

Wilbraham United Church

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

500 Main Street Wilbraham MA 01095

10:00AM

Phone: (413)596-2511 www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch

August 4, 2024

11th Sunday after Pentecost

We ask that everyone wear nametags so that we can be welcoming to all. There are listening devices available for those that may need them. An usher will be happy to assist you. Following worship, we invite everyone to gather for light refreshment in the Zeckhausen Room located immediately across from the doors to the Sanctuary.

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: All Things Bright and Beautiful

arr. J.B. Taylor

Ed McCorkindale

Let All Creation Bless the Lord

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME

*GATHERING HYMN see insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: God's love has been poured out and we are the glad recipients. How thankful we are to the One who calls each of us by name and who provides the goodness which allows all manner of blessings to flow.

People: We stand in awe of the work of our Creator, who made heaven and earth, and who continues to gather us in the presence of the Divine. The Lord empowers us to walk in the way of faith and to be uplifted by the presence of the One who made us. Thanks be to God.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION Bountiful God

We are ever so grateful to be gathered in your presence and to be refreshed by our worship of you. The world can be harsh and unrelenting, but you provide us the comfort and reassurance that propels us forward. You affirm for us your power and goodness, and that you are ultimately in charge of all. Come to us, we pray, strengthen our faith, fortress our spirits, and grant us courage for the journey. Therefore, we worship you with gladness and we praise you with joy. Amen

*SONG OF PRAISE # 334 (UMH)

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; There are sweet expressions on each face, And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

God came to Balaam and said, "Who are these men with you?" Balaam said to God, "King Balak son of Zippor of Moab has sent me this message: 'Look, a people has come out of Egypt and has spread over the face of the earth; now come, curse them for me; perhaps I shall be able to fight against them and drive them out.' "God said to Balaam, "You shall not go with them; you shall not curse the people, for they are blessed."

A STORY PRESENTATION BASED ON NUMBERS 22

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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.

Sung Response # 2193 (TFWS)

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6: 25-34

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing?

Numbers 22: 9-12

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

One: This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Communion Meditation

Rev. Janet

***HYMN #122** (UMH) vs. 1, 2 & 5

God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give	
Offertory	He's Got the Whole World In His Hands (VBC edition)
	Please join in singing!

He's got the whole world in His hands, (x3)
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the chicks and the cows in His hands, (x3)
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the dogs and the cats in His hands, (x3)
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the lions and the elephants in His hands, (x3)
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in his hands in His hands.
He's got ev'rybody here in His hands. (x3)
He's got the whole world in His hands.

*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! *Prayer of Dedication

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion Pastor: God be with you People: And also with you Pastor: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them to God Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High People: It is right to give God thanks and praise Words of Remembrance Distribution of Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***PARTING HYMN#147** (UMH) vs. 1, 2, 4

***FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

***BENEDICTION**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 2238 (TFWS)

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar, We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

Piano: He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

arr. J. Purifoy

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Welcome Visitors! Is this your first visit to United Church? If you wish to be contacted by a member of the church or our pastor, please leave your contact information with one of the ushers or place a visitor card in the collection plate. We invite you to join us in our time of Fellowship after the service. Our ushers or a member of the ministry team will be happy to accompany you and help you find your way!

UMH – The "red" United Methodist Hymnal TFWS – The "small black" book Faith We Sing Hymnal

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Janet Sandquist-Skagerlind Music Director: Roberta Morkin Technical and Artistic Director: Deb Trimble Ushers: John Colkos, Poppy Nelson Liturgist: Ed McCorkindale Greeter: Gennie Keddy Communion: Candy Dearborn, Joyce Pierangelo



Please Pray For: The family of Nancy Nieske, Catherine Tucker, Connie Law, Shey McAbee, Michelle McBride, Jane Godfrey, Sharon McAbee, Jim Trimble, Bill McCullough, Catherine Gardner, Larry Harris, David Pierangelo, The victims of violence and their families in our country. Our troops, our country and our world.



"I am the vine, you are the branches."

Wilbraham United Church Staff

Rev. Janet Sandquist- Skagerlind: Pastor (pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 103Deb Trimble:Administrator (admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 100Bobbie Morkin:Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 106

GOD OF CREATION

25 Let All Creation Bless the Lord



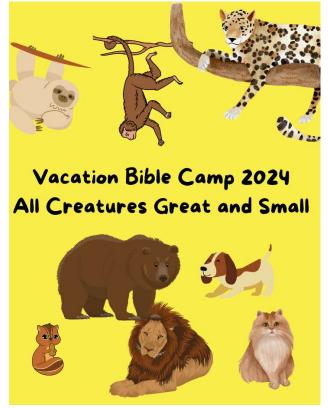
MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's Kirchengestinge, Berlin, 1566; harm. Heinrich Reimann (1850-1906) Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

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"News for the Pews" for the Week of August 4, 2024

A service to celebrate the life of **Gloria Russell** will be held at the church on Friday, August 16th at 2 PM. The family wished to invite everyone from her church family to attend. The service will be followed by light refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

A Big Thank You to all of the folks who volunteered at this summer's Vacation Bible Camp! It was a smashing success!



This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, August 4, 2024 10:00 a.m. –Worship 11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (ZR) 5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR) Monday, August 5, 2024 *Church Office* 8:30 – 1:30 Tuesday, August 6, 2024 *Church Office* 8:30 – 1:30 6:30 p.m. – WUP Auditions (FH) Wednesday, August 7, 2024 *Church Office* 8:30 – 1:30 11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting 2:00 p.m. – Farmer's Market (Front Lawn) 6:30 p.m. – Phys Ops Meeting (ZR) Thursday, August 8, 2024 *Church Office* 8:30 – 1:30 6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR) Friday August 9, 2024 Church Office Closed Saturday, August 10, 2024 Church Office closed Sunday, August 11, 2024 10:00 a.m. –Worship 11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (ZR) 5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)