



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
Wilbraham MA 01095**

Phone: (413) 596-2511

www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org
facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch

September 18, 2022 15th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING MUSIC Bell Choir *Here I am to Worship* arr. V. Labenske

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marge Trimble

Leader: All you who call yourselves children of God, come and praise the Lord!

People: Praise the Eternal God!

Leader: May God's name be lifted high in the hearts of the people.

People: At all times and in every place, may the name of the Lord be praised!

***GATHERING HYMN #358 (UMH)**

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Everlasting God, we must confess that we have not lived as your people. We serve many masters—work, wealth, power, addictions— even though we find no hope in them. We hear the cries of the poor, and shut the doors of our hearts to them. We ridicule those who reveal their hopes and dreams to us. Merciful God, forgive us, and heal us of our brokenness. Help us to become the hope and love others need in their lives. Teach us to be faithful stewards of the grace, peace, and joy we have received from you in Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray by saying:

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

Leader: Hear the Good News: We have not been faithful in all things. But our God still welcomes us with patience and kindness. Therefore, as people of God's promise, let us receive forgiveness, embrace hope, and faithfully respond, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: We are forgiven. Glory to God! We have hope. We will respond. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 113, page 834 (UMH)

***SONG OF PRAISE #2026 (FWS)**

***Halle, Halle, Halleluja! Halle, Halle, Halleluja! Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halleluja! Halleluja!***

***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

PROPHECY

Amos 8:4-7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, “What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.” Then the manager said to himself, “What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.” So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, “How much do you owe my master?” He answered, “A hundred jugs of olive oil.” He said to him, “Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.” Then he asked another, “And how much do you owe?” He replied, “A hundred containers of wheat.” He said to him, “Take your bill and make it eighty.” And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

‘Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

One: Our God is still speaking.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Pastor Chip

HYMN #441 (UMH)

What Does the Lord Require

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Sung Response

*Breath of God, Breath of Peace, Breath of love, Breath of life,
Breath of justice, Breath of passion,
Breath creating, Breath of healing, Breath of singing, Breath of praying,
Come upon us, come restore us, come inspire us, Breath of God.*

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory Chancel Choir

Alleluia! I Will Sing

D. Waggoner

***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 #2153 (FWS)**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

***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 by Poppy and Terry Nelson in memory of their parents and daughter-in-law Denise Nelson.

***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 Directors: Deb Trimble and Don Schmidt

Ushers: Bill Lynch and Biff Simpson

Greeters: Joyce Emerle



Please Pray For: 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 Month Day, 2022

September 18, 2022 @ 2:00 p.m. – WUC Mini Golf & Ice cream social after at Fenway Golf in East Longmeadow. All are welcome.

AED Training to be offered on September 24, 2022

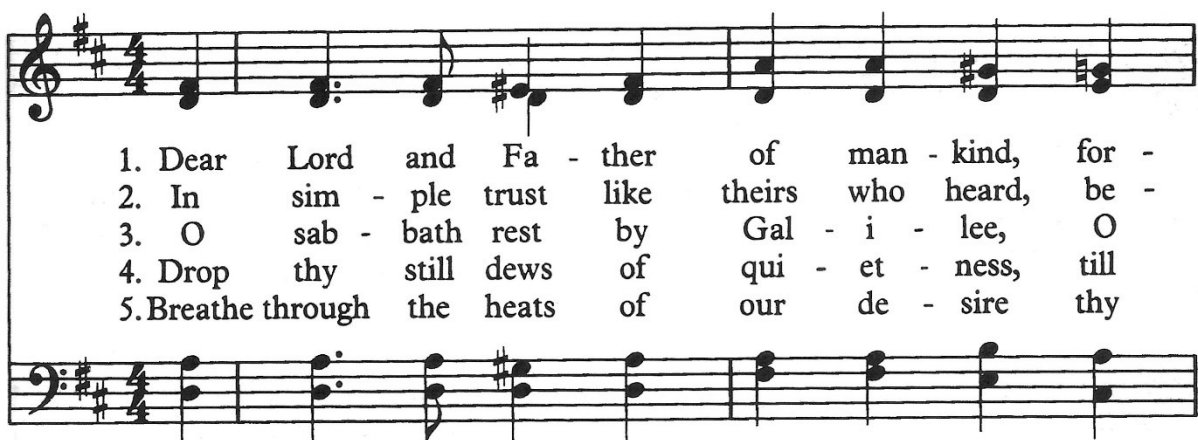
Wilbraham United Church will be offering a training session on the AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) machine on Saturday, September 24 from 10 to 1 in Fellowship Hall. This is a life saving device that we want to be able to use in an emergency. Michael Roberge from Roberge EMS Training Associates and the American Heart Association will be our trainer. The training will include CPR training for adults, children and infants. All adults are welcome and encouraged to attend. We are especially encouraging anyone serving as an usher or greeter to sign up for the training. Please contact Linda Bregianes at 413-478-7350 or email LBregianes@charter.net If you have questions or would like to sign up. We need to know the number of people who will attend by September 17 so please let Linda know by then.

