

Welcome to
WILSON MEMORIAL UNION CHURCH
A Member Congregation, International Council of Community Churches



November 5th, 2023
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 a.m.

7 Valley Road
Watchung, NJ
Phone: (908) 755-5020
Website: www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org
Email: admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org

Nov. 5, 2023

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM



Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit

Bold print indicates a unison reading.

PRELUDE

Various Melodies

Ricky Francese

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

To honor November being Native American History Month, we light this candle to recognize the presence of God with the original inhabitants of the land upon which our church worships this morning.



HYMN#481

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Wilson Music Collective

Refrain: Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart I will pray. Yes, every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

Verse 1: Upon on the mountain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all around me, it looked so fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine. **Refrain**

Verse 2: Jordan river, chilly and cold, it chills the body but not the soul. There is but one train upon this track; it runs to heaven and then right back. **Refrain**

WELCOME

Rev. Michael Droege

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Al Ellis

Come, draw near to the Lord.

Guide us, Lord

Rest your cares upon God.

Guide us, Lord

God is leading us out of our wilderness.

Guide us, Lord

Place your trust in God's love.

Guide us, Lord

Open your hearts and spirits to experience what God wants to tell you.

Guide us, Lord

Help us, to be attentive to Your word and will.

Guide us, Lord

OPENING PRAYER

God of gentle and loving guidance, we ask that You lead us, like the Israelites, into the places that You have set before us. Open our hearts and spirits to be filled with Your love and presence as we follow Your path before us. Help us to rely on You to give us wisdom to move forward. We ask this in the name of Jesus, **Amen.**



HYMN#486

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Wilson Music Collective

Verse 1: Have thine own way, Lord. Have thine own way! Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting yielded and still.

Verse 2: Have thine own way, Lord. Have thine own way! Search me and try me, master, today! Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now, as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Verse 3: Have thine own way, Lord. Have thine own way! Wounded and weary, help me, I pray! Power all power surely is thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Verse 4: Have thine own way, Lord. Have thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway! Fill with thy spirit til all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!



PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

(All who wish are invited to participate verbally in our prayer of reconciliation.)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.



ASSURANCE OF PARDON



PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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 debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

ANTHEM

All We Ask

Wilson Music Collective



DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, you heavenly host,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

GATHERING OF OUR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 23:1-12

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’s seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it, but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers and sisters. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.



GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

SENDING OUR CHILDREN

SERMON

The Purpose of Prayer

Rev. Michael Droege

COMMUNION

ANTHEM

Fear is Not My Future

Wilson Music Collective

RECIEVING OUR CHILDREN



BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Various Melodies

Ricky Francese

How to Support the Work of Wilson Memorial Church

In Service: You are invited to place your offerings in the plate at the back of the Sanctuary.

By Mail: Gifts can be sent to the office at:
7 Valley Road
Watchung, NJ 07069

Online: Use our secure giving portal by clicking the “Giving” link on our website; www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org

Text-to-Give: Text WILSONCHURCH to (908) 460-8818 and follow the setup prompts for your first time. Once set up, you can simply text the gift amount to the above number.

Follow us on social media @mywilsonchurch

Rev. Michael Droege, Pastor
Timothy Walton, Director of Music & Worship Arts
Matthew May, Lay Minister
Ricky Francese, Accompanist
Pam Cox, Bell Choir Director
Jacob Feldman, A/V Specialist
Tina Kelly, Administrator
Harold Kreis, Sexton
The Rev. Barbara Peters, Pastor Emerita

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers that grace the Sanctuary today are in memory of **Richard Clayton** from his family.

Care Team: Our Wilson Care team is starting its engines again and there are openings for compassionate people who have a heart for making phone calls, writing notes, or paying visits to people who need some attention and care. Please reach out to the office to apply to the team! Admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org.

Starfish: Please send in your nonperishable items for starfish. Check the expiration dates and purchase the smaller sizes for single use.
Special request for tuna, jelly, pasta, cereal. All in non-family size.

Covenant Committee Blood Drive:

Sunday, Nov. 12th at the Watchung Exempt Hall from 8am-2pm.
Register using the QR code here, or go to www.nybc.org/drive
Sponsor code: 09718



Hanging of the Greens: Join us in the tradition of decorating the halls at Wilson Memorial on Nov 26th.

Dec. 2nd: Advent Kick off dinner and Tree Lighting.

Dec. 3rd: New member Sunday and Confirmation celebration. If you are interested in being a member, see Michael.

For Prayer: Ruth Chalker • Lisa Renaud • For Jan Siberine's family who recently lost her mom, Nancy Rossnagel • For peace • The family of Ed Kresge who passed away this week. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 11th at 11:30am at Wilson Memorial Church with a reception in Fisher Hall after.