



First Congregational Church Wilmot

**An Open & Affirming Racial Justice Congregation
Of the United Church of Christ**

Gathered in 1829

*No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

***Order of Worship for
August 16, 2026***

Rev. Rachelle Eaton, Minister
Elaine Cox, Music Director

MORNING WORSHIP August 16, 2026

A TIME OF GATHERING AND SHARING

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Bringing of the Light of Christ

A Time of Silence to Center Ourselves

Our worship service is taking place on N'dakinna, the traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki, Penacook and Wabanaki Peoples past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land and waterways and the people who have stewarded N'dakinna throughout the generations.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Be still!

We come to quiet ourselves in this haven of holiness.

Be still and know . . .

we come to discern the Word which can set us free.

Be still and know that God is

our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.

INVOCATION

Eternal God, the refuge and help of all your children,
we praise you for all you have given us,
for all you have done for us,
for all that you are to us.

In our weakness, you are strength,
in our darkness, you are light,
in our sorrow, you are comfort and peace.

We cannot number your blessings,
we cannot declare your love:

For all your blessings we bless you.

May we live as in your presence,
and love the things that you love,
and serve you in our daily lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*HYMN

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Chalice #67

1. Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

2. Under the shadow of your throne
Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

3. Before the hills in order stood
Or Earth received her frame,
From everlasting you are God,

To endless years the same.

4. A thousand ages in your sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

6. Like flow'ry fields the nations stand,
Pleased with the morning light;
The flow'rs beneath the mower's hand
Lie with'ring ere 'tis night.

7. Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings

Habakkuk 3:17-19a, Psalm 46

Reflection

Rev. Rachele Eaton

*HYMN

“Creative God, You Spread the Earth”

Chalice #697

1. Creative God, you spread the earth
With life in many forms:
The deer and elk and columbine,
The bee in humming swarms.
Forgive us for each flow'r and bird
Now vanished by our hand.
Teach us to treat with loving care
The creatures of the land.

2. The planet teemed with living things
Before all human birth,
And even fire and beasts of prey
Renewed the life of earth.

Forgive us that, the last to come,
We threaten sea and air.
Teach us to tend life's fragile web
With wise and tender care.

3. O playful God, you fill the field
With lavender and blue.
You paint the bird with indigo,
With red or tawny hue.
Forgive us that we grieve your heart,
Destroying what you do,
And teach us simpler, gentler ways
To live on earth with you.

MORNING PRAYERS

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer followed by The Lord's Prayer

Our * ... 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen

**We have come to know God by many different names and images. Please use the one which speaks from your heart today. (e.g. Father, Mother, Creator, God...)*

Prayer Response

“Restless Weaver”

Chalice #658, Verse 2

Where earth's fragile web is raveling help us mend each broken strand.
Bless our urgent, bold endeavors cleansing water, air, and land.
Through the Spirit's inspiration—offering health where once was pain—
Strengthen us to be the stewards of your world knit whole again.

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*Doxology

NCH #778

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

*HYMN

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

Chalice #453

1. Called as partners in Christ's service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's
chosen end.

2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
All God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.

3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens,
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action
Make us colleagues, free and fair.

4. So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.

*CLOSING CIRCLE AND COMMISSIONING ONE ANOTHER

Go into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted;
honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*SUNG RESPONSE

“Live in Charity”

Chalice #523

Live in charity and steadfast love,
Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

(Repeat 3 times)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, August 18	Rachelle – Day off
Thursday, August 20	6:00 pm – AA's Beginner's Step Meeting
Saturday, August 22	6 – 7:30 pm - Bandstand Supper
Sunday, August 23	10:00 am – Worship 11:15 am – Coffee Hour
Tuesday, August 25	1:00 pm – Church Council Planning Meeting
Sunday, September 13	Rally Day Picnic

Bandstand Supper

The Bandstand supper is this Saturday, August 22 from 6 – 7:30 pm. The church will be serving hot dogs with assorted toppings, chips, watermelon and lemonade. Please see Jane and let her know how you can help – either by providing food or helping at the event.



\$20,625 raised as of 8-9-26

RAISE THE ROOF FUNDRAISER

The Raise the Roof Fundraiser ended, August 2, 2026. Donations have continued to come in.

Total donations, including the matching donations have brought our total to \$20,625 which is 90% of our goal of \$23,000. We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to this campaign.

First Congregational Church Staff and Officers

Ministers: Members and Friends of the Congregation

Settled Minister: Rev. Rachelle Eaton

Moderator: Bob Evans

Clerk: Open Position

Director of Music: Elaine Cox

Deacon of the Month: Marie MacDonald

Religious Ed Director: Nancy Allenby

Secretary: Mary Heath

Attributions

Call to Worship written by Thom Shuman, and posted on Lectionary Liturgies. lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/

Invocation: Prayer of St. Boniface (ca. AD 672-754)

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First Congregational Church Wilmot

Rev. Rachelle Eaton, Settled Pastor

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