



*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](http://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)

[Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch](https://Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch)

**January 19, 2025**

**2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

**10:00AM**

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*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 the service, everyone is invited to our time of refreshments and friendship in our Fellowship Hall. Please make a left out of our sanctuary, down the hall, and up the stairs. If you are unable to use the stairs, an elevator is available.*

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

## **GATHERING MUSIC**

Piano: God Leads Us Along

arr. L. Larson

Bells: Festive Day

C. Moglebust

## **WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

### **WELCOME**

**GATHERING HYMN #90 (UMH)**

*Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Patti Colkos**

Liturgist: The Lord's love is a precious thing, steadfast and full of goodness. God's faithfulness is beyond imagining, and we find our refuge in the blessings which God provides.

**People: Our steps are made firm by the might of God's hand, for the Divine One holds us close and keeps us from falling. We may stumble and scrape ourselves, but the love of the Lord will save us and never let us go. Thanks be to God**

## **UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Gracious God,**

**Come and be amongst us. Let us worship you with our whole selves, for we are a part of you, made alive by your handiwork. Help us to delight in the knowledge of you and let our prayers and our praise reach your ears. Grant that we may be reminded that you are with us; watching, guiding and leading us towards yourself. You know who we are and we are ever thankful. Amen**

## **\* SONG OF PRAISE #92 (UMH)**

*Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

## **\*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**

**RESPONSIVE PSALM** *p. 771 (UMH)*

**Psalm 36: 5-10**

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

**I Corinthians 12: 4-11**

Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

## 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

*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.*

## GOSPEL READING

**Mark 8: 34-38**

He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

*What's in a Soul?*

Rev. Janet

**\*HYMN #101 (UMH)**

*From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

You Raise Me Up  
*Chancel Choir*

arr. J.M. Martin

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*PARTING HYMN #408 (UMH)

*The Gift of Love*

\*FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

\*BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #2238 (TFWS) Refrain

*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

Organ: Fanfare on "Duke Street"

arr. J.S. Dixon

**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:** Matt Capen, Tom Toman

**Liturgist:** Patti Colkos

**Greeter:** Olbrych Family



*The altar flowers this morning are given by Kathy and Tim Timpson in memory of loved ones.*



**Please Pray For:** the family of Larry Emerle, Catherine Tucker, Connie Law, Shey McAbee, Michelle McBride, 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.

*If you are in need of Pastoral Care, please contact Rev. Janet or the Church Office.  
After office hours, Rev. Janet can be reached at (978)350-3463.*

## **Wilbraham United Church Staff**

**Rev. Janet Sandquist- Skagerlind:** Pastor ([pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) (413)596-2511 x 103  
**Deb Trimble:** Administrator ([admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) (413)596-2511 x100  
**Bobbie Morkin:** Music Director ([musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) (413)596-2511 x106

## **“News for the Pews” for the Week of January 19, 2025**

**Altar Flower** sign-ups are available for many Sundays in 2025. Please consider dedicating the flowers to a loved one on a special Sunday. Flowers are \$35. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



W U C F A M I L Y  
**BOWLING  
NIGHT!**



SATURDAY JANUARY 25, 2025 5-7 PM  
SHAKER BOWL, EAST LONGMEADOW  
\$10 per person - Lanes of 6  
(includes bowling, shoes, pizza, soda)  
Email RSVP's by noon Jan. 18 or email questions to  
[discipleship@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:discipleship@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)



*Mother-Son Dance*



**WANTED!  
Helpers  
on  
Saturday  
February 8, 2025**

Sign up sheet on the Main Hallway Bulletin Board

# **CHILI & CORNBREAD TAKE-OUT SUPPER**

**Sunday Feb 9th**

**Pick-up between 4-5:30 PM**

**Pre-orders by February 6th**

**[www.wilbrahamunitedplayers.org](http://www.wilbrahamunitedplayers.org)**

8 oz chili and slice of cornbread \$11

16 oz chili and 2 slices cornbread \$16

32 oz and 4 slices of cornbread \$26

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Annual Financial Meeting**

**Sunday February 16**

**immediately following worship**



## *This Week at Wilbraham United Church*

### *Sunday, January 19, 2025*

- 10:00 a.m. – Worship  
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)  
11:15 a.m. – Junior Choir (CR)  
11:15 a.m. – Church Council (ZR)  
1:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)  
5:00 p.m. – Confirmation Class (ZR)  
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

### *Monday, January 20, 2025*

*Church Office Closed*

6:30 p.m. – WUP (FH)

### *Tuesday, January 21, 2025*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 11:00 a.m. – Women’s Fellowship  
(ZR)  
2:00 p.m. – Bible Study (ZR)  
4:30 P.M. – Circle of Support (ZR)  
7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)  
*Wednesday, January 22, 2025*  
*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*  
11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting  
5:15 p.m. – Discipleship (ZR)  
6:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts (TS, SS Rms)  
7:00 p.m. – Praise Band (Sanc)  
7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

### *Thursday, January 23, 2025*

- Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*  
6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)  
7:00 p.m. – Bell Choir (Sanc)  
8:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)

### *Friday, January 24, 2025*

*Church Office closed*

### *Saturday, January 25, 2025*

*Church Office closed*

- 5:00 p.m. – Family Bowling Event at  
Shaker Bowl

### *Sunday, January 26, 2025*

- 10:00 a.m. – Worship  
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)  
11:15 a.m. – Junior Choir (CR)  
1:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)  
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

## READ IT

This week's Bible story is  
**Wedding at Cana**

from John 2:1-11



Epiphany 2

### Jesus performs a miracle and furthers celebration!

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Water
- Jesus
- Wedding
- Mary
- Miracle

This is the first miracle Jesus performs in John's Gospel. It is meant to tell us something about who Jesus is. What can we learn about Jesus from this story?

### Read the whole story together in the Bible!

*Spark Story Bible* pages 410-415

*Spark Bible* pages 1172-1173

### Family Prayer

Thank you, God, for all of the amazing things that Jesus did. Help us to learn from this story something about your son...AMEN.

## TALK ABOUT IT



### Family Conversations

- 1 What kinds of things do you expect to see at a party?
- 2 Have you ever been to a wedding? What was it like?
- 3 What is your favorite way to finish off a good meal?
- 4 Plan a party in which your favorite part is saved for last. What kind of party will you have?



### Eye Spark

When you see a pitcher of water, remember this story of Jesus turning water into wine.



### Ear Spark

Next time you hear the word "miracle," think of the amazing miracle Jesus did at the wedding in Cana.

## LIVE IT

### For families to do together

Make a special surprise dessert to have after a meal. Is there something your whole family would enjoy? Talk about this story of the wedding at Cana as you enjoy the surprise at the end of your meal.

### For younger kids

Help set the table for a fancy celebration. Make placemats, use special plates and glasses, light some candles and decorate!

### For older kids

The wedding at Cana has inspired artists for centuries! Search the web to find different pieces of artwork that have this Bible story as the subject.

