



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!*

Service of Installation for Rev. Rachelle Eaton

November 1, 2026

3:00 pm

Service of Installation

INTRODUCTION

Rev. Rob Grabill

Welcome

Bethany Balford

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.

Bringing the Light of Christ – Centering Ourselves for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lexi Boudreaux

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Today we rejoice to gather with friends new and old as we walk together on life's journey.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Today we rejoice to bless the partnership in ministry between this pastor and this congregation.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Today we rejoice to celebrate the gifts given to each and every one of us for building up a world of justice and peace.

All: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

INVOCATION

Rev. Leanne Tigert

O God, who sent Jesus into the world not to be served, but to serve,
And to give his life to set others free, shape us for your ministry.

Enfold us, O God, in your family, and empower us for your work.

You have graced all members of Christ's body, one by one, with gifts of the Spirit to fulfill their vocation:

To lead lives worthy of your calling,

To be workers who have no reason to be ashamed,

To shine as lights to your glory.

You have granted each of us the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

You gave grace according to the measure of Christ's gift,
and some are called to be apostles, some prophets,
some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Grant that together we may all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of your Son, to the full stature of Christ.

Through your grace, O God, may we lead lives worthy of the vocation to which you call us.

Enfold us, O God, in your family, and empower us for your work.

SONG

"The Long Table"

Rev. Joel Eaton,

Rev.

Mark Koyama

Katie Walsh

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings

Philippians 1:3-11

Rev. Kurt Shaffert

Sermon

Rev. Duane Bailey

***HYMN**

"You Are Called to Tell the Story"

NCH #35

1. You are called to tell the story,
Passing words of life along.
Then to blend your voice with others
As you sing the sacred song.
Christ be known in all our singing,
Filling all with songs of love.

2. You are called to teach the rhythm
Of the dance that never ends.
Then to move within the circle,
Hand in hand with strangers, friends.
Christ be known in all our dancing,
Touching all with hands of love.

3. You are called to set the table,
Blessing bread as Jesus blessed,
Then to come with thirst and hunger,
Needing care like all the rest.
Christ be known in all our sharing,
Feeding all with signs of love.

4. May the One whose love is broader
Than the measure of all space
Give us words to sing the story,
Move among us in this place.
Christ be known in all our living,
Filling all with gifts of love.

ORDER OF INSTALLATION

Rev. Evelyn Eddy and Claudia Istel

Greeting

Association Representative: The Granite Association of the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ greets you in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church in heaven and on earth.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

***All:* Let us look to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was waiting endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Presentation

Exhortation

Covenant

Association Representative: Members of the First Congregational Church of Wilmot, please rise in body or spirit to affirm your covenant with your pastor and teacher.

***Congregation Members:* We, the members of the First Congregational Church of Wilmot receive Rachelle as our pastor and teacher, promising to labor with her in the ministry of the gospel and to give her due honor and support. We gather with her and with the United Church of Christ as a sign of our mutual ministry in Christ's name.**

Association Representative: Members of Granite Association, please rise in body or spirit and affirm your covenant with the First Congregational Church of Wilmot and its pastor and teacher.

***Association Members:* We, the members of the Granite Association of the United Church of Christ, gather with you, the people and the pastor and teacher of First Congregational Church of Wilmot, as a sign of our covenant and in celebration of our mutual ministry in Christ's name.**

Prayer of Installation

Declaration

SONG

"One Voice"

Katie Walsh
Alison Thatcher
Rev. Lexi Boudreaux

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...)*

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.

HYMN**"God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian"****NCH #355**

**1. God the Spirit, guide and guardian,
Wind-spiced flame and hovering dove,
Breath of life and voice of prophets,
Sign of blessing, power of love:
Give to those who lead your people
Fresh anointing of your grace;
Send them forth as bold apostles
To your Church in every place.**

**2. Christ our Savior, Sovereign, Shepherd,
Word-made-flesh, Love crucified,
Teacher, healer, suffering Servant,
Friend of sinners, foe of pride:
In your tending may all pastors
Learn and live a Shepherd's care;
Grant them courage and compassion
Shown through word and deed and prayer.**

**3. Great Creator, Life-bestower,
Truth beyond all thought's recall,
Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy,
Giving and forgiving all:
As you know our strength and weakness,
So may those the Church exalts
Oversee her life steadfastly
Yet not overlook her faults.**

**4. Triune God, mysterious Being,
Undivided and diverse,
Deeper than our minds can fathom,
Greater than our creeds rehearse:
Help us in our varied callings
Your full image to proclaim
That our ministries uniting
May give glory to your Name.**

PRESENTATION

Search Committee

ANTHEM**"Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant"**

Choir

***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*"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"****Chalice #433**

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain,

But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Rachelle Eaton

I extend a sincere thank you to everyone here today to celebrate this occasion with me, especially those who have traveled from other communities. Thank you to the friends and colleagues who have helped lead this service, representing varied ministries in healthcare chaplaincy, parish ministry, education, activism, coaching and counseling, parenting, and music! Each of you here today has played a role in my own growth as a minister and as a person, and I celebrate the way your presence makes a difference in the world.

Rachelle

Attributions

Invocation Chalice 451 "Litany of Ministry," Adapted from New Testament texts by Colbert S. Cartwright.

"The Long Table" composed by Maya de Vitry, Oliver Bates Craven, and Charles Muench.

"One Voice" composed by Ruth Moody.

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First Congregational Church Wilmot

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