LOOKING AHEAD

July 24	5:00 pm	Soup Kitchen
	8:00 pm	AA
July 29	8:15 am	**Coffice hours at The Villager**
July 31	9:00 am	**Worship**
	5:00 pm	Soup Kitchen
	8:00 pm	AA

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 July is **Peggy Phillips.** Flowers are given on the altar by **Pat Holloway** in appreciation of all First Responders and Healthcare workers who do so much for our community. Our Greeter for today is **Jane Zanardi.**

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

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

"By the willows there, we hung up our lyres." Psalm 137.2

The United Church of Chester

An Open and Affirming Church

July 24, 2022

Reverend W. Alan Froggatt, Pastor & Teacher
Every Member of the Congregation, Ministers
Karli Gilbertson, Music Director and Organist
Post Office Box 383, Chester, Connecticut 06412 860-526-2697
E-mail: unitedchester@uccchester.org web site: www.uccchester.org

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
July 24, 2022 9:00 a.m.
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Adagio* from Piano Concerto in A minor Edvard Grieg

INTROIT *Learn Your Lessons Well* (v.1) Stephen Schwartz

CALL TO WORSHIP (Colossians 1.15-20)
Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;
For in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.
Christ himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
Christ is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things,
Things on earth and in heaven, making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

*HYMN *When in Our Music God is Glorified* 33

INVOCATION Peggy Phillips, Deacon
Glorious God, be with us this morning as we strive to be more like you. Be in our extravagant welcome, that others may find hospitality here; be in our spirit, that our prayer might be direct and true; be in our hearts, that we might both offer and receive forgiveness; be in our generosity, that we might be faithful stewards of your every blessing; be in our faith and our hope, that our charity might be the greatest of all; and be in our worship, that who we are and what we do might may not bring any benefit or advantage to ourselves, but rather honor and glory to you, in the name of Jesus our Savior; Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 137.1-6

By the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.
On the willows there we hung up our harps.
For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,
'Sing us one of the songs of Zion!'
How could we sing the LORD's song in a foreign land?
If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!
Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

ANTHEM *On the Willows* Stephen Schwartz
sung by Diane Adams and Pat Holloway

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Colossians 2.8-9, 20-3.4

SERMON *"Imitation & Intimation"* Rev. W. Alan Froggatt
(**Overlooked and Underpreached – III**)
"If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the universe,
why do you live as if you still belonged to the world?"
(Colossians 2.20)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

POEM *The Knight* Adrienne Rich

*HYMN *Rejoice O Pure in Heart* 29

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Learn Your Lessons Well* (v.2) Stephen Schwartz

When in Our Music God is Glorified

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

Rejoice O Pure in Heart

Rejoice, O pure in heart; rejoice, give thanks and sing; your festal banner wave on high, your praise to Christ now bring.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing

Bright youth and snow-crowned age, strong souls and spirits meek, raise high your free, exulting song, God's wondrous praises speak.

Refrain

With voice as full and strong as ocean's surging praise, send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of ancient days.

Refrain

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as you go, from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe.

Refrain