

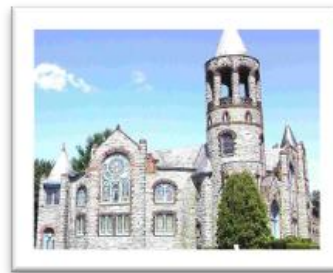
Second Congregational Church of Winsted

(Baptist & Congregational)

Bible-focused • Christ-centered

Worship Service: 10:00 AM

October 11, 2026



"The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it."

(Psalm 24:1)

Welcome, Greetings & Announcements

Prelude – Prelude on "Be Thou My Vision" - arr. Ian Higginson

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Call to Worship **From 1 Peter 4:7–11**

Leader: The end of all things is near;

People: Therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

Leader: Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another,

People: Because love covers a multitude of sins.

Leader: Be hospitable to one another without complaint.

People: As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Leader: Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God;

People: Whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies;

Leader: So that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ,

People: To whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn #2** (green hymnal) "How Great Thou Art"

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Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Special Music Michael & Denise Killiany

"Ancient of Days" - Jamie Harvill and Gary Sadler

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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 – Great is Thy Faithfulness - arr. Craig A. Penfield

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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 (See insert) "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"**

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Scripture Readings:

Genesis 1:26–28

²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Romans 12:1

¹ Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

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: Matthew 22:15–22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted together how they might trap Him in what He said. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and defer to no one; for You are not partial to any. ¹⁷ "Tell us then, what do You think? Is it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus perceived their malice, and said, "Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ "Show Me the coin *used* for the poll-tax." And they brought Him a denarius. ²⁰ And He said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹ They said to Him, "Caesar's." Then He said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's." ²² And hearing *this*, they were amazed, and leaving Him, they went away.

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 “Render to God What Is God’s”

***Hymn #523** (green hymnal) "God Be with You 'Til We Meet Again"

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***Benediction**

Musical Response

Postlude – Joyeux - Martin Ellis

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Sermon Notes:

[illegible]

Service Information

Preaching: John Costa

Monthly Deacon: Jeff Liskin

Monthly Assistant Deacon: Michael Killiany

Last Week's Attendance: 64

Last Week's Offering: \$3,449 (\$3300 budgeted)

Second Congregational Church

800 Main Street

Winsted, CT 06098-1014

Phone: 860-379-4766

Email: info@sccwinsted.org

Web: sccwinsted.org

Important Notices

- **New Member Class**-Pastor Dan will be offering a new member class. The first session is October 18, following the worship service in Pastor Dan's office. **Please see Pastor Dan if you are interested in joining the church.** The universal church is the body of Christ. The writer of Hebrews tells us not to neglect meeting together (Heb 10:24-25); this was the pattern established by the apostles in the early church (Acts 2:42). Second Congregational is a place where we can worship God together, use our spiritual gifts for the glory of God, gather for the Lord's Supper and Baptism, grow spiritually and in knowledge of the faith as disciples of Christ, provide care and support for each other, and serve as witnesses to Christ in our community and world, all in obedience to Christ's

design for the church. The Christian life is not intended to be lived in isolation, but in fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ.

- **Stewardship Sunday October 18, 2026**—October is the season in which we give particular attention to the call of Christian stewardship. Yet stewardship is not confined to a single month. For all who have been entrusted with the care of God's gifts, every day is a day of stewardship. We acknowledge that God is the source and owner of all we are and all we possess. Our response, therefore, is not limited to our financial giving in October, but includes the offering of our time and talents throughout the entire year.

To be stewards who are pleasing to God, we rely on His help. Through the Holy Spirit working in and through His Word, we are continually renewed—shaped into people who are God-centered rather than self-centered. Because of what God has given and accomplished for us through Christ, our priorities and perspectives are transformed. God-pleasing stewards seek to honor Him in all things, living lives marked by praise, gratitude, and obedience.

As we approach the time when we present our financial commitments for the coming year, let us also keep before us the broader calling of stewardship that guides us throughout our church year.

Those who live with a steward's heart:

- Stand under the authority of God's Word and trust His promises.
- Allow their lives to be directed by God rather than by self.
- Seek the Lord's presence and strength in all things.
- Walk in the ways of the Lord.
- See every person as a beloved child of God.
- Serve faithfully within their church, family, and community.
- Give generously from grateful hearts.
- Develop their gifts and talents for God's purposes.
- Recognize the Lord's hand as their constant support.
- Rely on His grace as their daily supply.
- Manage their resources wisely and prudently.
- Extend help and compassion to those in need.

