

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

February 9, 2025

5th Sunday after Epiphany

10:00AM

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: How Firm a Foundation

arr. J. Purifoy

Bells: The Church's One Foundation

arr. L. Larson

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN #606 (UMH)

Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marge Trimble

Liturgist: God's light shines through all creation, making a path of righteousness and filling our lives with an amazing presence. How wonderful it is to find a brightness of Spirit as we worship God this day!

People: We give thanks to the One who created order out of chaos and brought forth a message of hope and salvation to a people seeking to walk ever closer to the God who made us.

Thanks be to God

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, We come seeking your holy love and a deepening understanding of who you are in our lives. We come desiring to know more about your mysterious ways and the generous gifts that you give to us that make our lives meaningful and whole. Please continue to help us to understand your marvelous ways, that we might grow into your wonder, and spread that wonder to those whom we meet. 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 6: 1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said,

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said, “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

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

Luke 5: 1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to burst. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

It's all about the fish!

Rev. Janet

***HYMN #158 (UMH)**

Come Christians, Join to Sing

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Grant Us Peace
Chancel Choir

D. & J. Perry

***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. Amen*

*Prayer of Dedication

***PARTING HYMN #431 (UMH)**

Let There Be Peace on Earth

***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

Piano: They'll Know We Are Christians

arr. M. Hayes

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: Joyce and David Pierangelo

Liturgist: Marge Trimble

Greeter: Edna Colcord



The altar flowers this morning are given by Victoria Owen in memory of Ralph W. Sexton.



Please Pray For: 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) (413)596-2511 x 103
Deb Trimble: Administrator (admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x100
Bobbie Morkin: Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x106

“News for the Pews” for the Week of February 9, 2025

The **Annual Financial Meeting** of the Wilbraham United Church will be held February 16, 2025 in the Sanctuary immediately following Worship to transact the following business:

-Receive the Treasurer's Report

-Adopt a budget

Act on any other business properly brought before the Meeting

Nan Shepard, Clerk

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Financial Meeting

Sunday February 16

immediately following worship



Our Current Shopping Card Inventory includes:

<u>Restaurants</u> 99's Olive Garden/Longhorn Steakhouse Uno's	<u>Quick Eats</u> Dunkin Domino's Subway	<u>Stores</u> Gap/Old Navy Land's End LL Bean TJ Max/Marshalls
<u>Home Improvement</u> Home Depot Lowe's Home Goods/Home Sense		


And the usual Big Y and Stop & Shop

*Don't forget that E Cards can also be purchased online!
See Deb for more details!*

A WILBRAHAM UNITED PLAYERS PRODUCTION

CABARET

BOOK BY JOE MASTEROFF
BASED ON THE PLAY BY JOHN VAN DRUTEN AND
STORIES BY CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD
MUSIC BY JOHN KANDER LYRICS BY FRED EBB



FELLOWSHIP HALL STAGE
AT WILBRAHAM UNITED CHURCH
500 MAIN STREET
WILBRAHAM, MA

MARCH 28, 29 AND APRIL 4, 5 AT 7:30
MARCH 30 AND APRIL 6 AT 2:30
2025

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT WWW.WILBRAHAMUNITEDPLAYERS.ORG/BUY-TICKETS

CABARET IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS ON BEHALF OF TAMS-WITMARK LLC.
WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.COM

SUPER BOWL FOOD DRIVE

AFC VS NFC

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9

Bring your non-perishable food items to church and vote for your favorite team to win!

All food items will be used to stock our Blessing Box or donated to the Community Survival Center!

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, February 9, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)
1:00 p.m. – WUP Take Out Chili
(Kitchen)
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, February 10, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 2:30

10:00 a.m. – Piece Makers
6:30 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 2:30

8:30 a.m. – Men's Breakfast Group
2:00 p.m. – Bible Study (ZR)
7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Church Office 11:00 – 2:00

11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting
6:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts (TS, SS Rms)
7:00 p.m. – Praise Band (Sanc)
7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Thursday, February 13, 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, February 14, 2025

Church Office closed

Saturday, February 15, 2025

Church Office closed

8:00 a.m. – Scouts Pinewood Derby
(FH)

Sunday, February 16, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Worship
11:00 a.m. – Annual Financial
Meeting (Sanc)
11:30 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)
1:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

*Please note that the church office will
be closed on Monday February 17th for
the holiday.*

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

The Disciples

from Luke 5:1-11, 8:1-3



Epiphany 5

Jesus calls ordinary people to be disciples.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Jesus
- Disciple
- Fish
- Simon Peter
- Catch

A disciple is anybody who is a learner or student who tries to follow Jesus by studying his words, actions, teachings, and story. Doing this changes your life!

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 258-263

Spark Bible pages 1135, 1140

Family Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for calling perfectly ordinary people to be your followers. Help us to answer that call in the way we live as a family. AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 Whom do you know that follows Jesus today?
- 2 What other amazing things do you know about Jesus?
- 3 What other stories about the disciples do you know?
- 4 Shuffle a deck of cards. Take turns drawing one without looking. If you draw an odd number, talk about a difficult thing you had to learn. If you draw an even number, share how you are a disciple. If you draw a face card, sing a silly song.



Eye Spark

When you see (or eat!) fish, remember the amazing story of Jesus and the disciples and boats overflowing with fish.



Ear Spark

Next time you hear someone calling your name, remember that Jesus calls you by name to be his disciple.

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LIVE IT

For families to do together

Using your Spark Story Bible or Spark Bible, see how many stories about the disciples you can find. What did these people do before they were disciples? What did they do after they became disciples? How did their lives change when they started to follow Jesus and learn from him?

For younger kids

Look up the word “disciple” in a dictionary. Make a sticky-note reminder or a picture for your refrigerator illustrating the definition.

For older kids

Using an image search engine or a digital camera, put together a slide show of pictures of people being disciples of Jesus—caring for the poor, studying the Bible, worshipping God etc.

