



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

September 14, 2025

14th 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, 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: My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

arr. M. McDonald

Bells: Here I Am to Worship

arr. V. Labenske

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME

***GATHERING HYMN #62** (UMH verses 1-4)

All Creatures of our God and King

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alan Druckenmiller

Liturgist: Come let us worship the Holy One who creates all things and is creating still. God draws us close and claims us as God's people. So we worship this day with gladness and we offer up our thanksgiving for all the knowledge of God.

People: The Lord draws us in and claims us. We are made strong in the presence of the Lord, so that we may remain faithful in our ways and uplift our gratitude as we worship this day. Thanks be to God

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, We come before you waiting to be called into richer, fuller lives. We thank you for showing us how to be better than we are and for giving us a model in Christ Jesus, by which our lives are renewed. Empower us as your people to serve and give and worship with an unencumbered fervor so that we might act in the world for your sake. 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

MOMENTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 139: 1-12

Liturgist: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

People: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

Liturgist: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

People: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

Liturgist: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Liturgist: Where can I go from your spirit?

People: Or where can I flee from your presence?

Liturgist: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

People: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

Liturgist: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me,"

People: even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lamb of God
Deb Trimble, soloist

arr. L. Larson

NEW TESTAMENT READING

I Timothy 1: 12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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 15: 1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Importance of Being Found

Rev. Janet

***HYMN #404 (UMH)**

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Alleluia! I Will Sing
Chancel Choir

D. Waggoner

***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 #664 (UMH)**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

***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

Piano: Joyful Day

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: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Ralph & Sherrie Ridgeway

Liturgist: Alan Druckenmiller

Greeter: Sandy Harris

The flowers this morning are given by April Beston in loving memory of John J. Beston III.

Wilbraham United Church Staff

Rev. Janet Sandquist- Skagerlind: Pastor (pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 103

Bobbie Morkin: Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x106

Deb Trimble: Administrator (admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x100

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

*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.*



Please Pray For:

Catherine Gardner

Larry Harris

Connie Law

Sharon McAbee

Shey McAbee

Michelle McBride

Bill McCullough

Claire McCullough

Theresa Munn

David Pierangelo

Jim Trimble

The Hungry

The Homeless

The victims of violence and their families

Our troops, our country and our world

“News for the Pews” for the Week of September 14, 2025

In Lieu of Mums

An ACTS Fundraiser

This is the time of year when our church would usually be supporting the Action Centered Tutoring Services organization through their annual MUM sale.

Checks made payable to ACTS and cash donations will be collected by Andrea Stephenson on Sept 7 & 14



Online donations can be made on the ACTS website



The **ACTS Mum Sale** grower had a devastating fire in March and there will be no flower sale this year. (The sales represented 20% of ACTS operating budget.) Each fall the Mum Sale helped launch the tutoring service programs. Despite this setback, they are about to begin their 40th consecutive year with 6 sites providing free, after-school tutoring to the elementary school children of Springfield. In the past, WUC has contributed over \$800 in Mum purchases to this important fundraiser.

Please consider donating what you might have purchased in the past (or perhaps more) to help ACTS recover these lost revenues. Your gifts can be considered a charitable donation since ACTS is a 501 (c) 3 charity. Gifts can be made in cash or check made out to ACTS. Please complete a donor form (available in the Narthex or from Andrea) so that ACTS has a record of your gift and to enable them to send you a proper thank you. Donations can be given to Andrea Stephenson who will collect them on Sundays through September 14th. Credit cards are also accepted on the ACTS website www.acts86.org/donate.

All men are invited to an extra breakfast meeting of the **Men's Breakfast Group**. It will be held on Tuesday September 16th at the home of Alan Druckenmiller (1215 Stony Hill Road - just south of the road fork of E Longmeadow and Stony Hill roads).

Those who want to car pool from the church are invited to meet there at 8:25. The usual start time is 8:30 a.m. but if you start work before that time, anyone interested can come as early as 6:30 a.m. If possible, please let Alan know by calling 413-279-1151 by Monday evening.



Our **Piece Makers** quilting group is looking for new folks to join them. The Piece Makers ministry is focused on making quilts to be donated to the Pediatric patients at Baystate Hospital.

If you enjoy quilting or sewing or have always wanted to learn how, the Piece Makers would love to have you join them.

Piece Makers meets on Monday mornings at 10 AM. First meeting will be October 6th.

If you have questions please reach out to Jo Miner (lpminer@msn.com).



This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, September 14, 2025

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)

**2:00 p.m. –Mini Golf Open at
Fenway Golf**

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, September 15, 2025

Church Office 8:30 –1:30

12:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Trustees (ZR)

7:00 p.m. – Church Council (ZR)

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Church Office 8:30 –1:30

8:30 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast Group

9:00 a.m. – Loaves and Fishes Prep

**11:00 a.m. – Women’s Fellowship
(ZR)**

2:00 p.m. – Bible Study (ZR)

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Church Office 8:30 –1:30

6:00 p.m. - Scouts

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

9:20 a.m. – Loaves and Fishes

6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

7:00 p.m. – Bell Choir (Sanc)

8:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)

Friday, September 19, 2025

Church Office closed

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Church Office closed

Sunday, September 21, 2025

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)

4:00 p.m. –Confirmation Class (ZR)

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)