

*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)

**March 22, 2026**

**5th Sunday in Lent**

**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.*

*UMH – The "red" United Methodist Hymnal*

*TFWS – The "small black" book Faith We Sing Hymnal*

## GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: It Is Well

arr. J.B. Taylor

Bells: O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

arr. B.B. Kinyon

## WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

### WELCOME

**Rev. Janet**

**\*GATHERING HYMN** *see insert vs. 1-4*

*Said Judas to Mary*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Alan Druckenmiller**

Liturgist: We come before the Lord grateful for the love which has been given, and for the miracles that show themselves in subtle, yet powerful ways. We seek to know God better, and revel in the marvels of the Divine, which continue to touch our lives in inspiring and wondrous ways.

**People: We come to worship so that we can be closer to God, and also to recommit ourselves to the way and words of our Lord. Our hope lies in the One who is our Maker, and we know that nothing can separate us from our Lord's great love. Thanks be to God.**

## UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Merciful God,**

**Come to us we pray and be merciful unto us. We are not deserving of your generosity or your grace, yet you still see fit to offer those gifts. We are often motivated by fear and uncertainty, and we allow our worldly confusions to take us over. Help us in our desire to turn away from our frailties and instead follow in the ways of Jesus. Grant that we may be part of his circle of righteousness and let us be the bearers of his Good News as we journey along the way. Amen**

### **\* SONG OF PRAISE #2013 (TFWS)**

*Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.  
Bless the Lord my soul who leads me into life.*

### **\*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

**Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

**Romans 8:6-11**

“Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed, it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.”

## 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 #2200 (TFWS)

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.*

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come, and listen to me.*

## GOSPEL READING

John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.."

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*How We Live*

Rev. Janet

\***HYMN #261 (UMH) vs. 4**

*Lord of The Dance*

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

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Let Us Pray for Peace  
Chancel Choir

T. Keesecker

\***Doxology #298 (UMH) vs. 4**

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\***PARTING HYMN #377 (UMH)**

*It Is Well with My Soul*

\***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

Organ: Introduction and Chorale on "Vile du Havre" (It Is Well with My Soul) arr. D. Lasky

**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 altar flowers this morning are given by Alesia and Wendy Peck in loving memory of their father Alan Peck.*

## MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

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

**Music Director:** Roberta Morkin

**Technical:** Deb Trimble

**Ushers:** Steven Mattocks, Matt Capen

**Liturgist:** Alan Druckenmiller

**Greeter:** Edna Colcord



**Rev. Janet Sandquist- Skagerlind:** Pastor ([pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) (413)596-2511 x 103  
**Bobbie Morkin:** Music Director ([musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) (413)596-2511 x106  
**Thalia Mwanilelo:** Administrator ([admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) (413)596-2511 x100  
**David Wapner:** Sexton ([wucbuilding@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto: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:*

The Family of Andre Stebenne  
Catherine Gardner  
The Harris Family  
Connie Law  
Sharon McAbee  
Shey McAbee  
Michelle McBride  
Bill McCullough  
Claire McCullough  
Ed McCorkindale  
Jean Michon  
Jim Trimble  
The Hungry  
The Homeless

The victims of violence and their families  
Our troops, our country and our world



LENT

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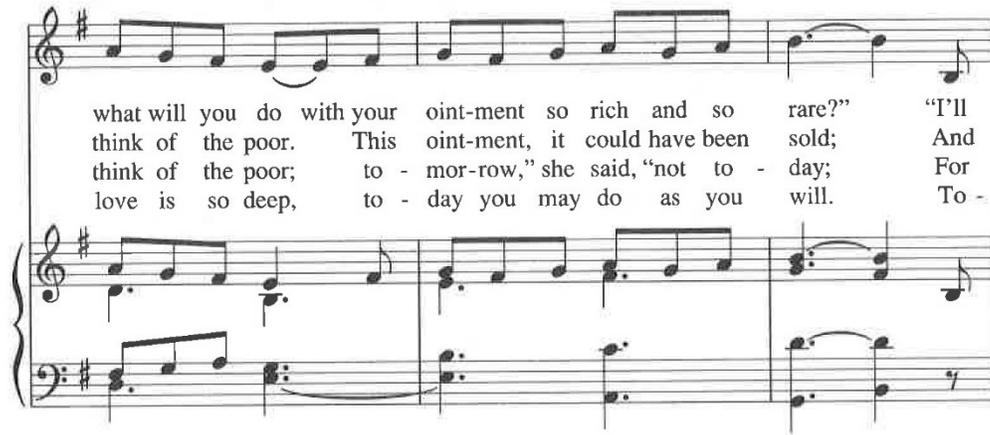
# Said Judas to Mary

John 12:1-8

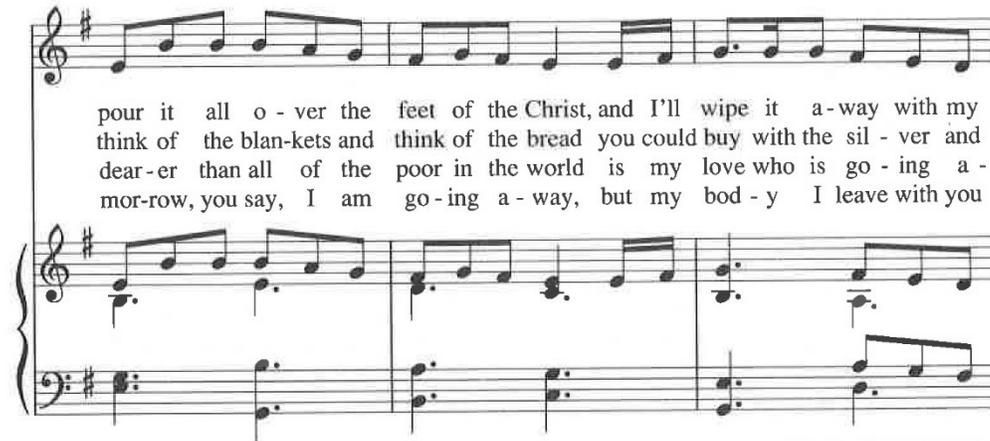
Sydney Carter, 1964; alt.