The Wilbraham United Church Men's Breakfast Club, the (Romeo's), will start meeting again, September 21, 2022 for breakfast. They meet behind the church in the parking lot at 8:30 A.M., and continue going to breakfast every two weeks.

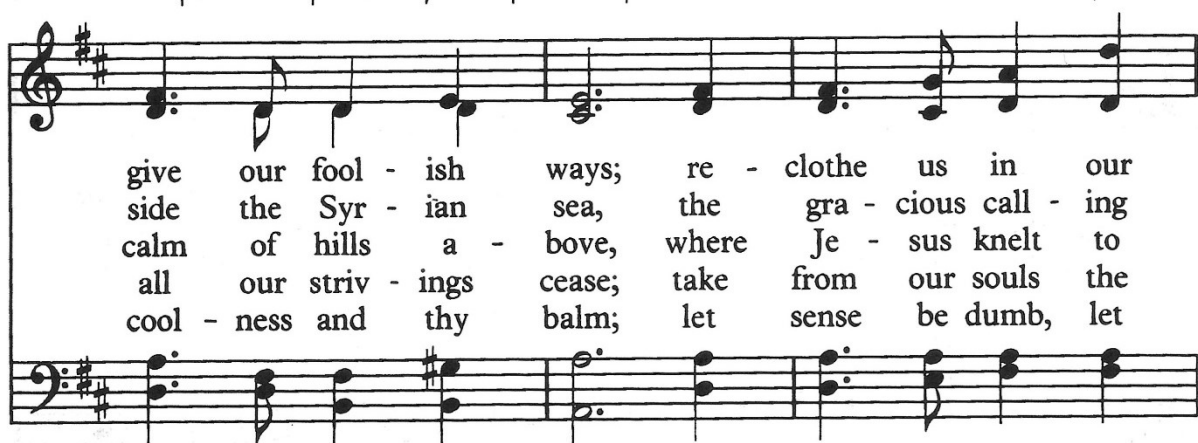
The Piecemakers continue to meet on Monday 19th, 10:00a.m. - noon.

New members are always welcome. Just come to a meeting, or contact Nancy at ncpeck10@gmail.com

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind 358



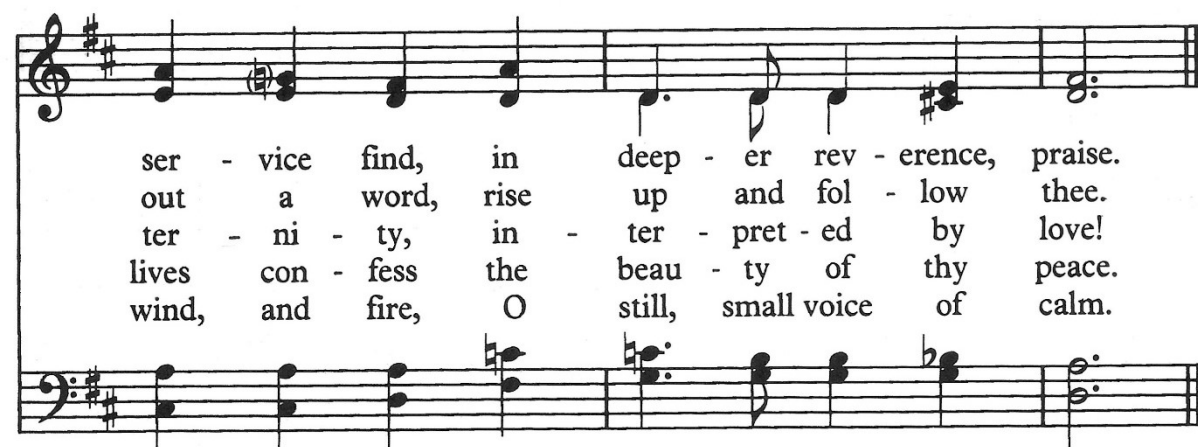
1. Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for -
 2. In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be -
 3. O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee, O
 4. Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till
 5. Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy



give our fool - ish ways; re - clothe us in our
 side the Syr - ian sea, the gra - cious call - ing
 calm of hills a - bove, where Je - sus knelt to
 all our striv - ings cease; take from our souls the
 cool - ness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let



right - ful mind, in pur - er lives thy
 of the Lord, let us, like them, with -
 share with thee the si - lence of e -
 strain and stress, and let our or - dered
 flesh re - tire; speak through the earth - quake,

