

Welcome to Wilton Presbyterian Church

August 29, 2021

14TH 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

Julie Stein

PRELUDE

"Give Me Jesus" Arr. Craig McKibben Zachary Wright

* RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Cathy Thomas

Leader: We gather this morning to celebrate with joy the wonder of your

Creation, O Lord...

All: For the beauty of all that you have made and the sounds of

birdsong, of music, of quiet times, even of tears

Leader: We open our hearts...

All: To the working of your Spirit in our broken world

Leader: I open myself...

All: To Your wisdom and what You might do in my life through the

power of the resurrection

Leader: We enter worship today with hope in our hearts

All: Let us worship God!

* Unison Opening Prayer

We live in a broken world Lord. For when (not if) we face life's tragedies, we can be overcome with sorrow, confusion, doubt, even despair. Sometimes, even the difficulties and frustrations of everyday life are so overwhelming, we are left empty and wanting.

Drowning in our pain, we forget our many blessings. We lose sight of the good in life and miss opportunities for kindness and joy.

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Pardon us Lord for our lapses in faith and judgment, from our self-absorption – and help us see that you are still present in this life. Open our eyes to your healing grace that surrounds us everywhere: in loving friends and family, in the kindness of strangers, in the power of forgiveness to free troubled souls, and in the deep realization of the sacredness of life. We are eager to find peace in the teachings of your son Jesus...ever mindful of what he said about bringing your kingdom to life, here and now, and in the hope of a new resurrection. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

OPENING HYMN #361 O Chr

O Christ, the Great Foundation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Julie Stein

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:27-31, 41: 8-10

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

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.

But you, Israel, my servant,
Jacob, whom I have chosen,
the offspring of Abraham, my friend;
you whom I took from the ends of the earth,
and called from its farthest corners,

saying to you, "You are my servant,

I have chosen you and not cast you off";
do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Philippians 4:4-8

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

SERMON

"In the Broken Places"

ANTHEM

Fear Not, for I am With You Shelley Hamilton

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your God, I will still give you aid;

I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;

For I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When thru fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply,

The flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume, your gold to refine.

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!

CLOSING HYMN #632

I've Got Peace Like a River

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Great is Thy Faithfulness Arr. Lloyd Larson





Cathy Thomas has been a member of WPC for over twenty years and is a Ruling Elder. She is currently serving her second term as a Deacon and has chaired the Nominating, Music, and Church Life committees. In 2011, as Chair of the WPC Mission Study, Cathy guided the committee's report to Presbytery that defined the requirements for a new pastor — resulting in the selection of Shannon White as Senior Pastor. She lives in Weston CT with her partner, Bill Lacy, and their spoiled Welsh Springer Spaniel, Brody.



WILTON PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

Pastor For pastoral needs, please contact your deacon

Family Ministry Director, Pre-K-Grade 12 JULIE FOWLER <u>julie.fowler@wiltonpresbyterian.org</u>

Director of Music ZACHARY WRIGHT <u>zachary.wright@wiltonpresbyterian.org</u>

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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

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