

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



October 1, 2023
World Communion Sunday
10:00 a.m.

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

OCT. 1, 2023

World Communion Sunday
***Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit**
Bold print indicates a unison reading.

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

Various Melodies

Ricky Francese

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light this candle to acknowledge God as constant source of light in our lives.

OPENING SONG *Lord, You're Mighty*

Lord, You're mighty; Lord, You're mighty

Lord, You're mighty; Lord, You're mighty

What a mighty God we serve,

Mighty God we serve.

Angels would bow before the mighty God we serve.

What a mighty God we serve,

Mighty God we serve

Let heaven and the earth adore the mighty God we serve.

WELCOME

Rev. Michael Droege

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Nancy Scott

Around the world people gather to break bread and share in God's covenant.

We gather with them in heart and mind.

Around the world the broken body is made whole.

As part of that body we join in its unity.

Around the world the Banquet of God is prepared.

We come eagerly to be fed.

Let us worship together!

Let us share God's bounty.

We invoke Your Spirit God, Allah, Dieu, Elohim, Teuti, Thios, Teun, Zannar, Deus, Istu, Bóg...

and all the ways Your people call on Your name.

OPENING PRAYER

You gather us from every corner of the earth, O God. We present differences in languages and customs, traditions and cultures, identities and ages, experiences and lifestyles, races and genders; yet You welcome each of us to share in this table together. Unify us as Your children, Great Redeemer. Let us acknowledge the diversity in this space and that You have created that diversity which You have named every one of us as “good.” Let Your love extend through us as far as the east is from the west that in all things we may glorify Your Holy Name. Unite us with Your son, Jesus Christ as we love each other as siblings of Your family rather than strangers with differences. Give us the capacity to love as You have loved us. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN#505

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Verse 1: All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside? Can I doubt his tender mercy, who through life has been my guide? Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell, for I know, whatever befall me, Jesus doeth all things well; for I know, whatever befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

Verse 2: All the way my Savior leads me; cheers each winding path I tread, gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread; though my weary steps may falter, and my soul a thirst may be, gushing from the rock before me, lo! A spring of joy I see gushing from the rock before me, lo! A spring of joy I see.

Verse 3: All the way my Savior leads me; O the fullness of his love! Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father’s house above; when my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day, this my song through endless ages, Jesus led me all the way; this my song through endless ages, Jesus led me all the way.

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

Gratitude

Wilson Music Collective

So I throw up my hands and praise you again and again

'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah

And I know it's not much but I've nothing else fit for a king

Except for a heart singing, "Hallelujah, Hallelujah"

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

John 13

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already decided that Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, would betray Jesus. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him...

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. So, if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you...

After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, "Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me." The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining close to his heart; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So, while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." So, when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do." Now no one knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the festival," or that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

When he had gone out, Jesus said... "Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now, I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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	Just ONE Command	Rev. Michael Droege
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ANTHEM	<i>Lost in Your Love</i>
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BLESSING OUR CHILDREN

BENEDICTION	Rev. Michael Droege
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POSTLUDE	<i>Various Melodies</i>	Ricky Francese
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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 presences of the Sanctuary
today in honor of all **Wilson friends** with love from Kelly Friede
at “The Flowers on the Ridge”

Homecoming Brunch: TODAY after Worship Service. No tickets required!

Coffee with Michael: Sit with Rev. Michael in a group setting and express interests, ideas, and ask your theological questions. The next gathering day is Oct. 29th at 11am in Fisher Hall.

For Prayer: Joe Higgins • Lisa Renaud • Ruth Chalker

Music Ministry: The music collective will resume their Tuesday night sessions from 6:30pm-8pm. All are welcomed.

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.

Frippery re-opening! First Saturday October 7th. 9:30-12:30 Tues & Thurs.

The Diaper drive initiative collected 1,654 items for Mom’s helping Moms.

Looking ahead:

Oct. 8th Blessing of Animals @ 12:00 on the front lawn.

Oct. 14th Christmas Tree Farm with WoW

Oct. 28th Enchanted Forest

Nov. 12th Covenant Committee Blood Drive

Nov. 26th Hanging of the greens

Dec. 8th Advent Kick off dinner

Keep an eye out for the “Trees of Light” information!