



*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)

**May 4, 2025**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

**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: Come, Christians, Join to Sing

arr. C. Berry

Bells: The God of Abraham Praise

arr. L. Larson

## **WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

### **WELCOME**

**\*GATHERING HYMN #312 (UMH)**

*Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Marge Trimble**

Liturgist: Eastertide is a time of blessing and renewal and rejoicing, and we are made glad by it. The Lord has done great things for us, and because the tomb is now empty, our lives can be full.

**People: Alleluia! A new day has come and we are newly alive to enjoy it. Jesus has made the greatest of sacrifice for us, and so we shout out our joy and we uplift our gratitude for the new life that we have been given. Thanks be to God**

### **UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Holy God, We thank you for abundant life, and for a grace that is overflowing. Help us to realize the depth of the sacrifice which has been made on our behalf, and let us be ever mindful that it was a gift of the greatest kind of love. Grant us a deeper understanding of what it means to live in Christ's presence and to walk in his ways. Give us the heart and the courage to continue his journey; a journey of compassion, forgiveness and love. Amen**

**\*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**

**RESPONSIVE PSALM** –*p. 762 in red hymnal*

**Psalm 30**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

**Acts 9:1-6**

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

**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 # 186 (UMH)**

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia*

**GOSPEL READING**

**John 21: 1-19**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*Communion Meditation*

Rev. Janet

**\*HYMN see insert**

*My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*

## **OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Come, Come Unto Me

K. Dosso

*Chancel Choir*

**\*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

## **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 #339 (UMH)

*Come, Sinners to the Gospel Feast*

\*FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

\*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.*

### **MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH**

Organ: Llanfair

arr. A.L. Travis

**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*

*The flowers this morning are given in recognition of Marge Trimble’s Birthday on May 8<sup>th</sup> by Deb Trimble and Rick and Carolyn Averill.*

## MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

**Pastor:** Rev. Janet Sandquist-Skagerlind

**Music Director:** Roberta Morkin

**Technical and Artistic Director:** Deb Trimble

**Ushers:** Poppy Nelson, Nan Shepard

**Liturgist:** Marge Trimble

**Greeter:** Judy Marek

**Communion:** Poppy Nelson, Nan Shepard, Edna Colcord



**Please Pray For:** Susan Pereira, 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

**David Wapner:** Sexton ([wucbuilding@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:wucbuilding@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) (413)596-2511 x107

**Fanfare Brass  
Ensemble**  
In Concert  
Sunday May 4  
3:00 p.m.

Wilbraham United Church  
500 Main St  
Wilbraham, MA  
[www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](http://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)  
(413)596-2511



A free will offering to benefit the church's  
Repair the Roof fund will be taken.



## Repair the Roof

**Be a Shingle Sponsor!**

Sponsorship is \$50 and will include your name on our Repair the Roof Dedication List proudly displayed in our church!  
Donations are tax-deductible!

Wilbraham United Church  
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Wilbraham, MA 01095  
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# 80 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

1. My Shep - herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly  
 2. When through the shades of death I walk, your pres - ence  
 3. Your sure pro - vi - sions, gra - cious God, at - tend me

is your name; in pas - tures fresh you make me feed, be -  
 is my stay; one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives  
 all my days; O may your house be my a - bode, and

side the liv - ing stream. You bring my wand - 'ring spir - it  
 all my fears a - way. Your hand, in sight of all my  
 all my work be praise. Here would I find a set - tled

back, when I for - sake your ways; you lead me,  
 foes, does still my ta - ble spread; my cup with  
 rest, while oth - ers go and come; no more a

for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
 bless - ings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.  
 stran - ger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

## **“News for the Pews” for the Week of May 4, 2025**

We are pleased to announce a **CPR training session**, open to all interested participants ages 10 – adult on **June 1, 2025** at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. This hour-long session will teach the skills of hands-on CPR and will be led by members from the TimmyStrong Foundation. We encourage everyone to attend to learn or to refresh their skills in CPR. Please confirm your attendance by signing up on the bulletin board outside the office. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Scholarship applications** are available! If you need an application please email Deb in the office at [admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org). Completed applications are due May 19.

### **This Week at Wilbraham United Church**

#### **Sunday, May 4, 2025**

- 10:00 a.m. – Worship**
- 11:15 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)**
- 11:15 a.m. – Junior Choir (CR)**
- 12:00 p.m. – Fellowship Comm. (ZR)**
- 1:30 p.m. – WUP (FH)**
- 3:00 p.m. – Fanfare Brass Concert (Sanc)**
- 5:00 p.m. – Al Anon (YF)**

#### **Monday, May 5, 2025**

*Church Office 8:30 – 2:30*

- 10:00 a.m. – Piece Makers**
- 7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

#### **Tuesday, May 6, 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, May 7, 2025**

- Church Office 11:30 – 2:30*
- 11:30 a.m. – Staff Meeting**
- 6:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts**
- 6:30 p.m. – Phys Ops Comm. (ZR)**
- 7:00 p.m. – Praise Band (Sanc)**

#### **Thursday, May 8, 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, May 9, 2025**

*Church Office closed*

#### **Saturday, May 10, 2025**

*Church Office closed*

**2:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

#### **Sunday, May 11, 2025**

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

## READ IT

This week's Bible story is  
**Saul to Paul**  
from Acts 9:1-20.



Easter 3

**God chose Saul, an enemy of Christians, to become Paul, one of our church's greatest leaders.**

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Saul
- Paul
- Ananias
- Jesus
- Saul's eyes

The "Way" was one of the earliest names for Christianity. Followers of Jesus were called "People of the Way" during Saul's time.

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

*Spark Story Bible* pages 514-519

*Spark Bible* page 1214

## Family Prayer

Say this prayer around a globe or world map.

**Thank you, God, for using all kinds of people to help you spread the word about Jesus.**

**Give us a time and place and way to talk about Jesus, too. AMEN.**

## TALK ABOUT IT



### Family Conversations

- 1 What is a bully? Have you ever known one?
- 2 Who else in the Bible had a name change as her/his job for God changed?
- 3 Saul's name changed when he was baptized — what name was used when you were baptized?
- 4 Using the numbered cards from a deck, flip over a card and see if you can list that many people who tell others about Jesus. Work together if you need to and see if you can make a list with no repeats.



### Eye Spark

Next time you see a baptism, know that God loves each and every one of us and has a job for everyone!



### Ear Spark

When you hear the name *Saul* or *Paul*, remember this story from the Bible.

## LIVE IT

### For families to do together

Pray for bullies — specific ones — together. Work into your mealtime or bedtime prayers a prayer for the people in your life/lives who are mean, causing problems, and bullying. Far from being a negative exercise, this will give you all opportunities to hear about troubles in your individual lives and you will learn from each other how to handle such instances. You will also be following Jesus' command to "pray for your enemies."

### For younger kids

Saul had to depend on his friends when he suddenly could not see. Have someone blind-fold you and try some everyday tasks like eating and getting dressed. What gets harder when you can't see? Is anything easier when you can't see?

### For older kids

Find out where Damascus is on a map or globe. Check the maps in your Bible for starters.

