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

November 8, 2026 24th 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.*

UMH – The "red" United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS – The "small black" book Faith We Sing Hymnal

GATHERING MUSIC

Piano: All Creatures of Our God and King arr. J.B. Taylor
Bells: Rejoice in God's Saints arr. J.W. Krug

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WELCOME **Rev. Paul**

CALL TO WORSHIP **Bob Mantler**

One: All that we are is a gift from God.
All: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.
One: All that we have is a fit from God.
All: The world, and those who live in it
One: There are no words to describe the wonders of God's creation.
All: For God has founded it on the seas.
One: Rejoice as we join together in praise for God's great gifts.
All: Go establish it on the rivers.

***GATHERING HYMN** *#62 (UMH) vs. 1-4* *All Creatures of Our God and King*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom. We know that all we have is received from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship be a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE #** ***2029 (TFWS)

Praise to the Lord, all of you, God's servants.
Blessed be the name of our God now and ever.
From the rising of the sun may the Lord be praised.
Praise to the Name 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

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

NEW TESTAMENT **Corinthians 12: 1-11**

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. You know that when you were Gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore, I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.
Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

RESPONSIVE PSALM **Psalm 104: 1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34**

All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.
Left: Bless the Lord, O my soul!
O Lord, my God, you are great indeed
How manifold are your works, O Lord
The earth is full of your creatures!
All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.
Right: If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit, they are created and you renew the face of the earth.
All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.
May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
May the Lord be glad in all works!
Pleasing to God be my theme;
I will be glad in the Lord!
Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

GOSPEL READING **Matthew 25: 31-46**

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.
Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'
Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'
And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'
Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

One: The Word of God for the People of God **All: Thanks be to God!**

***HYMN -** *#2237 (TFWS) vs. 1-3* *As a Fire Is Meant for Burning*

SERMON *Many Gifts, One Spirit* **Rev. Paul**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

Offertory *Lord, Give Us Grace* J. Carter
Chancel Choir

***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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

***PARTING HYMN** - *#584 (UMH) vs. 1, 2, 4* *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

***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

Organ: *Maker, in Whom We Live* arr. D. Lasky

***BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

Welcome Visitors! *Is this your first visit to Wilbraham 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 Susan Pereira in loving memory of her father, Ronald C Nobbs Jr. on the ninth anniversary of his passing.

Please be aware that our services are livestreamed and recorded for our online community. While we focus the cameras primarily on the pulpit, chancel and lectern, wide shots of the sanctuary may include congregants. If you or your family prefer not to appear on camera, please ask an usher to direct you to our designated non-camera seating area. Thank you for helping us worship together both in person and online!

MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Paul Nesbit
Music Director: Roberta Morkin
Technical: Deb Trimble
Ushers: Bill Lynch and Kim Ryan
Liturgist: Bob Mantler
Greeter: Judy Marek

Wilbraham United Church
"I am the vine, you are the branches."

Rev. Paul Nesbit:	Pastor (pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x 103
Bobbie Morkin:	Music Director (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) (413)596-2511 x106
Hillary Funk:	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. Paul or the Church Office.



“News for the Pews” for the Week of November 8, 2026

Wilbraham United Church now has **merchandise!** Did you ever wish you could wear a Wilbraham United Church T-shirt or hat, or carry a tote bag with a picture of the church on it? Well, now you can! T-shirts for adults and kids, sweatshirts, mugs, tote bags, something for everyone. This is a fundraiser for our church sponsored by the Fellowship Commission. We’ve recently added a full zip sweatshirt jacket to inventory. Be sure to check it out! Everything is online (https://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/wuc-merchandise/)

Looking for a drummer for our **Praise Band**. Rehearsals are flexible and fun. Hope to play once a month or every other month for our 10:00 church service. If you are interested, you can contact Bobbie Morkin (musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org) or Patti Colkos (tricia30@charter.net)

The sign-up sheet for **Altar Flowers** for Sundays in 2027 is now on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Sponsoring the Altar Flowers is a lovely way to honor a loved one. The donation to cover the cost of the flowers is $35.

Ushers Meeting this morning at 11:30. If you are an usher or would like to find out about ushering here at church, please join us in the Zeckhausen Room. We look forward to seeing you there.

Healthcare workers/ first aiders meeting November 15, 11:30. If you are a healthcare provider, current or retired, first aider or anyone who would like to learn about responding to an emergency, or give your input, please join us in the Zeckhausen room after church. We are hoping to better serve our community and congregation when we have an incident here at church. We value your input and feedback.



