



Wilbraham United Church
"I am the vine, you are the branches."

Wilbraham United Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ
and the United Methodist Church*

**500 Main Street
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May 22, 2022

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 A.M.

GATHERING MUSIC AND WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marge Trimble

Leader: From God comes the wonder of creation.

People: Let us worship God, our Creator.

Leader: From God comes healing for the brokenness we see.

People: Let us worship God, our Redeemer.

Leader: From God comes the strength to face the new day.

People: Let us worship God, our Sustainer.

***GATHERING HYMN #103 (UMH)**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

In things we have done, and things we've left undone, we have relied on our own wits, rather than relying on the power and presence of God. We have not listened to the pain of your children and turned our eyes from the suffering of our neighbors. We have tried to be the voice of the voiceless — to be the hands and feet of God — but we don't always see through our world to the peace that God promises, and we get tired. God, you know us through and through, at our best, at our worst, and still you seek us out. Grant us grace to be honest with ourselves and with you, and hear us as we pray as Jesus Christ taught us:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 67, page 791

***SONG OF PRAISE #2284 (FWS)**

*There'll be joy in the morning on that day,
There'll be joy in the morning on that day,
For the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone,
There'll be joy in the morning on that day.*

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Pastor Chip

A LESSON FROM CHURCH HISTORY

Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, ‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.’ And she prevailed upon us.

A PROPHECY

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 5:1-9

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.” Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

One: Our God is still speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Pastor Chip

HYMN #400 (UMH)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Sung Response #306 (UMH)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

***Doxology #94 (UMH)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts. Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

***PARTING HYMN #433 (UMH)**

All Who Love and Serve Your City

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #665 (UMH)**

Go now in peace, go now in peace

May the love of God surround you

Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

** All who are able to stand, may do so.*

The altar flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God In Memory of Ross Karlson who would have turned 94 on May 19th. From the Karlson Family.

Welcome Visitors! Is this your first visit to United Church? Please sign a Pew Card. Immediately after the service, we invite you to continue down the central hallway and join us for Fellowship and Refreshment in our Fellowship Hall.

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Senior Pastor: The Rev. Wallace A Hurd IV

Music Director: Roberta Morkin

Technical and Artistic Director: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Skip Dearborn, Jim Trimble, Kim Ryan

Greeters: David & Joyce Pierangelo



Please Pray For: The Karlson Family, The Sawyer Family, The Neelans Family, The Belsky Family, George, Daniel, Catherine, Lynne, Terry, Ray, Theresa, Ann, Jane Godfrey, Shey McAbee, Sharon McAbee, Patti Keiser, Sue Pereira, Kathie Birkhaeuser. The victims of violence and their families in our country. Our troops, our country and our world.



"News for the Pews" for the Week of May 22, 2022

The Wilbraham United Church Men's Breakfast Club, the (Romeos), will meet May 25 for breakfast. They meet behind the church in the parking lot at 8:30 A.M., and continue going to breakfast every two weeks.

New Member Sunday will be on June 5 during worship. If you are thinking about joining Wilbraham United Church, please contact Pastor Chip or Joyce Pierangelo. **New Member Orientations will take place after worship today and at 7:30 p.m. on June 1.**

Christina's House is in need of size 5 & 6 diapers, shampoo, conditioner, and women's deodorant. We will be collecting these items throughout the rest of the month. Please bring them by during Chip's office hours or on Sunday before worship.

Thrift Store: For the last several years, Donna Carlson and Nancy Krawczynski managed our Thrift Store with great dedication and faithful leadership. We are grateful for their hard work, loving care and devoted stewardship.

Now we are in need of new leaders and new volunteers to reopen the Thrift Store. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Chip. Donna and Nancy have offered their guidance and advice to anyone who steps up!

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 103

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 400

1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to
2. Here I raise mine Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con -

sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good plea - sure,
strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,

call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
bind my wan - dering heart to thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I

son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! I'm
stran - ger, wan - dering from the fold of God; he, to res - cue
feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O

fixed up - on it, mount of thy re - deem - ing love.
me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features three systems of music. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are arranged in three columns, corresponding to the three verses. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation for the vocal line, with chords and moving lines in the bass clef.

All Who Love and Serve Your City 433

Unison

1. All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
 2. In your day of loss and sor - row, in your
 3. In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
 4. For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
 5. Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the

bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and
 day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near to all who
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our Judge, our

jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:
 treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
 Je - sus, "Work ye yet while it is day."
 spurn him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.
 Glo - ry, be its name, "The Lord is there!"

