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# THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
November 3, 10:00 a.m.
*Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

## PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME — Daphne Stitt, Deacon

PRELUDE — *Fantasy on "Holy Manna"* — H. Livingston, Jr.

INTROIT — *Blessing* (v. 1) — P. Grainger/D. Wagner

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Romans 12.9-13)

Let our love be genuine; reject what is evil and hold fast to what is good.
**We will love one another with deep affection, and thus outdo ourselves in honoring God.**
Never flag in zeal, but be aglow in the Spirit, serving the Lord.
**We will rejoice in our hope; be constant in prayer; contribute to the needs of the saints; and practice hospitality toward everyone. Amen.**

*HYMN — *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant* — 374

Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road; we are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

INVOCATION

**This morning, dear God, lift our eyes to the broader horizons of life. Enable us to catch a glimpse of beauty, to see something grand, to touch something fragile, to whiff the wondrous, and to feel the warmth of the love which declares your presence to us. Open our eyes and hearts and lives to the transforming power of your presence in so much that we miss, because we are too engrossed in ourselves to see the potential you are trying to show us. Now in these quiet moments, call us to you. Still the anxious beating of our hearts. Quiet the roaring tumble of our thoughts. Calm the fretting cares of our concerns, and for a little while, here in this sacred place, let us be together with you as if we were each alone in your presence. Through Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.**

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 15.7-11

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, 'The seventh year, the year of remission, is near', and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.'

ANTHEM *I Ask For One Day* J. Papoulis

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 5.1-12

SERMON *"The Election Sermon"* Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

"I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for rulers and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity."

(I Timothy 2.1-2)

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY *The Welcome Table* J. Raney

*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")*

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

POEM *One Vote* Aimee Nezhukamatathil (2020)

*HYMN *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* insert

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Blessing* (v. 2) P. Grainger/D. Wagner

## LOOKING AHEAD

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| November 3 | **10:00 am**<br>5:00 pm | **Worship**<br>Soup Kitchen | November 7 | 8:30 am<br>6:30 pm<br>**7:00 pm** | Yoga<br>Scouts<br>**Choir Rehearsal** |
| November 4 | 5:30 pm | Irish Dance | November 8 | **8:15 am** | **Coffice Hours at The Villager** |
| November 5<br>**Election Day** | 8:30 am<br>6:30 pm | Yoga<br>Scouts | November 10 | **10:00 am**<br>5:00 pm | **Worship**<br>Soup Kitchen |
| November 6 | 2:45 pm<br><br>6:30 pm | After-school program<br>Scouts | | | |

## 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 November is **Daphne Stitt.** You were greeted this morning by **Deb Calamari.** Chancel Flowers were provided by **Barbara Smith** in memory of loved ones.

**Annual Budget Meeting – November 17th**
Our annual budget meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 17th following the worship service. Budgets will be available on November 10th for review.

**Outreach Committee – Thanksgiving Food Card Drive**
It's that time of year when the Outreach Committee will start collecting food cards to be distributed to local families in need for Thanksgiving. Please note we are accepting food cards from Adams Grocery Store only. There will be an additional food card drive on Saturday, November 23rd here from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

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

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