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, and in forgetting your love. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

Generous God, we thank you for all your blessings great and small. We now bring our gifts as expressions of our gratitude. Bless these offerings for the well-being of others, and give us wisdom and strength to live more fully for you. Amen.

ANTHEM

THE WORD OF GOD

The Gospel Reading

Mark 9:30-37

Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house Jesus asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

SERMON

"First Means Last"

*HYMN

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

No. 699

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**

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

No. 719

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**



On The Calendar/Announcements

- **Summer Fair Planning Meeting**, today following worship, everyone is invited to attend
- **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS ON SUNDAY MARCH 8** - clocks Spring Ahead on Saturday 3/7
- **Hymn Sing**, Sunday, March 8, 2:00 PM in Parish Hall
- **Project Linus**, Tuesday, March 10, 10:00 AM
- **Lay Visitation Group**, Tuesday March 10, 12 Noon

We will be taking an offering for the UCC - One Great Hour of Sharing, March 15

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.



Praising God's Glory
the flowers are presented by
Christine Dobens
in loving memory of Joan Dobens



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

For the week of March 1, 2026
Please keep the following persons
in your thoughts and prayers this week:

Mary Sue
Barbara G
Violet & Tedo
Hillary
Patty B
Del
Steve E
Ellen M
Jeannie B
Rachel D
Ryan
Annie
Haley T's mom
Susan H
Sookie
Robin J
Frank A
Seraphin
Kenny
Barbara
Levi

Diane
Sandy B
Martha & Lou
John S
Donna S
Marsha
Jerry S
John H
Bob M
Matt S
Jen
Don K
Caitlyn
Jim T
Lorraine
Diane
Carol K
Kathy & Dennis F
Janet



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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