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

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
June 2, 2024 10:00 a.m.
Third Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME — Jennifer Gill, Deacon

PRELUDE — *An Die Musik* — F. Schubert

Lyrics: You noble art, in how many grey hours when life's wild sphere ensnared me, have you kindled warm love in my heart and transferred me to a better world. Often has a sigh flowed from your harp, a sweet holy chord from you threw open the heaven of better times. You noble art, I thank you for it.

INTROIT — *The Lord Is In His Holy Temple* — G.F. Root

CALL TO WORSHIP

This morning may God move us through the ministry of melody –
Through the sounds and senses of song –
Through the wordless wonder which fills our souls with heaven –
Through the Spirit which teases our toes to tap and our hearts to overflow –
Through the moments and mystery and magic of music –
God, sing to us and through us your song of salvation! Amen.

*HYMN — *When In Our Music God is Glorified* — 33

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried, "Alleluia!"

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound "Alleluia!"

So has the church, in worship and in song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in every tongue: "Alleluia!"

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove again the Light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: "Alleluia!"

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: "Alleluia!"

INVOCATION

We thank you Lord, that you are the God who calls and comes to us with a love which never gives up. May your Word come alive today in song and anthem, through its reading and preaching, through its expression in the sacrament. May your Spirit enliven our minds and hearts not only in this season, but in every season, that we may practice hospitality in the highest - the fullness of grace and truth in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, our living Lord. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON I Samuel 16.16-23 (p 287)

ANTHEM *Earth Song* F. Tichell

Lyrics: Sing, be, live, see... This dark stormy hour, the wind it stirs. The scorched earth cries out in vain: O war and power, you blind and blur. The torn heart cries out in pain. But music and singing have been my refuge, and music and singing shall be my light. A light of song shining strong: Alleluia! Through darkness, pain and strife, I'll sing, be, live, see... Peace.

APOCRYPHA LESSON Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 32.3-6

"Do not disturb the musicians! / Where there is music, /Do not pour out speech / And do not be importune by showing off your wisdom. / Like a ruby shines in its golden setting, / So is the musician's ensemble at a banquet of wine. / As the precious emerald in a golden frame, / So adorn melodies of musicians a feast of wine. / (Listen in silence. / And your modesty will be rewarded by good will.)

SERMON *"Grace Notes"* Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

"And whenever an evil spirit came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hands, and Saul would be relieved and feel better,
and the evil spirit would depart from him."
(I Samuel 16.23)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY *Music in the Morning* J. Martin

*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

A MOMENT OF MUSIC APPRECIATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

POEM *Suspend, Singer Swan* Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (1651-1695)

*HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together* 311

Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees) Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees)

Refrain: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees) Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees);

Refrain

Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees) Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees);

Refrain

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *A Clare Benediction* J. Rutter

* all who are able may stand

LOOKING AHEAD

June 2	**10:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship Choir Appreciation Sunday** Soup Kitchen	June 6	8:30 am 6:30 pm **7:00 pm**	Yoga Scouts - Bear Den **Choir Rehearsal**
June 3	6:30 pm	Irish Dance	June 7	**8:15 am**	**Coffice Hours at Simon's Marketplace**
June 4	8:30 am 6:30 pm	Yoga Scouts – L&T	June 9	**10:00 am** **11:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **New Members Meeting** Soup Kitchen
June 5	6:00 pm	Chester Garden Club			

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 June is **Jennifer Gill.** Chancel Flowers were provided by **Diane Lindsay** in memory of her dad, **Carl Narducci** who would have celebrated a birthday today. Coffee Hour is being hosted by **Diane Lindsay** and **Claudia Epright**.

Congratulations and blessings on the marriage of **Deron Grabel** and **Jessica Underwood** yesterday afternoon.

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

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

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