LOOKING AHEAD

September 11	**11:00 am**	**Church Picnic**
	5:00 pm	Soup Kitchen
	8:00 pm	AA
September 14	7:30 pm	**Trustees (Zoom Meeting)**
September 16	**8:15 am**	**Coffice hours at The Villager**
September 17	5:00 pm	Chester Alumni Gathering
September 18	**10:00 am**	**Worship**
	11:00 am	**Deacon's Meeting**
	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 September is **Diane Adams.** Flowers are given on the altar by **Laurel Johnson** in loving memory of Scott Johnson. Our Greeter for today is **Jordan Adams Sack**.

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

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

The United Church of Chester

An Open and Affirming Church

September 11, 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
September 11, 2022 10:00 a.m.
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Elegie* J. Massenet

INTROIT *As We are Gathered* J. Daniels

CALL TO WORSHIP (Brian Wren)

This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember, and move on;
A time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.
For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit, now as then,
Can make for us a world of difference as faith and hope are born again.
Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past, and leave behind:
Our disappointment, guilt and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.
Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new. Amen.

*HYMN *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* 102

INVOCATION Diane Adams, Deacon

O God our Savior, in whose paths of love are the secret of life and the hope of the world, give us courage, give us peace to confront every day and hour. Permit us to be challenged by our problems, to draw hope from our discoveries, to be filled with anger at injustice, to be inspired by our responsibility and to be renewed by your strength. We thank you for the many opportunities you provide in which we might build a new world filled with peace, justice and love, where all your children can live and thrive. Help us to stand in courage, to work in love and to live in hope, through Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Joshua 4.1-7, 19-24

ANTHEM *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* D. Akers

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Mark 13.1-8

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

SERMON *"Sailors & Signs"* Rev W. Alan Froggatt

'When your children ask their parents in time to come, "What do these stones mean?" then you shall let your children know, "Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground…" so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty, and so that you may revere the LORD your God for ever.'
(Joshua 4.21-22, 24)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

ANTHEM *Assurance* Knapp/Bach

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

POEM *Suzanne*, v. 2 Leonard Cohen

*HYMN *We Humans Build a Frame to Life* insert

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *May The Lord Go With You* A.L. Page

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
lead me on through death's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs or praises, I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

We Humans Build a Frame to Life

Words: Ruth Duck, copyright © 2001
(tune: *How Can I Keep From Singing*)

We humans build to frame a life with meaning, love, and feeling, but time or hate can bring collapse and loss can leave us reeling. Let faithful souls from rubble rise to find new ways from sorrow and slowly, slowly form a shape to welcome God's tomorrow.

For everything our hands construct will one day fall and crumble The God who is a carpenter creates from scrap and jumble. And we can join the work of God to raise a new creation that what we do will long endure upon a firm foundation.

We dedicate ourselves today amid life's change and danger to build with God a house of peace for friend and foe and stranger. Here may the peoples come and go, partake in shared endeavor, set free from terror, hate, and war, alive in God forever.