

LOOKING AHEAD

October 9	5:00 pm	Soup Kitchen
	8:00 pm	AA
October 10	5:15 pm	Scouts – Lions & Tigers
	6:30 pm	Scouts – Webelos
October 11	7:00 pm	Chester Garden Club
October 12	6:00 pm	Scouts – Bear Den
October 13	3:00 pm -	Visiting Nurse Flu Shot Clinic
	4:00 pm	
	6:30 pm	Scouts – Scout Pack Meeting
October 16	10:00 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Christmas Fair Meeting
	5:00 pm	Soup Kitchen
	8:00 pm	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 **Keith and Kim Howley** in celebration and gratitude for 25 years of marriage. Our Greeters for today are **Keith and Kim Howley**.

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

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

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The United Church of Chester

An Open and Affirming Church

October 9, 2022



Reverend W. Alan Froggatt, Pastor & Teacher
Every Member of the Congregation, Ministers
Karli Gilbertson, Music Director and Organist

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THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
October 9, 2022 10:00 a.m.
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME Pat Holloway, Deacon

PRELUDE *Colors of the Wind* Menken/Schwartz

INTROIT *As We Gather* M. Fay

CALL TO WORSHIP (The Rev. Anita Phillips, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference)

Who comes to this house today?

We come from the east to celebrate our God who has created the rising sun and has given us a new day.

Who comes to this place of worship?

We come from the north to remember that the One who made us has also shaped the face of icy mountains and snow-swept valleys.

Who enters into this place of sanctuary?

We come from the west, singing of our Maker's love and dancing with the red sun at our backs.

Who gathers as the church today?

We come from the south, our voices rising with the desert winds as we praise the Giver of all life.

Let us now join together as one body.

Worshipping God in spirit and in truth. Amen.

*HYMN *For the Healing of the Nations* insert

INVOCATION Lakota Prayer

**Wakan Tanka, Great Mystery,
teach me how to trust my heart, my mind,
my intuition, my inner knowing, the senses of my body, the blessings of my spirit.
Teach me to trust these things so that I may enter my Sacred Space
and love beyond my fear, and thus Walk in Balance with the passing of each
glorious Sun.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS something gory from the book of Joshua
Ezekial 18.1-9

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. If a person is righteous and does what is lawful and right— whoever does not eat upon the mountains or lift up the eyes to the idols of the house of Israel... does not oppress anyone, but restores to the debtor his pledge, commits no robbery, gives bread to the hungry and covers the naked with a garment, does not take advance or accrued interest, withholds the hand from iniquity, executes true justice between contending parties, follows my statutes, and is careful to observe my ordinances, acting faithfully—such a one is righteous, and shall surely live, says the Lord GOD.

ANTHEM *The Spirit of the Lord* P. Scholtes

SERMON *"Difficult Histories"* Rev W. Alan Froggatt
"For it was the Lord's doing to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle, in order that they might be utterly destroyed, and might receive no mercy, but be exterminated, just as the Lord had commanded Moses."
(Joshua 11.20)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

ANTHEM *Let There Be Peace on Earth* Jackson/Miller

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

POEM *Song of a Navajo Weaver* Bertrand N. O. Walker

*HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* 376

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

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

For the Healing of the Nations

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord, for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords. To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead your people into freedom, from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how, through care and goodness, fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator-God, have written your great name on human-kind; for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind; that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

Help Us Accept Each Other

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people for all not just for some, to love them as we find them or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!