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

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
July 21, 2024 9:00 a.m.
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME — Diane Lindsay, Deacon

PRELUDE — *in Gott in der Hoh' sei Ehr* (All Glory Be to God on High) — James Coe 1953-

CALL TO WORSHIP
Holy One is with us. God's hand remains with us.
God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest in God's presence.
Holy Love keeps their covenant from generation to generation and establishes our future.
God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest in God's presence.
Let us worship God together and praise the Holy Name!
God's love is steadfast. God's strength is enough. We can rest in God's presence.

*HYMN — *I Love to Tell the Story* — 360

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true; is satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet. I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy word.

Refrain

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.

Refrain

INVOCATION

Wonderful Creator, you come to us with power and gentleness, strength and compassion, peace and joy. We come to you with hope and hopelessness, love and heartbreak, thanksgiving and lament. You fortify us as we go on our journey, assured of your presence and renewed by your love. Give us rest in our coming and our going. Give us joy in ministering in your name. May our worship restore our soul as we dwell in your presence. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 46.1-11

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Come behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

ANTHEM *How Great Thou Art*
Claudia Epright, soloist

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Peter 5.1-11 (p. 1108)

SERMON *"Lifelines"* Marie Ready
"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you"
1 Peter.5.7

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY *Blest AreThey*, David Haas 1957-

*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")*

HYMN *Lead Me Lord* 271

"Lead me, Lord, lead me in the righteousness, make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety"

POEM "*What God Hath Promised* " Annie J. Flint

*HYMN *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* 470

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows dread, precious Lord, linger near, and the day is past and gone, at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near, and the day is past and gone, at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

(* all who are able may stand)

LOOKING AHEAD

July 21	**9:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** Soup Kitchen	July 25	8:30 am	Yoga
July 22	5:30 pm	Irish Dance	July 26	**8:15 am**	**No Coffice Hours**
July 23	8:30 am	Yoga	July 28	**9:00 am** **10:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **Trustees Mtg.** 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 July is **Diane Lindsay.** You were greeted this morning by**.** Chancel Flowers were provided by**.** Coffee Hour is being hosted by **Sally Marston**.

We are out of food cards for distribution to those in need. If you would like to pick up a food card in any denomination from Adams or Chester HomeTown Market that would be appreciated. Cards can be dropped off at the church office. Thank you.

ALAN'S OFFICE HOURS: Alan is on sabbatical until August 14th

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm