

Welcome to Wilton Presbyterian Church

September 19, 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.

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING

All-wise and all-loving God, we are drawn together in this place because all our knowledge and discernment is not enough to give meaning to our lives. All the pieces of our busy days need a center, and we have come to see that center in the "foolishness" of the cross. There, Love went the distance for us. There, the paths of service were lifted up above our passion for personal gain. We are frightened by what you might ask of us, but we long for the wholeness only you can offer. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Prelude

Holy, Holy, Holy Arr. Mark Hayes Zachary Wright

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Responsive Call to Worship

- Leader: God is gathering us from many different places. No one is worthy, but all are invited.
- People: God lifts us up when we stumble and leads us back. God cares for us amid our pain and losses.
- Leader: We are delivered from our fears and saved from trouble. Happy are those who take refuge in a loving God.
- People: Our lips pour forth laughter and joyous singing. We join in shouts of praise to God Most High.
- Leader: Taste and see how good God is. Trust in the One who awakens joy in place of tears.
- All: We will bless our God in all times and places. Let us exalt God's name together!

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

* Opening Hymn #401

Gather Us In

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

We have come to your temple, loving God, because this is your place, not ours. We confess that we sometimes forget whose house this is. We forget that all the world belongs to you as we scramble for all we can claim for ourselves. Our actions deny your love, which is at the heart of your perfect law. Our minds have justified the bending and breaking of your law to suit current trends and feelings. We cry out for forgiveness and the opportunity for a fresh start. Clear us of hidden faults and redeem us from those we recognize and confess.

(A time for silent prayer and personal prayers)

* Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God's grace mends our brokenness, making us whole;

People: Christ's compassion removes our sin, making us new;

Leader: The Spirit's voice speaks tenderly to us, silencing our pride;

All: Love incarnate in Jesus Christ redeems our lives.

* THE GLORIA #582	
	Mhoo

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Julie Fowler

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Be Still and Know Michael John Trotta

Even if the mountains were to fall into the sea, Waters were to surge upon the earth, Hope still lives in a most holy place, A place that shall not move for I am here.

Be still and know, be still and know, know that I am your God. Be still and know, and you'll find rest, a refuge for your soul. **Cathy Thomas**

When nations roar and kingdoms fall still you shall not fear, My strength and hope will keep you on your way. Wars shall cease and the shields melt with fire, Listen then for you will hear my voice.

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures high and low; Give thanks to God in love made known; Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen.

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

For all the ways You reveal Yourself to us, gracious God, we give You thanks. We dedicate ourselves to You with great expectations of sharing Your wisdom, mercy, and good fruits. We thank You for this moment when our faith and hope are renewed through spiritual sojourn with You. In answer to the quickening of your Spirit within us we offer You our inmost hearts. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 40 (selected verses)

The LORD said to Moses, "On the first day of the first month you shall erect the tabernacle of the tent of meeting. And you shall put in it the ark of the testimony, and you shall screen the ark with the veil. And you shall bring in the table, and set its arrangements in order; and you shall bring in the lampstand, and set up its lamps.

And he erected the court round the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would go onward; but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not go onward till the day that it was taken up. For throughout all their journeys the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel.

Sermon

"Renewed in the Spirit ~ I**" *A Not So Itinerant Faith*

Response

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!

* CLOSING HYMN #321 The Church's One Foundation

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Arr. Lloyd Larson

** Today's sermon is the first in a series: Renewed in the Spirit

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 \sim Please linger for conversation following worship and participate in the festivities with our sister congregation in St. Matthew's Day \sim



Thank you for joining Wilton Presbyterian Church for worship.

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of WPC. **To donate, you may** visit <u>https://onrealm.org/WiltonPresbyterian/-/give/now</u> or you may mail a check to Wilton Presbyterian Church, 48 New Canaan Rd., Wilton, CT 06897. Arrangements can be made to establish an EFT. Contact Mark Bohrer at wiggins306@yahoo.com

Thank you for your generosity.



Social Media Team

Are you savvy with Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and/or other social media platforms? Would you be willing to share your time and ability to extend the work and witness of WPC through these mediums? If so, please let Carolyn Parker know at <u>carolyn.parker@wiltonpresbyterian.org</u>

We would like to establish a team to expand our abilities. Thank you!



WILTON PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

Pastor Family Ministry Director, Pre-K-Grade 12 Director of Music Office Administrator

<u>Wepco</u>

Facilities Coordinator Facilities Custodian Jeffrey Weenink Julie Fowler Zachary Wright Carolyn Parker wpchurch@wiltonpresbyterian.org julie.fowler@wiltonpresbyterian.org zachary.wright@wiltonpresbyterian.org carolyn.parker@wiltonpresbyterian.org

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

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

Wilton Presbyterian Church

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