

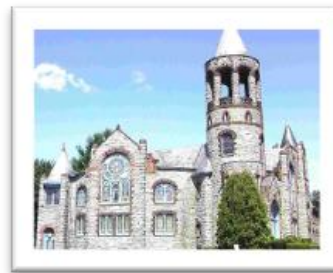
# Second Congregational Church of Winsted

(Baptist & Congregational)

*Bible-focused • Christ-centered*

**Worship Service: 9:30 AM**

**August 23, 2026**



*"But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."*

*(John 3:21, NKJV)*

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## Welcome, Greetings & Announcements

**Prelude** – Lord, Come and Take My Life – arr. Patti Drennan

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**Call to Worship** From Psalm 27:1–6

**Leader:** The Lord is my light and my salvation;

**People:** Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread?

**Leader:** When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.

**People:** Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident.

**Leader:** One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek.

**People:** That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord And to meditate in His temple.

**Leader:** For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle;

**People:** In the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock.

**Leader:** And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me,

**People:** And I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.

**\*Hymn #32** (green hymnal) "How Firm a Foundation"

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## Prayer of Invocation and Confession

**A Prayer for Our Church (recited in unison)**

Father, we praise you and glorify you. Help us to demonstrate our love for you through what we do and say. Draw this body of believers together in love, and let us be united in Christ. Give us a desire to conform all things to your Word. Grant us the presence and wisdom of your Holy Spirit. We pray that Your Word will be correctly preached from the pulpit, that lives will be changed, and many will believe in Jesus. Transform this church according to Your will. We pray that You will protect this church so the schemes of the evil one will not prosper against it. Father, we pray that You will use this church to proclaim the gospel to this community and the world, and make us true disciples of Jesus Christ. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

## **Offertory – There's a Wideness in God's Mercy – arr. Dale Wood**

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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**

### **\*Hymn #273** (green hymnal) "Jesus Paid it All"

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## **Scripture Reading Psalm 32:1–7**

<sup>1</sup> How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered! <sup>2</sup> How blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit! <sup>3</sup> When I kept silent *about my sin*, my body wasted away Through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup> For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away *as* with the fever heat of summer. <sup>5</sup> I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord"; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. <sup>6</sup> Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; Surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him. <sup>7</sup> You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance.

## **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 1 John 1**

<sup>1</sup> What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life— <sup>2</sup> and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— <sup>3</sup> what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete. <sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; <sup>7</sup> but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

**Gloria Patri #513 (red hymnal)**  
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.

**Sermon**                      **“The True Light”**  
*Part 1 of a sermon series on John’s letters*

**\*Hymn #591 (green hymnal) “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”**  
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**\*Benediction**

**Musical Response**

**Postlude** – Fanfare Postlude on “St. Kevin” – Douglas E. Wagne  
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**Sermon Notes:**

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**Service Information**  
*Preaching:* Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote  
*Monthly Deacon:* Cassie Riberdy  
*Monthly Assistant Deacon:* Bob Davis  
*Last Week’s Attendance:* 55  
*Last Week’s Offering:* \$2,527 (\$3300 budgeted)

**Second Congregational Church**  
**800 Main Street**  
**Winsted, CT 06098-1014**  
**Phone: 860-379-4766**  
**Email: [info@sccwinsted.org](mailto:info@sccwinsted.org)**  
**Web: [sccwinsted.org](http://sccwinsted.org)**

### Important Notices

- **The Music Committee** has made the decision to provide choir music for services twice a month instead of three times. We're hoping this may encourage those who don't want to make a greater commitment to join us. We are looking for sopranos and basses to fill in for members we have lost recently, and which would boost the choir enough to add back a third service. There are no auditions or formal invitations to join the choir. If you have any questions, please see Chris King or Denise Torson.
- **Some exciting news** – We will be adding contemporary worship music led by Michael and Denise Killiany to the service twice a month in addition to traditional hymns on the organ. We will kick off the fall season for choir on Sunday, September 13. Rehearsal begins at 8:30 am in the choir room. Please join us!
- **Do you have a prayer request?** We have created a new system for submitting prayer requests. Please go to our webpage and click the link "Prayer Request" in the middle of the homepage to submit your prayer requests. All prayer requests will be sent to the prayer chain. Unless you indicate otherwise, all prayer requests will also be mentioned in the Sunday worship service. Prayer requests may also be sent directly to: [sccwprayerrequests@gmail.com](mailto:sccwprayerrequests@gmail.com).
- **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 — Starting Soon!**  
Sunday School returns September 13th for ages 4–18! We offer three age-specific classes designed to give each child the most effective Bible education for their stage of life. Register early or join us on Rally Sunday to kick off the new school year together.
- **Rally Sunday — September 13th**  
Parents and students, come celebrate the start of a new school year! Join us for a continental breakfast, student registration, songs, prayer, and a chance to meet your child's teacher. To register in advance, contact John Costa or email [sccwyouth@gmail.com](mailto:sccwyouth@gmail.com).
- **Youth Group — Coming in September!**  
Students in grades 6–12 are invited! Every meeting includes Bible lessons, games, and snacks — plus field trips and junior mission projects throughout the year. Here's a sneak peek at our first two weeks:
- 🎉 **9/13 — Youth Reset**  
We kick off the new season with games, snacks, and a conversation about what our group will look like in the year ahead.
- 🍦 **9/27 — DQ "Season Cooldown"**  
The group heads to Dairy Queen for ice cream before the season winds down — and we'll reflect on our spiritual seasons together through Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.
- **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).** 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 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 smartphone. Search for churches in your area, and you will find "Second Congregational Church of Winsted." For more information on Vanco, see Paul Okraska.



give to  
your

## **Second Congregational Church Online**

Church Email: [info@sccwinsted.org](mailto:info@sccwinsted.org)

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

Church Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/sccwinsted](http://www.facebook.com/sccwinsted)

YouTube Channel for Livestream Services: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCCW4dPY3yqt-GsjPZG-cHuQ](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCW4dPY3yqt-GsjPZG-cHuQ)

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

Church Library & Media Center: [www.librarything.com/catalog/sccwlibrary](http://www.librarything.com/catalog/sccwlibrary)

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

### **Church Office Hours**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday** 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

### **Church Staff**

**Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daniel Cote**

Email: [danielrcote@gmail.com](mailto: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.jc@gmail.com](mailto:john.costa.jc@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](mailto: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)