

*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)

**July 5, 2026**

**6th 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.*

*UMH – The “red” United Methodist Hymnal*

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

## GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: Guide of Grace and God of Glory

arr. J. Purifoy

## WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

### WELCOME

**Pastor Julie**

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

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Marge Trimble**

Liturgist: What do we have to boast about this morning?

**People: The love of God, the cross of Jesus, the movement of the Spirit.**

Liturgist: And what does all this mean for us today and every day?

**All: Everything is a new creation!**

## UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**God of endings and beginnings, We thank you for the clean slate you give us each and every morning. When we find ourselves at our wits' end, the end of our rope, the end of our patience, even at the end of our hope, you are there. You find us and bring us into your new beginning, again and again, 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 READING**

**Genesis 24:58-67**

And they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes."

Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man, and the servant took Rebekah and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field, and, looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

**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 11:16-19, 25-30

“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

*Creating a New Future (What’s required?)*

**Pastor Julie**

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory

God of the Ages  
Alan Druckenmiller, Tuba

G. W. Warren

**\*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

**\*COMMUNION HYMN – #393 (UMH) – sing twice**

*Spirit of the Living God*

## **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**

*Communion will be served by Intinction. When invited please process down the center aisle to the front of the church to receive the elements. After you have been served, please return to your seat by the side aisles of the sanctuary. If you are not able to process please raise your hand and a server will come to you.*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*PARTING HYMN #402 (UMH) verses 1 & 4**

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

**\*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**

Piano & Tuba: God Bless America      I. Berlin, arr. C.F. Payne

*Congregation, during the second time through, please stand and join in singing:*

**God bless America, land that I love.**

**Stand beside her, and guide her through the night with the light from above.**

**From the mountains - to the prairies - to the oceans white with foam.**

**God bless America, my home sweet home.**

**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.*

**MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY**

**Pastor:** Rev. Julie Olmsted  
**Music Director:** Roberta Morkin  
**Technical:** Deb Trimble  
**Ushers:** Ralph and Sherrie Ridgeway  
**Communion:** Patti Colkos  
**Liturgist:** Marge Trimble  
**Greeters:** Gennie Keddy



*The Altar flowers this morning are given in celebration of the 250th anniversary of our country by Sandy and Larry Harris.*

**Rev. Julie Olmsted:** 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  
**Deb Trimble:** 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. Julie or the Church Office.  
After office hours, Rev. Julie can be reached at 937-409-1375 (until 8pm, unless it's urgent).*



## *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

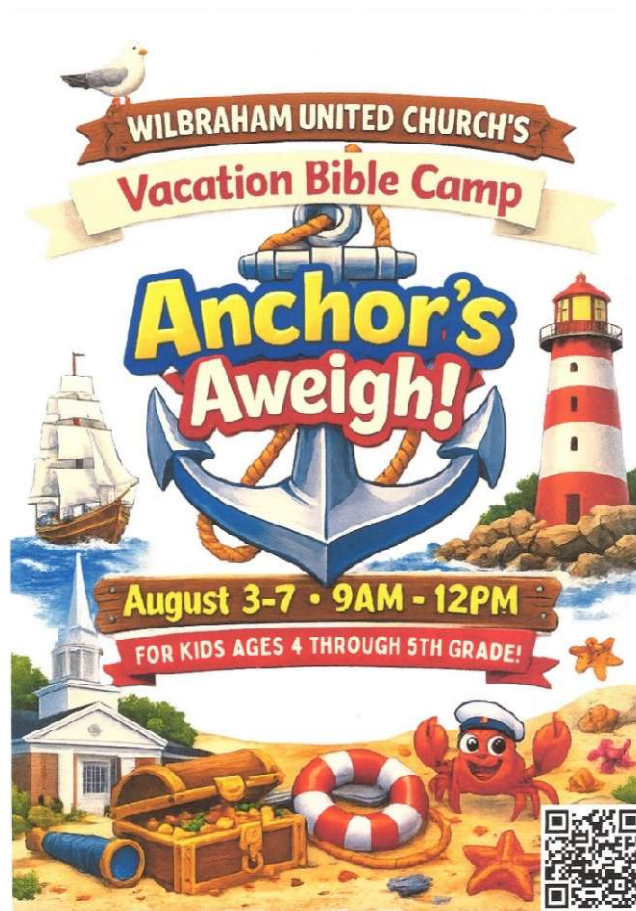
The victims of violence and their families

Our troops, our country and our world

## “News for the Pews” for the Week of July 5, 2026

There are several Sundays still needing a volunteer to provide and set up refreshments for our **Summer Hospitality** time following worship. If you'd like to sign up to provide a beverage and a small snack the signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

There are still several Sundays available to sponsor the **Altar Flowers**. If you would like to dedicate the Altar Flowers to a loved one please sign up on one of the available dates on the Flower Chart in the Narthex. Flower sponsorship is \$35.



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/](http://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/vacation-bible-camp/)

## *This Week at Wilbraham United Church*

### *Sunday, July 5, 2026*

**10:00 a.m. –Worship**

**11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (ZR)**

**1:30 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

**5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)**

### *Monday, July 6, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

**6:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

### *Tuesday, July 7, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

**2:00 p.m. – Bible Study (ZR)**

**6:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

### *Wednesday, July 8, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

**11:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting**

**6:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

### *Thursday, July 9, 2026*

*Church Office 8:30 – 1:30*

**6:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

**6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)**

### *Friday, July 10, 2026*

*Church Office closed*

**9:00 a.m. – WUP (FH)**

### *Saturday, July 11, 2026*

*Church Office closed*

**9:00 a.m. – WUP (FH)**

### *Sunday, July 12, 2026*

**10:00 a.m. –Worship**

**11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (ZR)**

**1:30 p.m. – WUP (FH)**

**5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)**