

Second Congregational Church of Winsted

(Baptist & Congregational)

Bible-focused • Christ-centered

Worship Service: 9:30 AM

August 16, 2026



"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." (John 14:15)

Welcome, Greetings & Announcements

Prelude – Kneeling at the Alter-Sabrina Brem

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Call to Worship From Revelation 21:1-6

Leader: Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth;

People: For the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.

Leader: And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

People: Made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

Leader: And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them"

People: "And they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them."

Leader: "And He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death."

People: "There will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

Leader: And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."

People: And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true."

Leader: Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

People: "I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost."

*Hymn #377 (green hymnal) "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

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Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Anthem – On Eagle's Wings – Michael Jongas

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Nicene Creed (recited in unison)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no

end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*catholic means universal

Offertory - Saints Bound For Heaven – Steven Scott

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***Doxology #515 (red hymnal)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Litany of Commitment to Christ

Address to the Disciples & Prayer

Pastor: The Apostle Paul writes, “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.” (*2 Timothy 3:16*)

Disciple: I believe the Bible is the Word of God, true in all that it affirms, and I commit to live my life according to it.

Pastor: The Bible teaches that there is one God who eternally exists as three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—and that each person is fully God in their essence. (*Matthew 28:19*)

Disciple: I believe in the Trinity and the divine, eternal nature of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Jesus says, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (*Matthew 3:2*)

Disciple: I confess that I am a sinner and with the help of the Holy Spirit, I turn from my sin.

Pastor: The Apostle Paul writes, “that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” (*Romans 10:9*)

Disciple: I confess that Jesus is Lord over all, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead. I trust Jesus as my Savior and Lord and believe that apart from Him, there is no salvation.

Pastor: Jesus said, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.” (*John 14:15*)

Disciple: As a disciple of Jesus, I will strive to show my love for Jesus by obeying all His commands and all that is taught in the Bible.

Pastor: Jesus says, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me." (*Luke 9:23*)

Disciple: Lord Jesus, I choose to follow You. I submit my will to You. Give me the strength to be faithful in all circumstances. Show me how to love You and to love others by serving You, and help me to glorify You by letting my light shine in the world.

Disciple's Prayer (in unison):

Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I repent of my sins, and I trust You as my Savior and confess You as my Lord. I give myself to You anew. Fill me with Your Spirit, teach me Your Word, and help me take up my cross and faithfully follow You each day. Amen.

Closing Prayer

***Hymn #421** (green hymnal) "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

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Scripture Reading Ephesians 2:19–22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Prayers of the Church & Lord's Prayer (sins)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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

Musical Response

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Text Ephesians 4:1–6

¹ Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, ³ being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Gloria Patri #513 (red hymnal)

- **Rededication to Christ**—On Sunday, August 16, the worship service will include the opportunity for you to participate in a brief optional liturgy of **Christian Rededication** similar to our new member ceremony. Two weeks ago, I was approached by a member of the congregation asking for an opportunity to reaffirm his faith in Christ. It struck me that there might be others who would like the opportunity to do the same. Many among us have grown in our faith and commitment to Christ. This might be a timely opportunity to

declare our unwavering allegiance to Christ and complete faith in Him anew. As Jesus says, *“Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven”* (Matthew 10:32–33). If the Spirit moves you on August 16, you will be invited to come forward to the platform. See me for more information. *Pastor Dan*

- **Nominating Committee news**—Hello church family. Steven Millahn has volunteered to fill the position of Fellowship Coordinator. He will be speaking to people about filling open spaces for the fellowship time after the service. Thank you so much, Steven, for your willingness to serve!
 - In September, we will begin talking about ways that you too can serve your church in 2026! If anyone has any questions about this, please see Bonnie Sterpka.
- **Anyone wishing to provide music** for the service while the choir is taking a break this summer is asked to speak to Chris King.
- **Prayer Chain** – All prayers requested on Sunday and during the week are sent out to the church Prayer Chain. If you would like to be included in those for either personal prayers or to pray for others, please email info@sccwinsted.org
- **The two nursery rooms** downstairs are clean, sanitized, and available should you need a place to change a diaper, feed your baby, or simply need a quiet place to take your child during the service. Audio of the service can be heard.

