Reverend W. Alan Froggatt, Minister
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
July 19, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME — Jennifer Gill, Deacon

PRELUDE — *The Potter's Hand* — (arr) D. Zschech

INTROIT — *Still, Still With Thee* (arr F. Mendelssohn, words by H.B. Stowe)

CALL TO WORSHIP

O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things!
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world, and all who dwell therein.
Let the floods clap their hands, let the hills sing for joy before the Lord.
Our God comes to grace the earth:
God will fill the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity. Amen.

*HYMN — *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* — 7

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away; giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Source of grace and fount of blessing, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began; God's own love is reigning o'er us, joining people hand in hand. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife, joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Gracious God, we ask your blessing presence among us. We gather this morning, mindful of, and grateful for these days of summer relaxation. Bless this church family: bless singers and prayers and workers and leaders and servants of so many different kinds, that all our mission and ministry might be to your greater glory, and that our gifts of the spirit might build up the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON I Samuel 2.1-10

ANTHEM *Come On Up To The House* T. Waits & K. Brennan

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 1.46-55

And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me— God's name is holy: whose mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation; who has performed mighty deeds with the arm; who has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. God has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. God has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. God has helped servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as was promised our ancestors."

SERMON *"Terpischore, Adieu"* Rev. W. Alan Froggatt

"Are any of you cheerful? You should sing songs of praise!"
(James 5.13)

A MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY *Only Time for Love* W. Moss

*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 AND LORD'S PRAYER *("trespasses")*

POEM *The Gift to Sing*

James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938)

*HYMN *When in Our Music God is Glorified* 33

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried, Alleluia!

How often making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!

So has the church in worship and in song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the Light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *The Lord's Prayer* M. Miller

(* those who are able may stand)

LOOKING AHEAD

July 19	**9:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** Soup Kitchen	July 23	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Yoga Irish Dance
July 20	5:00 pm	Irish Dance	July 24	**8:15 am**	**Coffice Hours at The Villager**
July 21	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Yoga Irish Dance	July 26	**9:00 am** **10:00 am** 5:00 pm	**Worship** **Trustees Mtg.** Soup Kitchen
July 22	5:00 pm	Irish Dance			

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 July is **Jennifer Gill.** Chancel flowers were provided by **Sue Germini Humble**! You were greeted this morning by **Sue Germini Humble**. Coffee hour is being hosted by **Cheryl Archer** in honor of Karli's retirement.

ALAN'S OFFICE HOURS: Alan is away on vacation this week.

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