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

An Open & Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ
July 27, 2025 9:00 a.m.
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

WELCOME — Deb Calamari, Deacon

PRELUDE

INTROIT — *The Shepherd's Song*
Margie Warner and Karli Gilbertson

CALL TO WORSHIP
Almighty and Everlasting, our Rock and our Refuge;
Immortal, Invisible and Immutable, the Name above every Name;
Yahweh and Jehovah, Elohim and Adonai;
King of King and Lord of Lords, Abba, Emmanuel;
Our heavenly Father and Mother, you who are Wholly Other:
By whatever name we call you, you call us by name, and bring us into worship for your name's sake! Amen.

*HYMN — *This Is My Father's World* — 60

This is my Father's world; and to my listening ears, all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Mother's world; the birds their carols raise, the morning light, the flowers bright, declare their Maker's praise. This is my Mother's world; she shines in all that's fair; in rustling grass I hear her pass; she speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Maker's world; oh, let me ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Maker's world; why should my heart be sad? The heavens ring; let nature sing. God reigns; let earth be glad.

INVOCATION

Faithful God, you care for our needs like a loving father or mother. When we seek you, you make yourself known to us; when we knock at heaven's door, you open your heart to us; when we ask, you give us the gift of your Holy Spirit. From your hand we receive our daily bread. Receiving your forgiveness, may we be enabled to forgive others. Trusting in your great love, may we daily persist in prayer, and weekly assemble to worship you, always ready to receive your gifts; through the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 6.7-13

When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for the Lord knows what you need before you ask him. Pray, then, in this way: Our Father in heaven, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

ANTHEM *If I Were Free* Travis Edmonson

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 11.1-4 (p. 949)
Didache 8.2

SERMON *"A Prayer for Everyone"* Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY *Blessed Are* Joan Baez

*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")*

POEM *Akathist Hymn to St Sophia* Natalia J Garland

*HYMN *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth* 84

Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world. Creator, source of ev'ry breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light, grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one, in arms of patience hold me close, so that in faith I root and grow until I flow'r, until I know.

*BLESSING & BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *My Peace*

(* all who are able may stand)

LOOKING AHEAD

July 27	**9:00 am** **10:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **Trustees Meeting** Soup Kitchen	August 1	**8:15 am**	**No Coffice Hours**
July 29	8:30 am	Yoga	August 3	**9:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** Soup Kitchen
July 31	8:30 am	Yoga			

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 this week is **Deb Calamari**. The flowers in the chancel were provided by **Deb Calamari** in celebration of her daughter's birthday**.** The greeter this morning is **Claudia Epright**. Coffee hour is being hosted by **Diane Lindsay**. Thank you to all who volunteer!

Yard Goats Baseball Adventure
Pete Zanardi is organizing a group to head up to Hartford to attend a Yard Goats baseball game in mid-August. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up if you are interested in going.

Welcome Rev. Joseph M. Tobin
Next Sunday, August 3rd we will welcome back Rev. Joseph M. Tobin who will be leading us in worship.

ALAN'S OFFICE HOURS:. Wednesday and Thursday 8:30am-12:30pm, other times by appt.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm