



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

July 27, 2025

7th Sunday after Pentecost

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 in the Sanctuary after worship, everyone is invited to a time of Fellowship in the Zeckhausen Room which is immediately across from the Sanctuary.

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

arr. J.B. Taylor

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME

***GATHERING HYMN #160**(UMH verses 1 & 2)

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marge Trimble

Liturgist: We gather before the Lord, thankful that we are received when we put ourselves forth in prayer and devotion. We are ever thankful that God calls us and gives us good purpose to serve and grow in the Spirit.

People: The Lord loves us with a great, eternal and costly love, bidding us to remember that we have been bought and paid for by Christ. We were loved then and we remain loved now. Thanks be to God

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, We gather as your people to worship you, to free our hearts and our minds from the bonds that hold us captive and take us far away from you. Quiet our restless natures, O Lord, and renew our hearts for service. Help us to transform our lives and the lives of those around us with unfailing love and righteousness. 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

Genesis 18: 20-32

Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know."

So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

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

Luke 11: 1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Finding Things

Rev. Janet

***HYMN #577** (*UMH verses 1 & 2*)

God of Grace and God of Glory

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Long Before the Night

arr. D. Kai

***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 #727** (*UMH verses 1 & 2*) *O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be*

***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: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

arr. D.E. Wagner

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 altar flowers this morning are given by Judy Marek in memory of her sister, Chris.

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Janet Sandquist-Skagerlind

Music Director: Roberta Morkin

Technical and Artistic Director: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Skip Dearborn & Marty Lyman

Liturgist: Marge Trimble

Greeter: Sandy Harris

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

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



Please Pray For: Susan Pereira, Theresa Munn, Terry Nelson, Connie Law, Shey McAbee, Michelle McBride, Sharon McAbee, Jim Trimble, Bill McCullough, Catherine Gardner, Larry Harris, David Pierangelo, Marilyn, 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.*

“News for the Pews” for the Week of July 27, 2025

Church Council is looking for Church Members interested in serving as a part of our Pastoral **Search Committee**. At this point, Council is looking for interest only. The final determination for who will serve will be made by Council and the selected Committee Chair person. If you are interested please reach out to Matt Capen (mdcapen73@gmail.com)

Shopping Cards will be available after the service this morning in the Office. Please watch the all church email each week to see if cards are being sold on Sundays during the summer. **Shopping cards can always be purchased in the church office during the week during office hours or on Sunday.** We are fully stocked for both Big Y and Stop & Shop. There are also plenty of cards for dining out options for those hot summer evenings when you don't feel like cooking!

Please come and join us for our **"Fun Sundays"**:

- **Today** - Scavenger Hunt in Sanctuary. Kids are asked to find items that are in Sanctuary and sketch them during the service. Scavenger sheet is outside the Sanctuary doors at the beginning of the service. We will have small prizes at end of service for those who participated. Please see Mrs. Colkos.
- August 3rd - Tropical Sunday- wear tropical clothes. "Jesus is our rock", rock decorating during our church service for children in Fellowship Hall after Moments for Children. Rocks will be placed near our Memorial garden. Special treat after the service
- August 31st - Wear your Favorite T-Shirt Sunday. Kids bring a prewashed plain white T-shirt to decorate for Homecoming Sunday. Make your own Sundaes



VBC Service Project

Every year our campers and their families engage in a collection for an organization in need. This year we are supporting the Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth (HWP4Y) coalition's community pantry.

See the list below for items needed that can be brought to the church anytime throughout the week.

Collection Boxes will be in the Narthex.

For more information about this important organization in our community,

visit their website at <https://hwp4y.org/>

HWP4Y are currently in need of the following items:

- Laundry Detergent
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Bar Soap
- Deodorant

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, July 27, 2025

- 10:00 a.m. –Worship
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (ZR)
11:30 a.m. –Fellowship Comm. Mtg.
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)
6:30 p.m. – VBC Volunteer Meeting (ZR)

Monday, July 28, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 12:30

- 9:00 a.m. – Vacation Bible Camp

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 12:30

- 8:30 a.m. – Men's Breakfast Group
9:00 a.m. – Vacation Bible Camp

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 12:30

- 9:00 a.m. – Vacation Bible Camp

Thursday, July 31, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 12:30

- 9:00 a.m. – Vacation Bible Camp
6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

Friday, August 1, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 12:30

- 9:00 a.m. – Vacation Bible Camp

Saturday, August 2, 2025

Church Office closed

Sunday, August 3, 2025

- 10:00 a.m. –Worship
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (ZR)
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

SUMMER PLANS

Worship Time Remains at 10 AM

Staff Vacations (plan accordingly!)

- Bobbie August 18 through August 24
- Dave will be out August 8 - 14



Blessing Box



Hunger doesn't take a summer vacation!

We've seen an uptick in the demand on the Blessing Box in the last few weeks. Please remember the Box when you are at the grocery store!

Items most in need:

Pasta Sauce & Pasta

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Cereal

Mayonaisse

Granola Bars