1 Said Ju - das to Mar - y, "Now  
2 "O Mar - y, O Mar - y, O  
3 "To - mor-row, to - mor-row, I'll  
4 Said Je - sus to Mar - y, "Your



what will you do with your oint-ment so rich and so rare?" "I'll  
think of the poor. This oint-ment, it could have been sold; And  
think of the poor; to - mor-row," she said, "not to - day; For  
love is so deep, to - day you may do as you will. To -



pour it all o - ver the feet of the Christ, and I'll wipe it a-way with my  
think of the blan-kets and think of the bread you could buy with the sil - ver and  
dear-er than all of the poor in the world is my love who is go - ing a -  
mor-row, you say, I am go - ing a - way, but my bod - y I leave with you

*Sydney Carter has enjoyed a varied career as a schoolteacher, journalist, and songwriter, and was a leader of the folk-song renaissance in English church music in the early 1960s. This*

Tune: JUDAS AND MARY Irr.  
Sydney Carter, 1964

LENT

hair," she said, "I'll wipe it a-way with my hair." (2 "O  
gold," he said, "you could buy with the sil - ver and gold." (3 "To-  
way," she said, "my love who is go - ing a - way." (4 Said)  
still," he said, "my bo - dy I leave with you still." (5 "The  
(6 -way.")

5 "The poor of the world are my bod-y,"  
he said,  
"to the end of the world they shall be.  
The bread and the blan-kets you give  
to the poor  
you will know you have giv-en to me,"  
he said,  
"you'll know you have giv-en to me."

6 "My bod-y will hang on the cross  
of the world  
to-mor-row," he said, "not to-day.  
And Mar-tha and Mar-y will find me  
a-gain  
and wash all my sor-row a-way,"  
he said,  
"and wash all my sor-row a-way."

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](http://www.wilbrahamunitedplayers.org/buy-tickets)

Originally produced by Reduced Shakespeare Company

## “News for the Pews” for the Week of March 22, 2026

The Discipleship Team is collecting candy for our Annual **Easter Egg Hunt**. **Candy** should be individually wrapped and the size that will fit into a small plastic easter egg. Candy donations can be dropped off at the church during office hours or on Sunday morning. Candy will be needed by Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>



You are invited to an **author talk** by the Rev. Anna Woofenden, co-author of *The Just Kitchen*. Sunday, March 22, 2026, 3:00 p.m. Christ the King Epiphany Church 758 Main St. Wilbraham

This book is “an invitation to reprioritize the kitchen as a space for healing, community, activism, and celebration. Be inspired to see the sacred in the daily mundane, forge connection with the people and earth around you, and join the call of a just kitchen.”

Join the call of a just kitchen: where meal preparation is as much an act of resistance against injustice as marches and protests.

## *This Week at Wilbraham United Church*

### *Sunday, March 22, 2026*

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

### *Monday, March 23, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 10:00 a.m. – Piece Makers

### *Tuesday, March 24, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 2:00 p.m. – Bible Study (ZR)  
5:30 p.m. – Discipleship Meeting

### *Wednesday, March 25, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting  
6:30 p.m. – Scouts  
7:00 p.m. -WUP (FH)

### *Thursday, March 26, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

- 10:30 a.m. – Fellowship Comm  
6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)  
7:00 p.m. – Bell Choir (Sanc)  
8:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)

### *Friday, March 27, 2026*

*Church Office closed*

- 7:30 p.m. – WUP Performance (FH)

### *Saturday, March 28, 2026*

*Church Office closed*

- 7:30 p.m. – WUP Performance (FH)

### *Sunday, March 29, 2026*

- 10:00 a.m. –Worship  
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship Time (ZR)  
2:30 p.m. – WUP Performance (FH)  
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

## Pancake Supper and Community Service Project



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICE ASSEMBLING VARIOUS  
HYGIENE KITS TO SUPPORT  
CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

**WILBRAHAM UNITED CHURCH**  
APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> 5PM-6PM



# EASTER FLOWERS

Order now for Easter Sunday  
Give order to Thalia Mwanilelo  
or put it in the Collection Plate  
Orders must be received by Sunday March 22nd

\_\_\_ Easter Lily @ \$15

\_\_\_ Daffodils @ \$15

\_\_\_ Tulips @ \$14

\_\_\_ Hyacinth @ \$14

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

(make check payable to Wilbraham United Church)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication wording \_\_\_\_\_

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*Flowers will be available after church April 5th.*

\_\_\_ I plan to take my flowers

\_\_\_ I wish my flowers to be delivered to someone who is unable to attend church.



# Wilbraham United Church

## Holy Week Schedule

March 29 - Palm Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

April 2 - Maundy Thursday Worship 7 p.m.

April 3 - Good Friday Worship 12 noon

April 5 - Easter Worship 10 a.m.

**All are welcome! All are invited!**

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