



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
September 13, 2026
Rally Day***

Rev. Rachelle Eaton, Minister
Elaine Cox, Music Director

MORNING WORSHIP September 13, 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

(inspired by Psalm 27)

God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

**God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble,
and our hope and joy on the days of celebration!**

Day after day, we seek God's face and the assurance of God's holy love:

**O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us!
Be our guide and our light instead!**

One thing we ask of God:

**That we may live in God's dwelling place all the days of our life,
and never cease to behold the beauty of God's home.**

Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving,
for God is among and within us!

Thanks be to God!

INVOCATION

**Gracious Light-Bearer,
Into the shadows of our isolation
you speak words of life and community.
Challenger of our lives,
you call us from places we call home
to lead us more deeply into the world you love.
With your gentle, healing touch
you redeem the broken places of our lives
and you heal the wounded places of the earth.
Inspire our worship here this day,
so that we may receive liberation in your word,
and be filled to overflowing
to share your reconciling love throughout the earth.
We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.**

*HYMN

"Go Light Your World"

Insert

There is a candle in every soul
Some brightly burning, some dark and cold
There is a Spirit who brings a fire
Ignites a candle and makes His home

So carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the hopeless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world

Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to
Light his own candle some other way
See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to
Still holds a candle without a flame

Carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
Take your candle, and go light your world

We are a family whose hearts are blazing
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus
Make us a beacon in darkest times

Carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the hopeless, deceived and poor
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings: Genesis 7:6-10; 8:6-12; 9:8-17; Matthew 8:23-27

Reflection

Rev. Rachelle Eaton

***HYMN**

“Be Still, My Soul”

Chalice # 566

**1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Trust in your God, your savior and your guide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
through thorny ways leads to a peaceful end.**

**2 Be still, my soul: for God will undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know
the voice that calmed them in this world below.**

**3 Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall dwell with forever more,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,**

all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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 4

Restless Weaver, still conceiving new life now and yet to be.

Binding all your vast creation in one living tapestry.

You have called us to be weavers. Let your love guide all we do.

With your Reign of Peace our pattern, we will weave your world anew.

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 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

NCH #459

1. Come, O Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing your grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unfailing love.

2. Here I pause in my sojourning,
Giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning,
God will guide me safely home.
Juesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God,
Came to rescue me from danger,
Blessed body, precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it,
Wander from the love I've known;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for your very own.

***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 “Shall We Gather at the River” (Refrain)Chalice #701**

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Rev. Rachelle Eaton will be on study leave September 14 through 20. Rev. Rob Grabill will fill the pulpit on the 20th.

Today:	Following Worship - Rally Day Picnic at Lucy Mueller's House
Tuesday, Sept. 15	1:00 pm – Church Council
Thursday, Sept. 17	6:00 pm – AA Beginners
Sunday, Sept. 20	10:00 am – Worship – Rev. Rob Grabill Preaching 11:15 pm – Coffee Hour
Sunday, Sept. 27	Outdoor Service for Season of Creation

Appreciative Inquiry Congregational Conversations:

- Tuesday, September 22, 3 pm at the church
- Thursday, September 24, 7 pm on Zoom
- Sunday, September 17, 12 noon at church

Please sign up for the date you will participate on the clipboards downstairs or by emailing Rachelle at rachelle@wilmotucc.org

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: September: Bethany Balford

Religious Ed Director: Nancy Allenby

Secretary: Mary Heath

Attributions

Call to Worship and Invocation written by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley, and posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website.

<http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>

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