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

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
October 20, 10:00 a.m.
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME — Michele Procko, Deacon

PRELUDE

INTROIT — *The Lord Is In His Holy Temple*

CALL TO WORSHIP
Let your minds ponder the manifold work of God. Let your spirits soar amid the wonders of creation.
There is pulsating life all around us. The earth is full of God's creatures.
We gather to worship and praise the God of all people. We come to learn from the God we only dimly perceive.
We reach out for answers to our questions. We long to find meaning and purpose for our days.

*HYMN — *God, We Thank You for Our People* — 378

God, we thank you for our people, roots dug deep within the soil, hardy spirits, rich in loving, strong for struggle, bold for toil. Faithful Rock of generations, you whom parents' parents praised: here in hope as we remember may our song to you be raised.

Thank you, God, for gentle pleasure: lessons learned and secrets told, hopes and memories saved as treasure, passed to young ones by the old, pranks and glories, songs and stories, food by loving hands prepared. God, we bless you for your presence in our tears and laughter shared.

Still we must confess before you, sometimes, Savior, we have failed; though we worship and adore you, sometimes love has not prevailed. Tempers racing, devil chasing, hearts estranged by ice or flame you transform by ways forgiving. Grace amazing! Grace, your name!

By your Spirit of creation keep us bold for risking still, eager in anticipation, ever strong to do your will. Bind us close to one another, sharing life and death and birth, welcoming as sister, brother, all your children on the earth.

INVOCATION

Source of all things, how can we approach your glory so vast that all space and time is surrounded by you? We cannot comprehend the marvels of the earth. How shall we honor your majesty? The mystery of life in all its many forms, the discoveries we are allowed to make, the sweep of knowledge entrusted to our use, the amazing resources of this planet--speak of a God who cares, who honors us, who provides for our salvation. Let this time of worship honor you and equip us to do your will. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Job 38.1-7

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements – surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?"

ANTHEM *Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child* A. Parker

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Mark 10.46-52 (p. 924)

SERMON *"Seating Arrangements"* Rev. Todd Grant Yonkman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY *Children of the Heavenly Father* D. Forrest

*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 *We Are One in the Spirit* 386

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:

Refrain

We will work with each other, we will work side by side, we will work with each other, we will work side by side, and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride:

Refrain

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Lord Let Us Now Depart In Peace*

(* all who are able may stand)

LOOKING AHEAD

October 20	**10:00 am** **11:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **Church Grounds Clean-up** Soup Kitchen	October 24	8:30 am 6:30 pm **7:00 pm**	Yoga Scouts **Choir Rehearsal**
October 21	5:30 pm	Irish Dance	October 25	**8:15 am** 2:00 pm	**Coffice Hours at The Villager** Montessori Family Day picnic
October 22	8:30 am 6:30 pm	Yoga Scouts	October 26	4:00 pm	Brian House Halloween Party
October 23	2:45 pm 7:00 pm	After-school program Scouts – Court of Honor	October 27	**10:00 am** **11:00 am** **11:00 am**	**Worship** **Deacons Meeting** **Trustees Meeting**

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 October is **Michele Procko.** You were greeted this morning by **Stephen Roach.** Chancel Flowers were provided by **Barbara-Jan Wilson** and **Tim Napier** in honor of October birthdays **(Barbara-Jan** and **Sarah)** and playoff baseball! Coffee hour is being hosted by **Cheryl Archer** and **Sue Germini Humble.**

Church Grounds Clean-Up Day – Today
Today, following the worship service we will have a church grounds clean-up day. Wear appropriate clothing and please bring gloves or tools as needed.

Welcome – Rev. Todd Grant Yonkman
Today is the Middlesex Association Pulpit Swap. Our service will be led by the Rev. Todd Grant Yonkman of First Church of Christ in Old Saybrook, and Alan will be leading worship at the Old Saybrook Church. Rev. Dr. Todd Grant Yonkman (he/him) is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and Assistant Teacher at Boundless Way Zen Temple. He is an author and Professional Certified Coach with the International Coach Federation. Rev. Yonkman works with individuals, teams, and organizations in creating new, life-giving futures. He has been engaged in professional ministry for over 28 years serving congregations in the midwest and northeast as transitional minister and settled minister. He is currently serving as Pastor of First Church of Christ in Saybrook (CT). He is married to Rev. Nicole Grant Yonkman, Senior Minister at First Church in Windsor. They have two adult daughters, three house rabbits, and a black lab named Mayleen.

ALAN'S OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday – Friday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm, or by appointment

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday – Friday 9am-1pm.