Upcoming Events This Week

- **Monday** **Celebrate Recovery** – 7:00 PM (led by Jeff Liskin, Sr., downstairs)
- **All Bible studies and Sunday School will return in September.**

Christian Education and Youth Events

- **Sunday School — Chance to Register Your Kids Early!**
September 13th is Rally Sunday, where all the students and their parents are invited as we kick off the new school year. Join us for a continental breakfast, student registration, songs, prayer, and meet the teachers. If you would like to register early, please speak to John Costa or email: sccwyouth@gmail.com.
- **Youth Group — Starts back up in September!**
See the monthly schedule in a couple of weeks. Youth Group invites all students in grades 6–12! Each meeting includes Bible lessons, games, and snacks — plus field trips and junior mission projects throughout the year.

Men's and Women's Fellowship

- **The Men's Fellowship** will regroup and hold a meeting on September 20 after church. Please bring ideas for what you would like to see us do. Events? Service? Study? Activities? Retreats? The group is open to all men of the church. If you have any questions, see Pastor Dan.
- **Women's Fellowship Upcoming Opportunities:**
 - **Planning Meeting:** We will host a planning meeting after church on **Sunday, September 20, 2026**. Please bring ideas for fall and winter activities.
 - **Fall Retreat:** There is information posted in the fellowship hall about a fall women's retreat opportunity. This retreat will take place from **Friday, October 16 – Sunday, October 18, 2026** at Camp Monadnock (257 Dublin Rd, Jaffrey, NH). This is a wonderful opportunity for us to worship God together in a beautiful place. We will meet other Christian women and build on our relationships with each other while we worship the Lord. There will be guest speakers, music, a biblical program and time to enjoy the camp. The cost is \$250 and covers lodging, food, and the program. Please let me know if you would like to attend (see the sign-in list on the bulletin board in

the Fellowship Hall).

To register: Early Registration is open now with a \$10 discount. I registered already and the total cost is \$240 for a room with a bathroom. Here is the link to register:

<https://www.monadnock.camp/womensretreats>. You will need to set up a login (it's not difficult) and when you register, enter the start date. Choose "Retreat and Accommodations (In-Room bathroom). There are several links for forms to complete. ON the "Housing Request Form" choose "Women's Retreat 1 and you will choose our church in the drop-down box (that will make sure that we are in a room together). I am not sure how long the discount will last, so please register soon and let me know if you have any difficulty (I can walk you through the registration). If you would like this information sent to your email, please let Bonnie know.

Other Important Information

- **Volunteers Needed-** Sarah Thornton, a new innovation teacher in the library at Pearson School, has an exciting opportunity to offer the students experiences with engineering, coding, and inquiry project learning. She can use assistance, from community volunteers in the library, with helping students check out books and reshelving. If interested, contact Sarah Thornton at 917-324-5531 (Text).

- **Celebrate Recovery Meetings are held on Monday evenings at 7 PM – downstairs (Opens at 6:30 PM).**



**Celebrate
Recovery**
A CHRIST CENTERED Recovery Program

Dealing with life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups is not a solo endeavor. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered 12-Step program that helps you heal from what life has put you through in a safe, confidential environment. Whether it is substance abuse, procrastination, mental and physical abuse, overeating, fear, anxiety, or any other issue, Celebrate

Recovery is for you. The Winsted chapter meets every Monday at 7 PM (doors open at 6:30 PM) right in our church. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dan or the CR Ministry Leader, Jeff Liskin, Sr.

- **We are partnered with The Interfaith Food Bank**, managed by the Salvation Army. We will be collecting non-perishable foods on the first Sunday of each month; however, you can always bring in your items and place them in the purple crates in Fellowship Hall. The next collection date is **Sunday, September 6, 2026.** They are also requesting personal care items.
- **The Fellowship Coffee Hour** chart for 2026 is posted, and there are vacancies if anyone wants to sign up.
- **Tithes, Offerings, and Donations** may now be made online. For those who would like to give to the church online, simply go to the front page of our [church website](#) and click the link "Support Our Church and Ministries." You may also download the Vanco mobile app on your smartphone. Search for churches in your area, and you will find "Second Congregational Church of Winsted." For more information on Vanco, see Paul Okraska.



