



Celebration Sunday

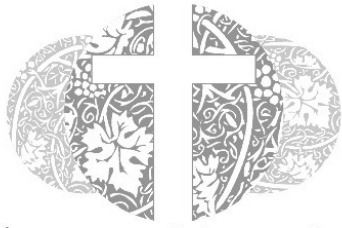
"This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it."
Psalm 118:24



WORSHIP SERVICE

June 7, 2026

Wilbraham United Church



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

Facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch

June 7, 2026

Celebration Sunday

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: Great Is the Lord

Bells: Pendaneni, Love One Another

M.W. Smith & D.D. Smith

C. Moglebust

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME

Matt Capen/Patti Colkos

***GATHERING HYMN** *see insert*

Praise to the Living God

CALL TO WORSHIP #657 (UMH)

Rev. Paul

Rev. Paul: This is the day

All: This is the day

Rev. Paul: That the Lord has made

All: That the Lord has made

Rev. Paul: Let us rejoice

All: Let us rejoice

Rev. Paul: And be glad in it

All: And be glad in it.

All: This is the day that the Lord has made

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Rev. Paul: This is the day

All: This is the day that the Lord has made.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Joey Stebenne

Wonderful God, we delight in your presence. We find shelter in your abiding and enduring love. You humble us, Holy Love, by gathering us as people who celebrate your gifts to us. Thank you for being our Companion and Guide on this journey. Receive our songs, prayers, and openness. Nourish us from the fountain of your word and the hospitality of your table. May we find hope and inspiration, courage and direction, community and resolve as we worship you. 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

AWARD OF BIBLES

Aurora Frias/Pam Byers

RECOGNITIONS

Shelly Capen

AWARDING OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Judy Hoffman

PRAYER OF THANKS

Rev. Paul

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Evelyn and Oliver Frias

Genesis 12: 1-9

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with

Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

One: Our God is still speaking. **All: Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Ember Carnevale

Psalm 33

One: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; it is good for the just to sing praises.

All: Praise the Lord with the harp; play to God upon the psaltery and lyre.

One: Sing for God a new song; sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

All: For the word of the Lord is right, and all the works of God are sure.

One: God loves righteousness and justice; the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

All: By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, by the breath of God's mouth all the heavenly hosts.

One: God gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin and stores up the depths of the sea.

All: Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of God.

One: For God spoke, and it came to pass; God commanded, and it stood fast.

All: The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught, thwarting the designs of the peoples.

One: But the will of the Lord stands fast forever, and the designs of God's heart from age to age.

All: Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, happy the people chosen to be God's own.

MUSICAL MOMENT

One Drop
Junior Choir

T. Arbuckle-Lee & M. Bronleewe

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

Matthew 9: 9-13, 18-26

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread through all of that district.

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Celebrate the Good Times

Rev. Paul Nesbit

***HYMN #2130 (TFWS)**

The Summons

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Do Lord, Remember Me
Chancel Choir
Tim Timpson, Harmonica

arr. M. McDonald

***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 #431

Let There Be Peace on Earth

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

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #664 (UMH), verse 2:**

*With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.*

MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

Organ: Recessional in C

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 Altar Flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Catherine Tucker by her daughters Carol and Beth.