As we once again reflect on the grace extended to us through our Savior, may our hearts respond with joy as we make our annual commitment. *"May the God of peace...equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."* (Hebrews 13:20–21)

- Pledge cards will be available at church over the next several weeks. Please bring your completed card with you on Stewardship Sunday, October 18th, or return it to the church office at your convenience. If you need to have a pledge card mailed to you, please call the church office at 860-379-4766. Thank you.

- **Denominational Affiliation Committee:**

On October 25th 2026, the Reverend Paul McPheeters will be preaching on the 4C's affiliation. There will be a question and answer period immediately following the service.

- **Special Meeting:**

On November 15th 2026, there will be a special meeting of the Second Congregational Church to vote on the 4C's affiliation.

At the church's annual meeting, members of Second Congregational approved a motion to begin exploring affiliation with a denomination. The Church Council agreed, and appointed Bonnie Sterpka, Colleen Gundlach, Paul Okraska, Michael Killiany, Jeff Liskin and Pastor Dan to research, discuss and eventually recommend a denomination. During the discussions, committee members highlighted several reasons for considering

denominational membership. Among them were the benefits of shared resources, opportunities for broader fellowship, mutual support among churches, and increased accountability in ministry and governance.

After much discussion, the group ruled several other possible affiliations, and particular attention was given to the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (CCCC) as a potential partner. The CCCC's statement of faith aligns very closely with that of Second Congregational, making it a natural fit for further consideration.

There are many advantages to being a part of the CCCC, such as:

Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (CCCC)

- Theologically conservative, evangelical, and strongly biblical
- Upholds Christian doctrines consistent with our Statement of Faith
- Over 300 churches and growing (34 churches in 1959)
- Approximately 42,000+ members

Advantages of joining CCCC

- Help in pastoral transitions and when difficulties and/or church health issues arise
- Training, development, church planting, workshops, and other resources- Evangelism resources
- Credentialing and ordination of clergy
- Networking and fellowship (participation is expected)
- Code of Ethics for Ministers
- Code of Ethics for Churches
- Individual churches remain autonomous (CCCC is there to support, not control)

Disadvantages of joining CCCC

- Cost ~1-3 percent of church budget (voluntarily- not strictly enforced)

The denomination's emphasis on local church autonomy (the concept that the congregation has the last say in all governance issues), combined with cooperative fellowship, is very closely aligned with SCCW's bylaws and objectives. The committee came to the unanimous conclusion that the CCCC would be the only fit for SCCW and present this report to the Church Council tonight for consideration.

- **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.
- **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.
- **Nominating Committee:** During October we will be involved with Stewardship as we all consider how best to serve God here at Second Congregational Church. Being a good steward not only includes giving financial gifts, but also includes the use of our talents to serve the Lord! Our church depends on you and your support as we seek God and thank Him for all that He has done for us. If you are reading this and you have yet to identify an area where you can serve, please speak to me about it. We are all given so many strengths and talents and your talents are celebrated and needed here! Joining a board or committee will help you to make new friends, find support from the body and provide a meaningful and necessary function.

Many thanks to you all - Bonnie Sterpka

- Here is a list of boards, committees and positions at Second Congregational Church. Please consider volunteering for something below.

BOARDS:

Deacon Board: Appointed
Board of Christian Education
Board of Missions
Board of Finance
Board of Trustees

COMMITTEES:

Building and Grounds
Music Committee
Nominating Committee
Video Committee
Social Media Committee

POSITIONS:

(some may be assigned – please inquire if interested)
Memorial Svc. Reception Coord.
Refreshment Coord.
Greeter Coordinator
First Baptist Rep.
Second Congregational Rep.

Upcoming Events This Week

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study is from 9:00am-9:45am.**
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer Group is as follows:**
 - Prayer Group—5:30 pm (Pastor Dan's Office)
 - Bible Study—6:00 pm (Music Room)
- **Monday - Celebrate Recovery – 7:00 PM (led by Jeff Liskin, Sr., downstairs)**

Christian Education and Youth Events

- **Fire Drill:** If your child missed the fire drill during Sunday School please speak to John C so that they can attend a makeup drill.
- **Helping Hands (Collection Next Week):** The kids and youth will be participating in helping the church collect canned and dry goods for our local food bank. This is a wonderful way to get our children involved in acts of charity, teaching them the love, generosity, and selflessness of Christ. Flyers will be handed out by our kids on 10/4. Please consider bringing in a few items to support those in our community.
- **Sunday School Group Special (10/18):** All three classes will come together for a special biblically educational short movie. As it will be a good opportunity for all the kids to get together, we look forward to seeing all the children.
- **Operation Christmas Child:** Please continue to remember donations this month. The theme for this month is "Letter & Photo."
 - Bring your shoebox gift to life this month by tucking a simple letter and a family picture right on top of your items. Your encouraging words and friendly faces will be a tangible blessing to a child, turning a box of gifts into a powerful reminder of God's love and the global church community.
 - You can visit the OCC table in the fellowship hall to drop off any gifts. Thank you for helping to bring joy to children and sharing the gospel with countless families around the world!
 - Packing Party 11/7 at 4:30– 6:30pm. All are invited to join the youth and the OCC team for fun, fellowship, and food as we fill our shoeboxes for this year.