The following is an overview of what was discussed in our 5th Stewardship Moment on November 1st, regarding our upcoming Stewardship Campaign which is November 8th! Victoria mentioned that pledge cards were mailed earlier this week and introduced our guest for this week, Director of Music, Bobbie Morkin.

Victoria: Hmm, something was missing just now - what was it? No music! (Bobbie usually plays music while the guest is being seated). Imagine a world or a church service without music. Thankfully, we don't have to, because we have Bobbie. Music exists in every known human society. Music connects us all. I believe music is in our soul. Just like God and religion are in our soul. It's something we feel. Music has personality. It brings out all kinds of emotions and when it's played with emotion, it's just that extra special.

Bobbie, you have the distinction of being the only interviewee we've talked with so far who is actually one of our budget line Items! The director of music, the admin, the minister and the sexton are staff and therefore are paid by our pledges. You also have a music budget that you maintain, correct?

Bobbie: I do and I try to keep it balanced. A lot of money is spent on purchasing music for all the different groups we have, hand bells, chancel choir, junior choir, and piano and organ tunings, organ repairs, etc.

Victoria: Hand bells are fascinating. How do they work?

Bobbie: You'll notice there are big bells on this side and smaller bells on the other side. It's just like anything else. Big bells are like large cylinders - when you blow air into the cylinders, they'd make a deep sound, and the small bells provide high tones like blowing into a small cylinder. Bells are made of bronze, an alloy made with a mix of copper and tin. There's a Clapper inside that comes in contact with the bronze casting that makes the tone. Many techniques alter the sound of the tone that is produced. Those pieces of metal can make different sounds.

Victoria: Can you share with us how you choose the music we sing every Sunday? You choose the prelude and the postlude, and you choose the hymns and the responses. How do you do that?

Bobbie: It all starts with Paul. He selects the texts for the Sundays. He has prayers and other words that pull together ideas from the texts. A lot of the time it's the Pastoral Prayer - he puts so much into that pastoral prayer from his heart. I use his words and the text to select the hymns and the other service music.

Victoria: You are not a member – you and Chuck are members of South Congregational Church and you pledge to Wilbraham United Church. There are a number of folks who are not members and they pledge and we are thankful that they do. Would you like to share why you pledge?

Bobbie: I pledge because I'm here enough that I see the work that so so so many people do in this church. Most recently, the pumpkin patch and on the heels of that Deb is going to be involved in an upcoming WUP production. I see the discipleship people working like crazy on all of their events and I can't go down the laundry list but it is due to the fact that I see how hard everyone is working in order to make this church, this healthy church, survive.

Victoria: Well, we certainly appreciate the musical contribution to our service every Sunday. It wouldn't be a complete church service without the music.

Filling out your pledge card next week will help this church fund our staff, and the many wonderful things we experience every week. YOU are the treasures of this church.

This concludes our Stewardship Campaign Talk Show. Thanks for tuning in and don't forget to bring your pledge cards next week!

Victoria Owen, Fellowship Commission Chair

This Week at Wilbraham United Church

Sunday, November 8, 2026
10:00 a.m. –Worship
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (FH)
11:30 a.m. - Ushers Meeting (ZR)
1:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)

Monday, November 9, 2026
Church Office 9:30 – 2:30
10:00 a.m. – Pastor's Office Hours
10:00 a.m. – Piece Makers
6:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Tuesday, November 10, 2026
Church Office 9:30 – 2:30
8:30 a.m. – Men's Breakfast Group
11:00 a.m. – Pastor/Moderator Mtg
2:00 p.m. -Bible Study (ZR)
7:00 p.m. – Evening Bible Study (ZR)
7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Church Office Closed
5:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Thursday, November 12, 2026
Church Office 9:30 – 2:30
6:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Sanc)
6:00 p.m. - Broom Sisters (11B)
6:30 p.m. – Al Anon (YR)
7:00 p.m. – Bell Choir (Sanc)
7:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Friday, November 13, 2026
Church Office closed
5:00 p.m. – WUP (FH)

Saturday, November 14, 2026
Church Office closed
9:00 a.m. -WUP (FH)

Sunday, November 15, 2026
10:00 a.m. –Worship
11:00 a.m. – Fellowship (FH)
11:30 a.m.- First Aid meeting (ZR)
1:30 p.m. – WUP (FH)
5:00 p.m. – Al-Anon (YR)