Second Congregational Church Online

Church Email: info@sccwinsted.org

Church Webpage: <http://sccwinsted.org>

Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/sccwinsted

YouTube Channel for Livestream Services: www.youtube.com/channel/UCCW4dPY3yqt-GsjPZG-cHuQ

(Search for: Second Congregational Church of Winsted, CT)

Church Library & Media Center: www.librarything.com/catalog/sccwlibrary

Pastor Dan's Apologetic Page: <http://multimediaapologetics.com>

Church Office Hours

Wednesday-Friday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote

Email: danielrcote@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 203-217-7498 (feel free to call or text Pastor Dan)

Summer Office Hours: Sunday, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM (Other days as needed or by appointment)

Director of Youth and Families: John Costa

Email: john.costa.ic@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 413-854-7147

Summer Office Hours: Sunday, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM, Mon. 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (Other days as required)

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer DeSanti

Email: info@sccwinsted.org

Phone: 860-379-4766

Organist: Christopher King

Sextons: Tom Doney & Cassie Riberdy

Second Congregational Church—Winsted

Statement of Faith

- 1. We believe there is only one living and true God, Creator of all things, infinite in wisdom, goodness, and love, eternally existing in three persons, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit.**
(Ex. 20:1–6; Deut. 6:4; Ps. 96:4–5; Mt. 28:19; Jn. 1:1; 2 Cor. 13:14)
- 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God and that they are the supreme authority in faith and life and absolutely trustworthy.**
(Ps. 119; Mk. 13:31; Jn. 10:35, 17:17; 2 Pet. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16–17; 1Thess. 2:13)
- 3. We believe that God, in His goodness, created only two distinct and complementary genders, male and female, which is defined by one's biological sex at birth. These two genders together reflect the image and nature of God, and rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of God's created order and the image of God within that person.**
(Gen. 1:26–28,31; 2:2–24; Lev 18:22–23; 20:10–21; Deut 22:5; Is3:12; Rom 1:24–27; 1Cor 6-9; 11:7; 1Tim 2:11–15)
- 4. We believe that man and woman sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God, and that we are all born with a sinful nature that mars God's image in us.**
(Gen 1:26–27; 2:7; 3:1–24; Ezek 13:23; Rom 5:12; Eph 2:1–3; James 3:9)
- 5. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is truly God and Man.**
(Is 7:14; Matt 1:18,23; Luke 1:30–35; 2:6–7,40; John 1:14; Phil 2:6–7; Heb 1:2–5; 2:14)
- 6. We believe that, out of love for us, the Lord Jesus Christ died to atone for our sins according to the Scriptures and that all who repent of sin and place their faith in Him alone are reconciled to God by His shed blood.**
(Is 53:4–6; Mark 1:14–15; John 14:6; Rom 5:8; 8:3; 1John 4:10; 1Pet 2:24–25)
- 7. We believe that Christ rose from the dead and ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father to reign over all things.**
(Luke 24:1–7; John 2:19–21; Acts 1:9; Heb 4:14,10:11–13; Rev 1:17–18)
- 8. We believe that all who repent of sin and receive the Lord Jesus Christ, which is by grace alone through faith alone, are born of the Holy Spirit and thereby become the children of God and shall not come into condemnation and that the Lord Jesus Christ gives them everlasting life.**
(John 1:12–13; 3:16–18,36; 5:24–29; 10:27–29; Acts 4:12; Rom 8:1,9–12,15–17; 10:9–11; Gal 4:24–29; Eph 1:5; 1 John 5:12–13)
- 9. We believe that Christ has called all Christians into universal fellowship in His church. This church is made up of local congregations where members worship through Word and sacrament, are trained in discipleship and are called to evangelize the world in charity.**
(Matt 16:18–19; 18:17; John 17; Acts 2:42; 6:1–6; 20:28–32; 1Cor 10:1–14:40; Eph 5:21–32; 1Thes 5:12–13; 1Tim 3:1–16; 5:17–22; Heb 10:25; 1Pet 5:1–4)
- 10. We believe that God created marriage to be a holy and lifelong covenant union, which can only be between one man and one woman who are not closely related, and that the only lawful place for intimate relations is marriage.**
(Gen 2:22–24; Ex 22:16–17; Deut 22:14; Mal 2:16; Matt 19:4–6; Eph 5:5,21–6:4; Col 3:18–21; 1Tim 1:8–10; Heb 13:4)
- 11. We believe that at The Last Day, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will return according to His promise and that He will judge the world, and the saved will receive the blessing of life in His eternal kingdom and that the lost will be eternally separated from God.**

(Matt 25:31-46; Rom 8:35-39; 1Thes 4:13-17; Rev 20:12-15, 21-27)