THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
January 14, 10:00 a.m.
Second Sunday After Epiphany

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME — Deb Germini Calamari, Deacon

PRELUDE

INTROIT — *Seek Ye First* — Karen Lafferty

CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy God, on this morning early in Epiphany, may we find new ways to make Jesus manifest to our world.

As Simeon lifted the infant Jesus, may he be clearly seen in our place of worship.

As the magi came to worship him, may he be lifted up among powers and potentates.

As Jesus came to the temple of his own desire at twelve, may people of all ages continue to find you.

As he defeated the tempter in the wilderness, w pray that all the world's evil be overcome by good.

Holy God, on this morning early in Epiphany, may we find new ways to make Jesus manifest to our world. Amen.

*HYMN — *Go Tell It on the Mountain* — 160

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Refrain

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Refrain

INVOCATION

With different gifts, with a variety of talents, with an array of interests, we come to worship you, our creating and creative God. We come to unite our spirits, to be made one in Jesus Christ, to be merged in hope as your children. Bless our commonalities and our differences, that the gifts and perceptions of each may strengthen our wholeness. Drawn into your Spirit, we give you the thanks of our hearts, in the name of the living Christ, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

And now the Lord says who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength – he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

ANTHEM	*With Songs of Rejoicing*	J. S. Bach
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON	Luke 2.25-38	(p. 936)
SERMON	*Remembrance Tree*	Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

PRAYER OF MEMORIAL (unison)

Gracious God our Creator and Savior, Giver of Life and Victor over Death: we praise you for the gift of your son Jesus, through whose passion all who live may also know the newness and fulness of life. We thank you, God, for the sisters and brothers whom we have named here, and who become alive once again in our naming. We thank you for who they were to us, for the ways they touched our lives, and for their memories which even now reside in our hearts. Embrace us, God, as you have embraced and received them into your eternal care, and let us rejoice that we shall all be reunited in your glory which knows no end, through Christ our Lord; Amen.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY	*Chantez Alleluia!*	D. and J. Perry

*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 *Sonnet #30* William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

*HYMN *God, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace* 166

God, bid your servant go in peace, your word is now fulfilled. These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.

This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light, God's glory dwelling I our midst, the joy of Israel.

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Sing Amen* Lumko Songbook

LOOKING AHEAD

January 14	**10:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** Soup Kitchen	January 18	6:30 pm **7:00 pm**	Scouts – Court of Honor **Choir Rehearsal**
January 16	8:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Yoga Scouts L&T Chester Garden Club	January 19	**8:15 am**	**Coffice Hours – Simon's Marketplace**
			January 21	**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 January is **Deb Germini Calamari.** The greeter this morning is **Daphne Stitt.** Flowers on the altar were provided by **John** and **Daphne Stitt.**

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

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 9am-1pm. Sally is on vacation 1/17 - 1/25.

EPIPHANY