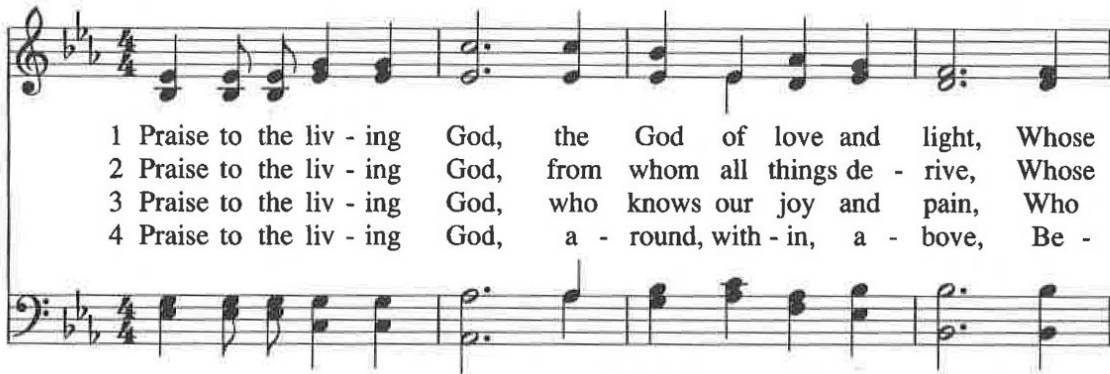
GOD

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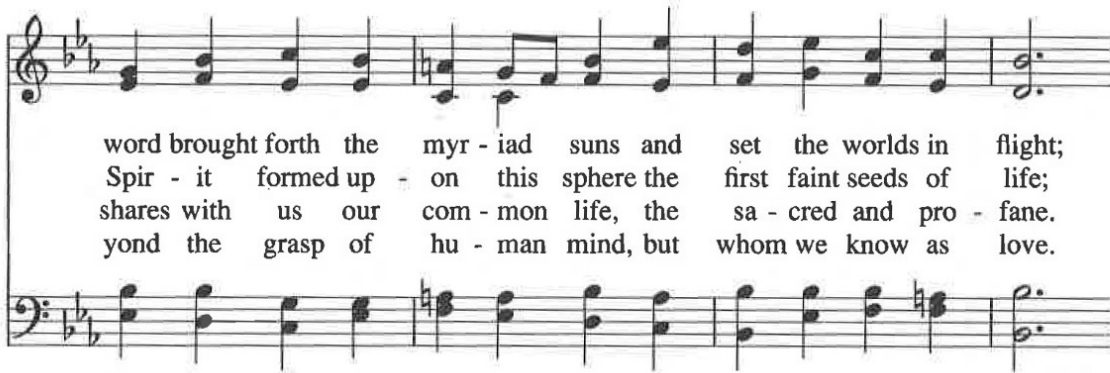
Praise to the Living God

Ps. 84:1-2

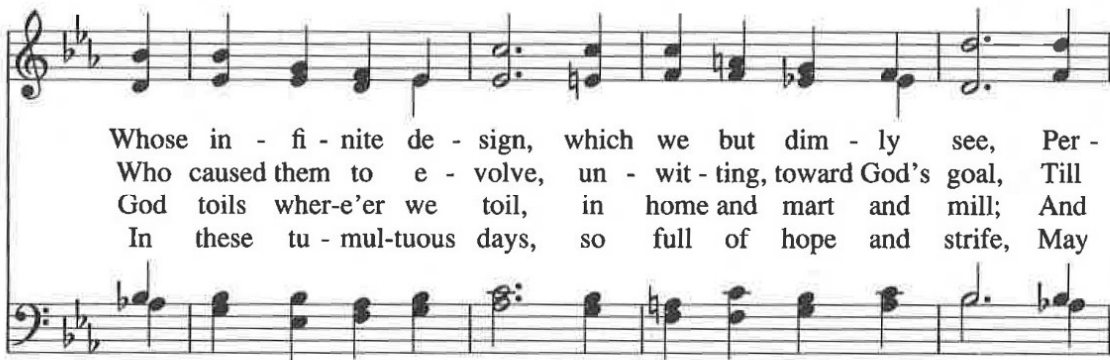
Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.



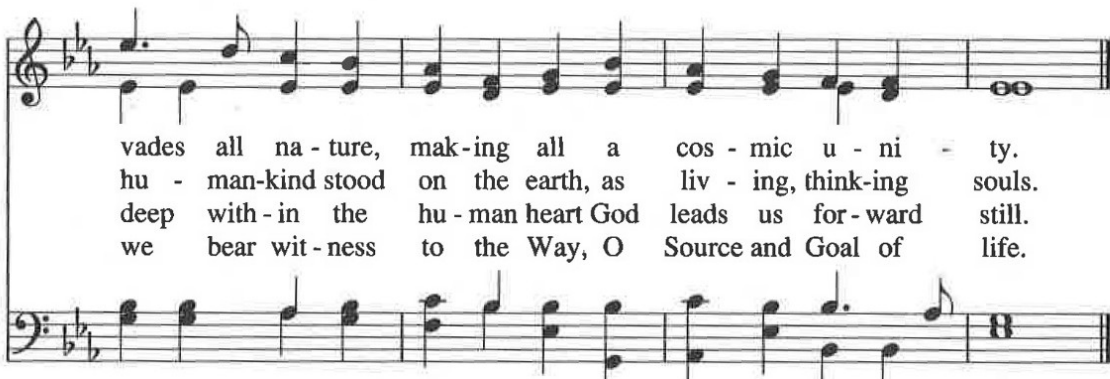
1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -



word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.



Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
God toils wher-e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
In these tu - mul-tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May



vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
hu - man-kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Nesbit

Music Director: Roberta Morkin

Technical: Deb Trimble

Ushers: Nell Ryan, Ayden Byers, Oliver Frias

Greeter: Nell Ryan & Johnny Stebenne




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 McCorkindale
- Jean Michon
- Jim Trimble
- The Hungry
- The Homeless

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



Through many years the families and friends of deceased church members have established scholarships in their names. We presently have scholarships named for the Byam, Cohn, Dinnie, Flathers, Fountain, Green, Howes, Neelans and Vieira families.

Reese Jordan

Reese will be a senior at Westfield State University, majoring in Nursing and minoring in Psychology. This past year she was an Honors Student, a tutor, and peer mentor. She was a member of our Young Adult Group at church. This summer she is a Tech in the Emergency Room at Cape Cod Hospital and a Home Health Aide.

Reese is receiving the Cohn, Neelans and Flathers scholarships.

Chris Capen

Chris will be a junior in Health Science (direct entry into the Physician's Assistant program) at the University of St Joseph. He tutored and continued to be active in the swimming program. His big news is that he has been hired as a CNA on the surgery floor at St Francis Hospital.

Chris is receiving the Byam and Dinnie Scholarships.

Alyssa Capen

Alyssa will be a freshman at the University of Rhode Island, majoring in Accounting and Finance. At MRHS she was in honors and AP courses, a member of the National Honor Society. She was a peer mentor and on both track and cross country teams. She also was a dancer with the Artistic Dance Conservatory, beginning in 2017.

Alyssa will receive the Howes Memorial Scholarship.

Derek Beston

Derek was a freshman taking General Studies courses at Holyoke Community College. He chose to take his courses online his freshman year but will be on campus his sophomore year. He also worked in sales at Tractor Supplies in Belchertown.

Derek is receiving the Fountain and Green Scholarships.

All of the scholarship recipients will be receiving funds from the Vieira Scholarship Fund.

“News for the Pews” for the Week of June 7, 2026

The **Annual Program Year Meeting** of the Wilbraham United Church will be held **today** immediately following worship in the Sanctuary to transact the following business:

- Vote on the 2025-2026 Annual Reports
- Vote on the 2026-2027 Leadership Nominations
- Vote on a Bylaw change as follows:

Article VIII, Section 2, (d)

Current wording: The resignation or removal of a Minister requires sixty (60) days written notice, unless the Minister and Church Council make another arrangement.

Proposed change: The resignation or removal of a Minister requires **ninety (90)** days written notice, unless the Minister and Church Council make another arrangement.

This change is requested to make our By-Laws consistent with the UCC Ministerial Call Agreement wording.

- Act on any other business properly brought before the Meeting

The Meeting will be followed by lunch in Fellowship Hall.

Nan Shepard, Clerk

GREEN DAY RECYCLING

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 27th, 2026
9:00 AM — 2:00 PM
 Wilbraham United Church • Parking Lot
 500 Main Street, Wilbraham MA

What You Can Bring/ Cost to You:

- \$5 EACH** Computer Towers, Laptops, DVD Players, VCR's, Small Printers, Stereos, Radios, Alarm Clocks, Speakers, Video Game Consoles, Table Lamps, Fans, Hair Dryers, Curling Irons, Projectors, Paper Shredders, Power Tools, Drills, Cameras, Clocks, Trophies, Frying Pans, Holiday Lights, Other Small Electronics.
- \$10 EACH** Small Household Appliances, Vacuum Cleaners/Robots, Toaster Ovens, Ceiling Fans, Floor Lamps, Air Fryers, Electric Grills, Hot Plates, Small Radiators, Keyboard Pianos, Coffee Makers, Ice Makers, Small Garbage Disposal, Sewing Machines, Car Seats.
- \$20 EACH** Flat Screen Computer Monitors, Microwaves, Dehumidifiers, Air Conditioners, Water Coolers, Large Printers/Copiers, Leaf Blowers, Chainsaws, Heat Lamps, Artificial Christmas Trees, Fire Extinguishers, Propane Tanks (Empty).
- \$25 EACH** TVs up to 26," CRT Monitors, Outdoor Grills, Dorm Sized Refrigerators
- \$30 EACH** TVs between 26" and 35," White Goods, Washing Machines, Dryers, Stoves, Dishwashers, Large Appliances, Large Yard Equipment, Treadmills, Exercise Equipment, Snow Blowers, Lawn Mowers, Rototillers, Large Generators, Motors, Water Tanks
- \$35 EACH** TVs over 36," Large Refrigerators, Ride-On Lawn Mowers.

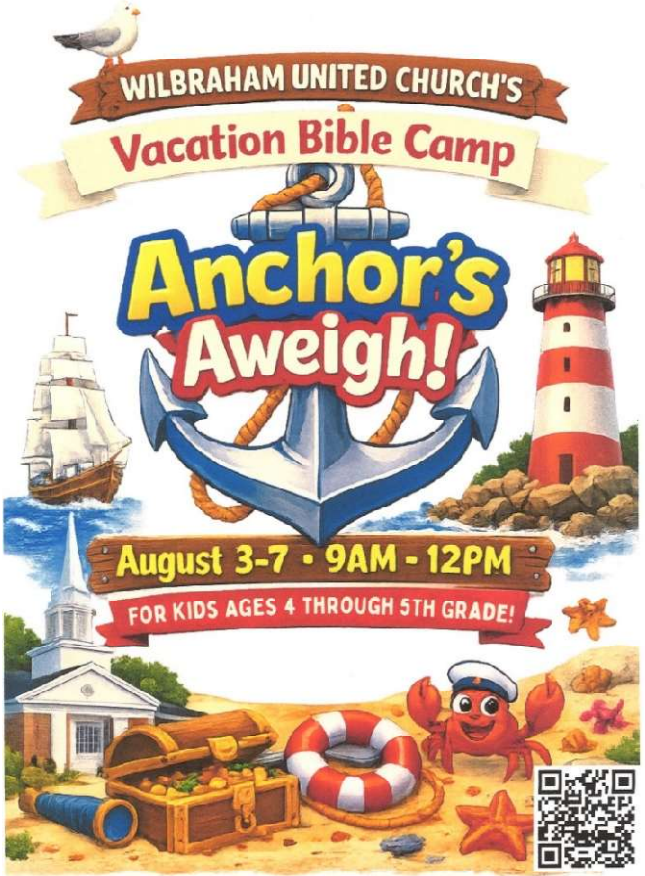
FREE!

(Cash Donations Appreciated)
Bicycles (Reusable), Cell Phones, Keyboards, Tablets, Video Game Media and Accessories, Wires, Cables, Batteries, Chargers, VHS/DVD's.

ALL TOWNS WELCOME!
RAIN OR SHINE
Questions, Business Clean Outs or Event Hosting? Contact:
 GREENDAYRECYCLINGMA@GMAIL.COM
 GREENDAYRECYCLING.NET



CASH PREFERRED, VENMO, CHECKS (OVER \$30)



It's time to register for Vacation Bible Camp 2026! Registration for both campers and volunteers can be found on the church's website:
www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/vacation-bible-camp/

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, June 7, 2026

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Annual Meeting

**11:30 a.m. – Celebration Luncheon
(FH)**

1:30 p.m. – WUP (FH)

5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, June 8, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

**6:00 p.m. -WUP Annual Meeting
(FH)**

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

8:30 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast Grp

7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Wednesday, June 10, 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, June 11, 2026

Church Office 8:30 – 1:30

6:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)

7:00 p.m. – Bell Choir (Sanc)

8:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)

Friday, June 12, 2026

Church Office closed

6:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Saturday, June 13, 2026

Church Office closed

9:00 a.m. – WUP (FH)

Sunday, June 14, 2026

10:00 a.m. –Worship

11:00 a.m. – Special Luncheon (FH)

3:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (FH)