

Reverend W. Alan Froggatt, Minister
Karli Gilbertson, Music Director and Organist
Post Office Box 383, Chester, Connecticut 06412 860-526-2697
E-mail: unitedchester@sbcglobal.net web site: www.uccchester.org

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of

The United Church of Christ

February 11, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Transfiguration Sunday

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME

Michele Procko, Deacon

PRELUDE

Liebesträum

F. Liszt

INTROIT

Amazing Grace

arr K. Gilbertson

CALL TO WORSHIP

We can each climb the mountain,

Alone or with friends.

The change of view will do us good -

We could use a new perspective.

But when we go up, we may be changed.

The mountaintop is a place of power.

Like Jesus, we could be filled with light;

Our lives could be transformed.

Let us climb the mountain together,

And be ready for the light. Amen.

*HYMN

Sing of God Made Manifest

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest, to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them, Magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound: myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and King foretold.

Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, "I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do." Then from heaven a double sign dove-like Spirit, voice divine hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."

Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding guest and at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine; further still was love revealed as he taught, forgave and healed, bringing light and life to all who would listen to God's call.

Sing of God made manifest on the cloud-capped mountain's crest, where the law and prophets waned so that Christ alone remained: glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face towards the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

INVOCATION

Holy God, we come before you with awe, for you are great in love and power. Some of us come with reluctance, some with joy, some with sadness, some full of fear; yet we know you receive us as we are. Mighty God, be with us always, as we worship and as we share the risks and challenges of living out our faith. By the power of your Spirit, turn our fear to courage and our confusion to confidence. Touch us, God, with your healing fire. Speak to us through your word. Send us back into the world renewed, and eager to do your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the Transfigured One, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

I Kings 19.4-11a

ANTHEM

His Eye on the Sparrow

D. Moore

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 9.2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

SERMON

"Off to Oceana"

Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

“And Jesus was Transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.”

(Mark 9.2b-3)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

Lean on Me (Everlasting Arms)

arr. P. Choplin

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow / Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God for all that love has done / Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER (“trespasses”)

POEM

A Poem for Maunakea

Kealoha (1977 -)

*HYMN

Go Forth for God

352

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace; be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace, in God’s good Spirit daily to increase, till in the kingdom we behold God’s face. Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

Go forth for God, go to the world in love; strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak; help the afflicted; richly from above God’s love supplies the grace and power we seek. Go forth for God, go to the world in love.

Go forth for God, go to the world in strength; hold fast the good, be urgent for the right; render to no one evil; Christ at length shall overcome all darkness with his light. Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

Go forth for God, go to the world in joy, to serve God’s people every day and hour, and serving Christ, our ev’ry gift employ, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit’s power. Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Go Forth in Love

G. Young

LOOKING AHEAD

February 11	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Soup Kitchen	February 15	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Scouts – Pack Meeting Choir Rehearsal
February 13	8:30 am 6:30 pm	Yoga Scouts L&T	February 16	8:15 am	No Coffice Hours
February 14	6:30 pm	Scouts – Webelos	February 18	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Soup Kitchen

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.**

This deacon for the month of February is **Michele Procko**. The greeter this morning is **Judy Stevenson**. Flowers on the altar were provided by **Susanne Spellacy**. Coffee Hour is being hosted by **Diane Lindsay**.

Ash Wednesday Services (Feb 14th) will be held at Deep River Congregational Church at 7 AM and 5 PM. Ashes will be available at both services.

Lenten Devotionals are available in the narthex to read and contemplate during Lent.

Our Annual Un-Birthday Party will be held on Sunday, February 18th following the worship service.

ALAN'S OFFICE HOURS: Alan starts his sabbatical this week. Please contact Rev. Eileen Sypher for pastoral care. Eileen can be contacted via phone 860 391-1860 (cell) or esypher@comcast.net (email).

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

