



Welcome to Wilton Presbyterian Church

September 12, 2021

16TH 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.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Divine Physician, healer of bodies and souls, stretch out your hand and touch us. Cleanse our hearts from the sin that separates us from you and one another. Recreate us in your own image, and restore us in Christ, so that we may run the race and receive the prize of everlasting life.

PRELUDE

Reflections on "Beach Spring"
Arr. Lloyd Larson

Zachary Wright
Carla Strauss, flute

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

* RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of Life: may your light Shine on your people today, as it shone in each moment of history.

People: May the light of your presence inspire this celebration, and inspire our lives.

Leader: To praise you and recognize you,

People: As source of all creation,

Leader: As strength that sustains,

People: As sap that nurtures,

Leader: As wisdom that foresees,

People: As clarity that discovers,

Leader: As love that understands,

People: As mercy that forgives...

All: May the light of your presence, Eternal and inextinguishable, Shine on us now and forever.

When this symbol () precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit*

OPENING HYMN #301

Let Us Build a House

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Jason Rice

We bring our prayers to you, gracious God, sensing that there is more to life than the ways we have known. We are drawn to the Messiah, yet we shrink from following where faith leads. We are afraid of what we might lose if we are guided by the Spirit. Thoughts of sacrifice and servanthood are not appealing to us. We are reluctant to enter into a close relationship with you. We think we know, better than you, what is best for us. Forgive our arrogance. Help us see the Christ.

(A time for silent prayer and personal confession)

*** ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE**

Leader: God continually shows us another way. The Creator's mercy is as wide as the ocean; The Son's love is stronger than death; the Spirit's power cannot be contained.

People: **All our sin is forgiven as we turn away from it with new resolve.**

All: **In Holy unity God raises us up realities not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision

Arr. Alice Parker

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Father, I thy true son; thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise. Thou mine inheritance, now and always; thou and thou only, first in my heart, high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

***DOXOLOGY**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of Love and Mercy, You call us to be Your people; You gift us with Your abundant grace. Make us a holy people, radiating the fullness of Your Love. Form us into a community, a people who care, expressing Your compassion. Remind us day after day of our baptismal call to serve with joy and courage. Teach us how to grow in wisdom and grace and joy in Your presence. Bless what we bring to you with our tithes and offerings, through Jesus and in Your Spirit, we make this prayer. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 3:4-14

Berta Hull

... even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

SERMON

“Pressing On”

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Weenink

RESPONSE

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey D. Weenink is a cradle Presbyterian and third-generation church professional. He is a seasoned, experienced Pastor with an abiding love for parish ministry; extensive missional experience nationally and internationally; and a background with faith-based residential camps.

FAMILY: Spouse Jeanne, a retired early elementary school educator. Three daughters. Jenneke (Dutch for Jennifer – Jenn-eh-kah) Holland, MI. Justyne - Crested Butte, Colorado. Jaime – completing her baccalaureate education. Jaelah - our diva-golden retriever dog.

EDUCATION

San Francisco Theological Seminary Doctor of Ministry Degree (D-Min).

Duke University Divinity School, Durham, N.C. Master of Divinity.

Alma College. Alma Michigan. Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Religion.

WORK HISTORY

41 years of ordained ministry serving in Illinois, Michigan, New York and Florida.

Three long-term pastorates: 8 years, 10 years and 20 years. Two Interim pastorates.

SERVICE TO THE CHURCH

Has served for the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly and multiple Presbyterian related initiatives such as: Buckhorn Children's Center – Presbyterian Child Welfare Agency; Living Waters of the World; Tres M Ministerio.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Rotary International. Multiple Boards and other organizations.

PLAYLIST: An eclectic blend of Classical, R&B, Folk, Rock, Jazz, Indi, and ...

OTHER:

Life-time affection for the water and all things nautical. NAUI certified SCUBA diver – completing Rescue Diver Certification. Sailor. Alpine Skier with preference for the steep and deep. Travel and adventure. Seasoned trekker - - multiple continents, Countries and cultures. Golf – poor/mediocre player but does not allow that to ruin a good walk. Likes to make saw-dust and work with wood.

Restorations - old houses, antiques, two classic mahogany boats (Chris Craft runabouts – 1948 & 1929); a vintage car (1930 Ford Phaeton).

WILTON PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

Pastor	JEFFREY WEENINK	wpchurch@wiltonpresbyterian.org
Family Ministry Director, Pre-K-Grade 12	JULIE FOWLER	julie.fowler@wiltonpresbyterian.org
Director of Music	ZACHARY WRIGHT	zachary.wright@wiltonpresbyterian.org
Office Administrator	CAROLYN PARKER	carolyn.parker@wiltonpresbyterian.org

WEPCO

Facilities Coordinator	ANDREW AREVALO	wepc@optonline.net
Facilities Custodian	MAX GIL	

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

Wilton Presbyterian Church

48 New Canaan Road ~ Wilton, Connecticut 06897
wpchurch@wiltonpresbyterian.org ~ (203) 762.5514
www.wiltonpresbyterian.org