

Welcome to Wilton Presbyterian Church

July 4, 2021

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

We are glad that you found us and that you are here. We are a progressive, welcoming and inclusive congregation seeking both to know Christ and to make Christ known to people from all walks of life.

We pray that we will become better acquainted with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

Zachary Wright

Arr. Charles Callahan

* RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Mark Grorud

Leader: Hear God's call to us through the Apostle Paul: "Now the Lord is

Spirit,

People: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

Leader: We gather in worship to celebrate.

People: We celebrate God's call to be a community of faith in this time and place.

Leader: We gather in worship to anticipate.

People: We are eager to sense the Spirit of God once again voicing the promise of forgiveness.

Leader: We gather in worship to dedicate.

People: We dedicate our lives to the Lord of all grace who invites us to serve those in need.

All: Let us worship God who calls us to live in such freedom!

* OPENING PRAYER

Dear Lord of all grace and mercy. We thank you for the multitude of free gifts which you shower in our lives—gifts of love and mercy, gifts of forgiveness and grace.

Challenge us to use these gifts wisely. Not for ourselves alone, but freely sharing what we have freely received from Your hand.

As we gather in worship, keep us mindful of those whose opportunities are limited, whose lives are challenged by the freedoms they do not have. Use us as Your voice to speak for the voiceless.

Remind us to use our gifts of freedom wisely in all we do; to seize the opportunities You place before us.

Bless us as we pray and fellowship together, and as we contemplate the greatness of Your forgiving love for each of us. In Your Name we pray: Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liz Archibald

SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-16, 22-23

I For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefor, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another; take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things."

GOSPEL READING

John 8:31-38

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. I know that you are descendants of Abraham; yet you look for an opportunity to kill me, because there is no place in you for my word. I declare what I have seen in the Father's presence; as for you, you should do what you have heard from the Father.

SERMON

ANTHEM

For Everyone Born *Arr. Tom Trenney*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen!

* BENEDICTION

* Postlude

Lift Every Voice and Sing
J. Rosamond Johnson and James Weldon Johnson



Rev. Mark Grorud has served for over 40 years as an ordained minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a full-communion partner with the Presbyterian Church. Pastor Mark and his wife, Caryl, moved from Nebraska three years ago to be close to their daughter, son-in-law and four grandchildren in Wilton. Pastor Mark is currently called to serve as a consultant to the Immanuel Vision Foundation, a Lutheran charitable foundation located in Omaha, for which he commutes on a regular basis back to Omaha.



WILTON PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

Pastor*

Family Ministry Director, Pre-K-Grade 12

Director of Music

Office Administrator

Julie Fowler

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WEPCO

Facilities Coordinator

ANDREW AREVALO <u>wepco@optonline.net</u>

Facilities Custodian

MAX GIL

SESSION	DEACONS
Class of 2021 Buck Burnaman Forrest Close Berta Hull (Clerk) Jason Rice	Class of 2021 Sonny Kern Dee King Becky Shroyer Cathy Thomas
Class of 2022 Bryan Campbell Patty Connor Jock Wright	Class of 2022 Rachelle Bernabei Liz Archibald
Class of 2023 Cathy Ratcliffe Reshan Richards Alison Wood	Class of 2023 Patti Dormer Julie Stein Ann White Marianne Wilson

Wilton Presbyterian Church

^{*} For pastoral needs, please contact your deacon