WORDS: Erik Routley, 1966 (Lk. 19:41; Ezk. 48:35)
 MUSIC: USA melody; harm. and arr. by Carlton R. Young, 1964

CHARLESTOWN
 87.87

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Monday, May 23

10 a.m. Piecemakers – Bliss Room
7:00 p.m. WUP-Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. VBC Planning Meeting –
Zeckhausen Room

Tuesday, May 24

10:00 a.m. Yoga –Youth Room
7:15 p.m. Bible Study – Zoom

Wednesday, May 25

6:30 p.m. Al Anon – Youth Room
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts – Church School
Rooms

Thursday, May 26

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Chip's Office Hours
5:30 p.m. Daises – Church School Rooms
6:30 p.m. Al Anon – Youth Room
7:00 p.m. Bell Choir
7:45 p.m. Choir

Friday, May 27

7:30 p.m. WUP Performance

Saturday, May 28

2:30 WUP Performance

Sunday, May 29

10:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & FB Live)
11:00 a.m. Fellowship
5:00 p.m. Al Anon-Youth Room

Wilbraham United Church Staff

Susan Dentzau, Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper
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a just
world
for all
ucc.org



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Support our Church Community!

Spring Arts & Crafts Fair

Saturday, June 11th

Wilbraham United Church

We are looking for donations of raffle items, themed baskets, or you may simply make a donation and we'll do the work for you!

Questions or to make a donation,
call or email Kim Ryan

(413) 519-6335

• WUChurchEvents@gmail.com •



We are a people of
EXTRAVAGANT
WELCOME

To ensure that we are able to continue to offer extravagant welcome to all, we need to give some attention to these areas:

- **Ushers, Greeters and Liturgists for summer and fall**
 - Welcome friends and neighbors, participate in the service, or read the Scripture!
 - *Please see Kim Ryan, Marty Lyman, or Pastor Chip for details.*

- **Nursery Caregivers for our Infants and Toddlers**
 - This will allow the parents of our youngest members to worship with the knowledge that their babies are in good hands!
 - This is done as a team with two adults in the nursery at all times.
 - *Please contact Pastor Chip or Marty Lyman for details.*

- **Discipleship Opportunities**
 - Volunteer to be a part of our Loaves and Fishes team to help cook or deliver a meal to South Congregational Church once a month.
 - Be a part of a monthly supply drive or Family Night. Have an idea for one?
 - Help plan Vacation Bible School! Meeting Monday night at 7!
 - Serve as a Church School teacher or monitor for our 2022-23 year.
 - *Please see Shelly Capen or Pastor Chip for details.*

- **Fellowship is preparing the 2022-2023 Nominating Slate**
 - We are only looking to fill one position on each of these commissions:
 - Looking for a way to put your *handyperson or gardening skills* to work? Have a passion for *environmentalism, sustainability or accessibility*? Try **Property**!
 - Are you a *numbers whiz*, who can format a pivot table and *explain simple math to your simple pastor*? **Finance** has a spot waiting for you!
 - Do you have *natural coaching skills or attention to detail*? Are you an *organizer and a planner*? **Administration** can use your gifts and talents in the coming year!
 - If any of these sound like you, *please contact Joyce Pierangelo!*

READ IT

This week's Bible story is
Lydia
from Acts 16:9-15.



Lydia worked with Paul to spread the news about Jesus.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Lydia
- Purple cloth
- Paul
- Baptized

During Lydia's time, a household meant family, friends, employees, and slaves. When Lydia's household was baptized, that was probably a lot of people!

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 532-535

Spark Bible page 1224

Family Prayer

Say this prayer while everyone holds something purple.

Thank you, Jesus, for asking us to tell people about you and God. Help us to do it. AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 What is your favorite color?
- 2 Who do you tell about Jesus?
- 3 When you were baptized, was anyone else baptized with you?
- 4 Together, help each other tell as many things about Jesus as number of years old you are.
A four-year-old thinks of four things about Jesus, a nine-year-old, nine — parents may need some help to come up with their number of things! Use the Bible for help!



Eye Spark

Next time you see something purple, think of this story of Lydia and think of something you can tell others about Jesus.



Ear Spark

Every time you hear Jesus' name, remember how much he loves you.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Use purple napkins this week during your mealtimes. Eat purple foods! Wear purple for dinner! Enjoy purple and remember Lydia, the amazing woman who sold purple cloth and told everyone she knew all about Jesus.

For younger kids

Use some paints and see how many different shades of purple you can make. Mix them up!

For older kids

See if you can trace the route of Paul and his companions in Acts 16 on a map. What do we call this part of the world now?

