

Second Congregational Church of Winsted

(Baptist & Congregational)

Bible-focused • Christ-centered

Worship Service: 10:00 AM

October 25, 2026



"There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all."

(Ephesians 4:4–6)

Welcome, Greetings & Announcements

Prelude – Brethren, We Have Met to Worship - arr. Wally Mayo

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Call to Worship From Psalm 133

Leader: Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!

People: It is like the precious oil upon the head, coming down upon the beard.

Leader: Even Aaron's beard, coming down upon the edge of his robes.

People: It is like the dew of Hermon coming down upon the mountains of Zion;

Leader: For there the Lord commanded the blessing—

People: Life forever.

***Hymn #118** (green hymnal) "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

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Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Special Music Michael Killiany

"Only by Grace" – Gerrit Gustafson

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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 – Powell Variations on "Jesus Loves Me" - William A. McNair

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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) “Holy Forever”

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Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:19–30

¹⁹ But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition. ²⁰ For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus. ²² But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child *serving* his father. ²³ Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things *go* with me; ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that I myself also will be coming shortly. ²⁵ But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need; ²⁶ because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. ²⁷ For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may be less concerned *about you*. ²⁹ Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard; ³⁰ because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was deficient in your service to me.

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: Acts 2:42–47

⁴² They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. ⁴⁶ Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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.

- **Stewardship Pledge Reminder:** We extend heartfelt thanks to all who have already offered the first fruits of God's blessings by making a financial pledge in support of our church.
As we prepare the budget for 2027, we kindly ask those who intend to pledge but have not yet submitted a card

to do so at your earliest convenience. Your timely responses enable us to plan faithfully and responsibly for the year ahead.

Thank you for your generosity, your stewardship, and your partnership in our shared journey of faith!

- **Denominational Affiliation Committee:**

On October 25th, 2026 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

- **Helping Hands (Final Collection):** Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute items for Winsted's Food Bank. As we continue to encourage the kids to love and give, let's also maintain a heart of generosity, empathy, and love to one another as well as those in our community.
- **Operation Christmas Child:** Let's remember that our collection season is coming to a close. There's still time to write a letter and/or share a photo for this month's theme.
 - November will be the final collections before the shoeboxes get shipped out across the world (11/1, 11/8, 11/15).
- **OCC Packing Party:** You are invited to join us for the Packing/Pizza Party for a great time of fun and fellowship. We also encourage any elders and prayer warriors to join our prayer team. We'll pray over the boxes, the mission, and the children and families who receive gifts and the gospel this year.

Youth Group Calendar — Oct. – Nov.

Request Youth Group is open to grades 6 and up—We Welcome you to Join Us!

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	Oct. 18 th , 25 th	11:00pm-12:00pm	Helping Hands – Food Bank Collections
Sunday	Oct. 25 th	11:30am-12:45pm	Youth Group – Special Halloween Educational Presentation
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
Sunday	Nov. 22 nd	11:30am-12:45pm	Youth Group – Bible Activities, Snacks

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:**

- **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



**Celebrate
Recovery**
A CHRIST CENTERED Recovery Program

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

Tuesday, 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

Lead Sheet
(SAT)

Holy Forever

Based on the Chris Tomlin album "Holy Forever"
www.praisecharts.com/79148

Key: C

Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram,
Phil Wickham, Brian Johnson,
& Jenn Johnson
Arr. by Daniel Galbraith

$\text{♩} = 72$

Pno./pads only *mp*

1 Verse

Am G C F Am G C E

5 1. A thou - sand gen - er - a - tions fall - ing down in wor - ship to

8 Am G(4) F C

sing the song of ag - es to the Lamb. And all who've gone be - fore us and

11 F C Am G F

all who will be - lieve will sing the song of ag - es to the Lamb. Your

2 Pre-Chorus *mp*
+ kick, toms

F Am G Am

14 name is the high - est, Your name is the great - est. Your name stands a - bove them

F F Am G

17 all. All thrones and do - min - ions, all pow'rs and po - si - tions. Your

Am Dm7 F Am

20 name stands a - bove them all. And the an - gels cry, Ho -

3 Chorus *mf* Band diamonds, A.G. picking



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Lead Sheet
(SAT)

Holy Forever - page 2 of 4

Key: C

23 ly! All cre-a - tion cries, Ho - - ly! You are lift - ed high,

26 Ho - ly! Ho - ly for - ev - er!

4 Verse

30 2. If you've been for - giv - en and if you've been re - deemed,

32 sing the song for - ev - er to the Lamb. If you walk in free - dom, and

35 if you bear His name, sing the song for - ev - er to the Lamb. We'll

38 sing the song for - ev - er and a - men. And the an - gels cry, Ho -

41 ly! All cre-a - tion cries, Ho - - ly! You are lift - ed high,

Lead Sheet
(SAT)

Holy Forever - page 3 of 4

Key: C

44 Dm G C Csus C C E
Ho - ly! Ho - ly for - ev - er! Hear your peo - ple sing,

48 F Am G C E
Ho - - - ly! To the King of Kings, Ho -

51 Am Dm G
ly! You will al - ways be, Ho - - - ly! Ho - ly for - ev -

54 C Csus C F Am
er! Your name is the high - est, Your

57 G Am F
name is the great - est. Your name stands a - bove them all. All

60 F Am G Am
thrones and do - min - ions, all pow'rs and po - si - tions. Your name stands a - bove them

63 mf 7 Pre-Chorus Band building ...
all. Je - sus, Your name is the high - est, Your name is the great - est. Your

66 Am F F Am
name stands a - bove them all. All *f* kick 8ths
thrones and do - min - ions, all

69 *G* *Am* *Dm* *16ths...* *ff*
 pow'rs and po-si-tions. Your name stands a-bove them all. And the an-gels cry

8 Chorus *Full groove*

72 *F* *Am* *G* *C* *E* *Em*
 Ho - - - ly! All cre-a-tion cries, Ho - - -

75 *Am* *Dm* *G* *C* *Csus*
 ly! You are lift-ed high, Ho - ly! Ho-ly for-ev-er!

79 *C* *C* *E* *F* *Am* *G*
 Hear your peo-ple sing, Ho - ly! To the King of Kings,

82 *C* *E* *Am* *Dm* *G*
 Ho - ly! You will al-ways be, Ho - ly! Ho-ly for-ev-

86 *C* *Csus* *C* *Dm* *mp* *9 Tag* *Keys only*
 er! You will al-ways be, Ho - - -

89 *G* *C* *Csus* *C*
 ly! Ho - ly for-ev-er!

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)