Reverend W. Alan Froggatt, Minister
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THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
May 26, 2024 10:00 a.m.
Trinity Sunday

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME — Deb Germini Calamari, Deacon

PRELUDE — *Oh Lord, My Redeemer* — R. Hughes

INTROIT — *Now It's Spring,* v 1 — Piae Cantiones, 1582

CALL TO WORSHIP

There are many who have walked in faithfulness and service, showing us the way with their lives.

We come to give thanks for them.

As they were called, so are we, answering the call of God, saying, "Here I am! Send me."

We come to ask for guidance and courage.

We remember those who have gone before us, a curious mixture, in each of us, of saint and sinner. God accepts us this way and fills us with the Spirit, who empowers us to act.

We come to worship the Holy God, Creator, Christ and Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN — *O Holy Spirit, Root of Life* — 222

O Holy Spirit, Root of life, the Cosmic Source of love and light, anoint our wounds, awaken us, and grant we see with healing sight.

Eternal Vigor, Saving One, you free us by your living Word, becoming flesh to wear our pain, and all creation is restored.

O Holy Wisdom, Soaring Power, encompass us with wings unfurled, and carry us, encircling all, above, below, and through this world.

INVOCATION

Gracious God, fill us with gratitude in these days: we are grateful you have called and molded us into your church; we are grateful for those who have made sacrifices on our behalf; we are grateful for all who lead us into our future as a church and as a community; and above all, we are grateful that you empower us to carry on our shared ministry in every time and every place, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 6.1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of the robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a mortal of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the Lord of hosts!' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

ANTHEM *Spirit of Gentleness*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 29 (p 494)

SERMON *"Holiday Threefer"* Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

"Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. May the Lord give strength to all the people, may the Lord bless us with peace."
(Psalm 29.1, 11)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY *My Country Tis of Thee* M. Mcdonald

*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 *Shiloh: A Requiem* Herman Melville (1819-1891)

*HYMN *O Beautiful For Spacious Skies* 532

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed all grace on thee, and crown thy good with brother-hood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness! America! America! God mend thine every flaw, confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life! America! America! May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears! America! America! God shed all grace on thee, and crown thy good with brother-hood from sea to shining sea!

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Now It's Spring,* v 2 Piae Cantiones, 1582

* all who are able may stand

LOOKING AHEAD

May 26	**10:00 am** **11:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **Trustees Meeting** Soup Kitchen	May 30	8:30 am 5:30 pm **7:00 pm**	Yoga Scouts - Wolf Den **Choir Rehearsal**
May 27	6:30 pm	Irish Dance	May 31	**8:15 am**	**No Coffice Hours**
May 28	8:30 am 6:30 pm	Yoga Scouts – AOL	June 2	**10:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **Choir Appreciation Sunday** 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**.

The deacon for the month of May is **Deb Calamari.** The greeter this morning is **Stephen Roach.** Chancel Flowers were provided by **Marie Ready** in commemoration of **Memorial Day** and also in memory of Marie's brother, **Bill** who was born on May 30, the date of the original Memorial Day, until it was changed to the last Monday in May in 1971.

If you are interested in becoming a member of UCC there will be an informational meeting after church on June 9th. If interested, please speak with Alan or call the church office at 860-526-2697.

Memorial Day Refreshments Needed
Sandwiches and cookies are needed for the reception at the Meeting House following the Memorial Day Parade on May 27. The parade starts at 10:00 am this year. Food can be dropped off between 9:00 – 10:00 am that day. Please consider making a little extra as the Valley high school band will be marching in the parade. Any questions contact janezanardi@comcast.net or call 860 526-9007

ALAN'S OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday – Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

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