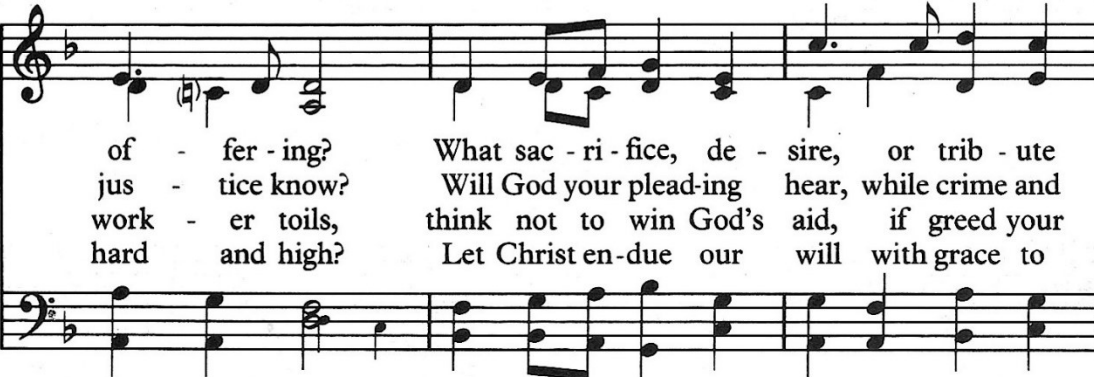


ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
 out a word, rise up and fol - low thee.
 ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pret - ed by love!
 lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.
 wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

What Does the Lord Require



1. What does the Lord re - quire for praise and
 2. Rul - ers of earth, give ear! Should you not
 3. All who gain wealth by trade, for whom the
 4. How shall our life ful - fill God's law so



of - fer - ing? What sac - ri - fice, de - sire, or trib - ute
 jus - tice know? Will God your plead - ing hear, while crime and
 work - er toils, think not to win God's aid, if greed your
 hard and high? Let Christ en - due our will with grace to



bid you bring? Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk
 cruel - ty grow? Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk
 com - merce soils. Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk
 for - ti - fy. Then just - ly, in mer - cy, we'll



1-3 hum - bly with your God.
 hum - bly with your God.
 hum - bly with your God.
 4 hum - bly walk with God.

2153 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1. I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2. I'm gon-na work so (work so)
 3. I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4. I'm gon-na sing so (sing so) } God can use me ____

____ an - y - where, Lord, ____ an - y - time! ____
 (an - y - time!)

I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 I'm gon-na work so (work so)
 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so) } God can use me ____

____ an - y - where, Lord, (my Lord,) ____ an - y - time! ____
 (an - y - time!)

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Monday, September 19, 2022

10:00 a.m. Piecemakers

7:00 p.m. Church Council ZR

7:00 p.m. WUP -FH

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

7:00 p.m. WUP-FH

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Main Street Farmers Market – Front Lawn

6:00 p.m. Al Anon – Youth Room

6:30 p.m. Boy Scotts

7:00 p.m. Discipleship

7:00 p.m. WUP-FH

Thursday, September 22, 2022

6:30 p.m. Al-Anon

7:00 p.m. Bell Choir

7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

Saturday, September 24, 2022

9:00 a.m. AED Training

Sunday, September 25, 2022

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

11:00 a.m. Fellowship

1:00 p.m. WUP-FH

5:00 p.m. Al-Anon

Wilbraham United Church Staff

Susan Dentzau, Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper

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Rev. Chip Hurd, Pastor

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world
for all
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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

SAVE THE DATE!



Halloween Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 30

1-3pm

This anticipated event is coming back for a THIRD year! We need help from the congregation to make sure it is a success!

We are looking for candy & treat donations as well as participants interested in decorating their trunks!

Donations can be dropped off during regular office hours.

If you are interested, please reach out to a member of the Discipleship Team- Shelly Capen, Pam Byers, Aurora Frias, or Tim Timpson – discipleship@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org!




All are
invited!

WUC Mini Golf & Ice Cream
September 18 @ 2:00 PM

Fenway Golf
112 Allen St East Longmeadow

READ IT

This week's Bible story is
Two Masters 
from Luke 16:1-13.

A manager protects himself by dishonestly reducing debts.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Squander
- Accounting
- Summon
- Shrewd
- Dishonest
- Debt

Being clever was traditionally an important trait for characters in Jewish stories.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 384-385

Spark Bible pages 1154-1155

Family Prayer

Lord God, help us to be innovative and wise stewards of your gifts to us on earth. Amen.

TALK ABOUT IT



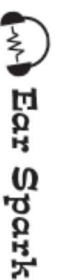
Family Conversations

- 1 Have you ever had a difficult time sharing or valuing your stuff?
- 2 What do you think dishonest wealth is?
- 3 This story values "shrewdness." How can this characteristic help people live as God wishes?
- 4 Take turns making up parables in which cleverness is an important trait of the hero.



Eye Spark

Watch for story characters that are clever.
Draw pictures of them being clever.



Ear Spark

Listen for jokes and riddles that are clever.
Remember at least one to tell to someone who hasn't heard it before.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Play a favorite game that requires cleverness and planning—it could be tic-tac-toe or boxes or a board game. Who is the clever one this round?

For younger kids

Take good care of your things—perhaps do an extra good job putting your toys away—so that you can share them with others.

For older kids

Make a list of jobs in which people are responsible for others' property. How could they do those jobs in a manner that honors God?

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