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THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
February 9, 2025 10:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

THE WORD IN MUSIC

PRELUDE

INTROIT

*HYMN *Winter Song* (tune: *Tallis' Canon*) Henry W. Longfellow

'Tis winter now; the fallen snow/has left the heavens all coldly clear;
through leafless boughs the sharp winds blow,/and all the earth lies dead and drear.

And yet God's love is not withdrawn;/his life within the keen air breathes;
his beauty paints the crimson dawn,/and clothes each branch with glittering wreaths.

And though abroad the sharp winds blow,/ and skies are chill, and frosts are keen,
home closer draws her circle now,/and warmer glows her light within.

O God, you give the winter's cold,/as well as summer's joyous rays,
you warmly in your love enfold,/and keep us through life's wintry days.

ANTHEM

THE SPOKEN WORD

GREETING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Job 38.16-24

"Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare if you know all this. Where is the way to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, that you may take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home? Surely you know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great! Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war? What is the way to the place where the light is distributed, or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth?"

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Revelation 1.12-16

Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force.

SERMON *"The Treasures of the Snow"* Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

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

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

LOOKING AHEAD

February 9	**10:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** Soup Kitchen	February 13	8:30 am **7:00 pm**	Yoga **Choir Rehearsal**
February 10	5:30 pm	Irish Dance	February 14	**8:15 am**	**Coffice Hours – Simon's Marketplace**
February 11	8:30 am 6:00 pm	Yoga Scouts	February 16	**10:00 am** **11:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **Un-Birthday Party** Soup Kitchen
February 12	6:30 pm	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 February is **Cheryl Archer.**

Un-Birthday Party – February 16th
The Un-Birthday Party has been rescheduled to February 16th due to the impending storm.

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

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