

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



October 15, 2023

Children's Sabbath

10:00 a.m.

7 Valley Road
Watchung, NJ

Phone: (908) 755-5020

Website: www.wilsonmemorialchurch.org

Email: admin@wilsonmemorialchurch.org

OCT. 15, 2023

Children's Sabbath

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

We light this candle in the likeness of the guiding star placed over baby Jesus.



HYMN#652

This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made; we will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day; this is the day that the Lord has made.

WELCOME

Rev. Michael Droege

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist, Carolyn Musacchio

As children were welcomed to the presence of Jesus, *we welcome them.*

We welcome them.

As children were protected by the words of Jesus, *we protect them.*

We protect them.

As children were blessed by the grace of Jesus, *we bless them.*

We bless them.

Jesus invites us to become like children, so *we join them.*

We join them.

Dear God, you have made us to exist as children with You. You have called all of us your children not just some of us. Help us to be as open as children and open to children. We offer this prayer in the name of the one who taught us to believe like children, even Jesus. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

You have made us, God, as Your children to exist in harmony with You. Help us be people of access to Your ways, not inhibitors of others. Let us embody Your love rather than build walls of separation from the rest of Your creation. Remind us that you have called all of us “good,” not just some of us. Help us to see Your wisdom and guidance in every form they present themselves whether young or old. Open our faith to the possibilities of how You choose to guide us. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

HYMN#51 *How Great Thou Art*

Verse 1: Oh Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear rolling thunder, thy power through-out the universe displayed. **Refrain**

Verse 2: When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. **Refrain**

Verse 4: When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art.” **Refrain**

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!



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

**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**

Mark 10: 13-16

People were bringing children to him in order that he might bless them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

**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 Child Centered Church

Rev. Michael Droege

ANTHEM

Promises

BLESSING OUR CHILDREN



 **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Michael Droege

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

Oct. 28th Enchanted Forest on our Kindness Trail. 11am-1pm. For volunteer or donation opportunities, please contact Kendal MacTaggart (908)-565-2357 or kendalmactaggart@gmail.com.

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

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.

Kindness for the Kindness Trail:

Show love to our Kindness Trail October 22! One of our confirmands, Emily Hauck, is looking for volunteers to help plant flowers and trees! We will be planting from 12-3! Come with your gardening tools and help make our forest beautiful. Can't be there? There is a donation basket in Fisher Hall that we will use to collect donations! Tools can be brought into use as well! For more information contact Matthew at (304) 290-4534 or mmay@wilsonmemorialchurch.org.

For Prayer: Ruth Chalker • People of Israel and Palestine

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.

Looking ahead:

Nov. 12th Covenant Committee Blood Drive

Nov. 26th Hanging of the greens

Dec. 2nd Advent Kick off dinner

Keep an eye out for the "Trees of Light" information!