



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 1, 2026

4th 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.*

UMH – The “red” United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS – The “small black” book Faith We Sing Hymnal

GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: Creator of the Stars of Night

arr. T. Keesecker

Bells: O God, Our Help in Ages Past

arr. K. McChesney

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME

Rev. Janet

***GATHERING HYMN # 66(UMH)**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ed McCorkindale

Liturgist: Let us worship our God with gladness, for the Lord has gathered us up in prayer and in wonder. God has shown us a better way of being and has illuminated a path of righteousness for us to follow all our days.

People: The love of our Creator carries us through our difficult times and inspires us to be better than we are. God leads us with a powerful and blessed hand so that we do not falter or lose our way. Thanks be to God

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Gracious God, You touch our lives in mighty ways and you inspire us to follow the path which you have set out for us. Sometimes what you ask of us seems too hard and we struggle to fulfill your will for us. Help us with our desire to be ever closer to you, and lead us to do what is pleasing to you. Enfold us with your Spirit and keep us in your care, for that is where we want to be. Amen

***SONG OF PRAISE #2016 (TFWS)**

God, we love you, we worship and adore you, glorify your name in all the earth.

Glorify your name, glorify your name, glorify your name in all the earth.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 6: 1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

Matthew 5: 1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Blessed

Rev. Janet

***HYMN #344(UMH) verses 1-4**

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

The Seed

Chancel Choir

G. Lehmann

***Doxology #254 (UMH)**

*Star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light*

***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 #206 (UMH)**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

***FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 251 Refrain (UMH)**

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev'rywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

Organ: Fanfare on "The Boar's Head Carol"

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.*

The flowers on the Altar have been given by Suzanne Zeckhausen in memory of Paul Zeckhausen on his birthday.

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Janet Sandquist-Skagerlind

Music Director: Roberta Morkin

Technical: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Sherrie and Ralph Ridgeway

Liturgist: Ed McCorkindale

Greeter: Gennie Keddy

Communion: Sandy Harris, Joyce Pierangelo



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

Connie Law

Sharon McAbee

Shey McAbee

Michelle McBride

Bill McCullough

Claire McCullough

Ed

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 February 1, 2026



Wilbraham United Church presents our annual

Mother-Son Dance



Saturday February 7, 2026

Fellowship Hall at Wilbraham United Church

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

\$25 per couple and \$10 each additional guest

All Sons and Moms (or those who are like a mom to you) are welcome!

- Professional DJ
- Professional Photo Booth (Photo included)
- Refreshments

To purchase tickets, please scan the QR Code here
or visit

www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/

Tickets are limited, so please purchase early to avoid
missing out!



Please email discipleship@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org with any questions.

A poster for a concert. It features a large, light-colored circle in the center. Above the circle, there are wavy lines with small circles, resembling musical notes or a starry sky. The text is centered within the circle and around it.

Carolyn Averill
in concert
Journey to the Past

Saturday February 28, 2026
4PM
Wilbraham United Church
500 Main St Wilbraham MA

recommended donation \$20
to benefit the Wilbraham United Players

A poster for a production. It has a dark blue background. At the top, it says 'A Wilbraham United Players Production'. Below that, there is a cartoon illustration of a man's head (Shakespeare) looking up at a bright blue spotlight. To the right of the head is a quill pen in a blue holder and a piece of parchment with cursive writing. The title is in large, white, serif capital letters. Below the title, it says 'the hilarious comedy originated by Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield'. The dates are in a large, white, serif font. The location is in a smaller, white, serif font. At the bottom, it says 'Tickets available at' followed by a website URL. There is a QR code in the bottom right corner.

A Wilbraham United Players Production

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**
(ABRIDGED) [REVISED] [AGAIN]

the hilarious comedy originated
by Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield

March 20-29, 2026

The Stage at Fellowship Hall
Wilbraham United Church
500 Main Street
Wilbraham, MA

Tickets available at
www.wilbrahamunitedplayers.org/buy-tickets

Originally produced by Reduced Shakespeare Company

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, February 1, 2026

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, February 2, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

10:00 a.m. – PieceMakers

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

8:30 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast Grp

2:00 p.m. – Bible Study (ZR)

6:45 p.m. – Search Comm. (ZR)

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Boy Scouts (TS, SS Rms)

7:00 p.m. – Phys Ops (ZR)

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

9:30 a.m. – Preschool in FH

6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

7:00 p.m. – Bell Choir (Sanc)

8:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)

Friday, February 6, 2026

Church Office closed

9:30 a.m. – Preschool in FH

Saturday, February 7, 2026

Church Office closed

9:00 a.m. – Scouts (FH)

6:00 p.m. – Mother Son Dance

Sunday, February 8, 2026

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)