Youth Group Calendar — Oct. - Nov.			
Youth Group is open to grades 6 and up—We Welcome you to Join Us!			
Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	Oct. 11 th	9:30am -----	FIRE DRILL!
Sunday	Oct. 11 th , 18 th	11:00pm-12:00pm	Helping Hands – Food Bank Collection

Sunday	Oct. 11 th	11:30am-12:45pm	Youth Group – Bible Lesson, Group Activity, Snacks
Sunday	Oct. 25 th	11:30am-12:45pm	Youth Group – DQ “Season Cooldown” (Ecc. 3:1-8)
Saturday	Nov. 7 th	4:30pm – 6:30pm	Operation Christmas Child – Packing Party
Sunday	Nov. 8 th	11:30am-12:45pm	Youth Group - Bible Trivia, Games

Men's and Women's Fellowship

- **Men's Fellowship Upcoming Events:**

- Nov. 14, 8:30 am-Quarterly Men's Breakfast: Film and Discussion-Bonhoeffer: Agent of Grace
- December, date TBD, 6:00-8:00 pm: Regional Men's Christmas Dinner
- Feb. 13, 8:30 am-Quarterly Men's Breakfast

- **Women's Fellowship Group: Upcoming opportunities:**

- **Women's Retreat: Friday, October 16- Sunday, October 18.**
- **Prayer Walk:** To be coordinated by Denise K. and Amanda S. This will take place after church (weather dependent) - If we have a nice weather day, Denise and Amanda may announce this "spur of the moment activity." We will walk together and pray for each other, our church, and the community.
- **Cocoa, Cookies and Carol Sing - On Thursday, 12/17 at 6:30 p.m.** We will gather at the church for this event, hosted by the Women's fellowship. This will be an all-church event and will also be open to the community. This event will be coordinated by Susanne, Eileen and Deb. More information on what to bring, decorations, plans, etc. will be coming soon!
- **The Women's Fellowship Group will meet again on Sunday, 1/24** after the service.
- The activities and events can be attended by any of the women of the church. This is an open group and we welcome all ages! If you see something that is interesting to you, please join us. You don't have to come to the meetings or attend all of the events. Everyone is invited to join at any time, as we grow in our faith, friendship and fellowship.

Other Important Information

- **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.

- **The Fellowship Coffee Hour** chart for 2026 is posted, and there are vacancies if anyone wants to sign up.
- **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, November 1, 2026.** They are also requesting personal care items.

- **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

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 AM – 1:30 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)

Office Hours: Sunday, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM & Wednesday, 5:00 PM-7:30 PM (Other days as needed or by appointment)

Director of Youth and Families: John Costa

Email: john.costa.jc@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 413-854-7147

Office Hours: Sunday, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM, Mon. 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Wednesday 5:00 PM-7:30 PM (Other days as needed or by appointment)

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer DeSanti

Email: info@sccwinsted.org

Phone: 860-379-4766

Organist: Christopher King

Sextons: Tom Doney & Cassie Riberdy

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Matt Redman

♩ = 73

Chorus *Segno* C G D/F# Em C G D^{sus4} D

Bless the Lord, O my soul O my soul Wor-ship his ho - ly name Sing like

5 C Em C D Em C D **To Coda** *Segno* C/G G **Verse**

ne - ver be-fore O my soul I'll wor-ship his ho - ly name

1.The
2.You're
3.And

9 C G D Em C G

sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing It's time to sing Your song
rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger Your name is great, and your
on that day when my strength is fail - ing The end draws near and my

12 D Em C G D/F# Em

a - gain heart is kind time has come

Wha - te-ver ma - y pass, and wha - te-ver lies be - fo - re me
For a - ll you - r goodness I will ke - ep on si - ng - ing
Sti - ll my soul will sing your pra - ise un - en - ding

16 C G D^{sus4} 1. 2. G **Chorus** 3. G **Chorus**

Let me be sin - ging when the eve - ning comes Bless the comes Bless the
Ten thou - sand rea - sons for my heart to find
Ten thou - sand years and the for - e - ver - more

20 **Coda** *Segno* rit. C D C/G G

Wor - ship his ho - ly name

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Authorized for 1 performer

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)