

LOOKING AHEAD

October 23	11:00 am 5:00 pm 8:00 pm	Council Meeting Soup Kitchen AA
October 25	6:30 pm	Scouts – Webelos
October 26	6:00 pm	Scouts – Bear Den
October 27	10:00 am	Backpack Program
October 28	8:15 – 9:15 am	No Coffice Hours this week
October 30	10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm 8:00 pm	Worship Council Meeting Soup Kitchen AA

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at the United Church of Chester, an Open and Affirming Church and a member of the United Church of Christ. **The United Church of Chester is centered in Christ's love, embracing, nurturing, serving all, and committed to justice and peace.**

The Deacon for October is **Pat Holloway**. Flowers are given on the altar by **Peggy Phillips** in celebration of her sister **Diane's** birthday. Our Greeter for today is **Peggy Phillips**.

ALAN'S OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday-Friday 8:30 am-12:30 pm, other times by appointment

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm.

Donations are urgently needed for the Backpack Program and Food Cards. Please consider donating to these two much needed community services. Donations to these two programs can also be made online via the church website.

The United Church of Chester

An Open and Affirming Church

October 23, 2022



Reverend W. Alan Froggatt, Pastor & Teacher
Every Member of the Congregation, Ministers
Karli Gilbertson, Music Director and Organist
Post Office Box 383, Chester, Connecticut 06412 860-526-2697
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THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
October 23, 2022 10:00 a.m.
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME Pat Holloway, Deacon

PRELUDE *Theme from the violin sonata* E. Grieg

INTROIT *As We Gather* M. Fay

CALL TO WORSHIP

Goodness is stronger than evil;

Love is stronger than hate;

Light is stronger than darkness;

Life is stronger than death;

Hope is stronger than despair;

In the love and justice of Jesus, eternity is ours. Amen.

*HYMN *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* 469

INVOCATION (Maori Lord's Prayer)

O Most Compassionate Life-Giver, may we honor and praise you; may we work with you to establish your new order of justice, peace and love. Give us what we need for growth, and help us, through forgiving others, to accept forgiveness. Strengthen us in the time of testing, that we may resist all evil, for all the tenderness, strength and love are yours, now and forever; Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Job 1.6-12

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. The Lord said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the Lord, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.'

The Lord said to Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil.' Then Satan answered the Lord, 'Does Job fear God for nothing? Have you not put a fence around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.' The Lord said to Satan, 'Very well, all that he has is in your power; only do not stretch out your hand against him!' So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

ANTHEM *Shalom* D. Forrest
(Alan Froggatt – violin)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 4.1-11

SERMON *"Speak of the Devil"* Rev W. Alan Froggatt
Jesus said to the tempter, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." (Matthew 4.7)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

ANTHEM *Melody in a Minor* Myroslav Skoryk (1938-2020)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER (*"trespasses"*)

POEM *When the Devil Leads Us Home and Yells Surprise* Nikki Wallschlaeger (2018)

*HYMN *I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger* 489

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *God Be With You* R. Vaughan Williams

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper strong amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; with craft and power great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not an equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus it is he; Lord Sabaoth his name. From age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed the truth to triumph through us. The powers of evil grim, we tremble not for them; their rage we can endure, for lo, their doom is sure: one little word can fell them.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours through Christ who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still, God's kingdom is forever.

I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger

I am a poor wayfaring stranger while trav'ling through this world of woe, but there's no sickness, toil, nor danger in that bright land to which I go. I'm going there to see my father, I'm going there no more to roam; I'm just a-going over Jordan, I'm just a-going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather round me, I know my way is rough and steep; and yet green pastures lie before me where God's redeemed no more shall weep. I'm going there to see my mother, she said she'd meet me when I come; I'm just a-going over Jordan, I'm just a-going over home.

I am a poor wayfaring stranger while trav'ling through this world of woe, but there's no sickness, toil nor danger in that bright land to which I go. I'm going there to see my Saviour, to sing his praise forevermore; I'm just a-going over Jordan, I'm just a-going over home.