

Chosen Journeys



WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH
A United Church of Christ
(708) 865-1282

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

**“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s
journey, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!!**

July 9, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Welcome on behalf of our pastoral staff

Rev. Joseph E. Mills, III, Pastor 708/562-0759

Lawrence Underwood, Music Director

Joyce Kelstrom, Bell Choir Director

Pastor Vinod Wesley, Chicago Tamil Church Pastor

Altar Flowers: Greg Blomberg in honor of 51st Anniversary

Liturgist: Peggy Boswell

Ushers: Kathy Marinier and Mary Linville

Westchester Community Church, United Church of Christ

1840 Westchester Boulevard

Westchester, IL 60154

708/865-1282

www.westchesterucc.org

Email: westcomchurch@hotmail.com

**(If you have a prayer request you’d like to share with us,
go to CHAT on your Zoom page and type it in
so we can share it with others)**

****ALSO REMEMBER TO MUTE YOUR ZOOM
SCREEN SO WE CAN HEAR THE PASTOR
UNLESS IT’S A TIME TO SHARE**

WORSHIP SERVICE

"I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him."

- Abraham Lincoln

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

***WE INVITE YOU INTO OUR HEARTS**

#669

"Jesus, Come, for We Invite You"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Peggy Boswell

Leader: It is said that You never give us more than we can carry.

**People: But we wish to carry Your Cross.
We wish to be true disciples of faith.
We wish to go where You would send us.**

Leader: No matter the cost, no matter what we would face, we wish to follow You, Lord.

People: And we trust You to equip us with what is needed in our journey of faith. Help us equip those around us for their journey, so they do not do it alone. And help us remember Your powerful love for us that is now and at every moment.

**ALL: THAT YOUR SPIRIT WOULD PROVIDE FOR US WISDOM AND TRUTH AND HOPE FOR THIS TIME AND BEYOND, THROUGH JESUS OUR LORD WE PRAY.
AMEN.**

A Reading from God's Holy Word

Peggy Boswell

From the Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19; 25-30

p. 9, NT, Pew Bible

p. 14, NT, Large Print

***A GLORIA PATRI**

#734

***"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen."***

WE PRAY TO THE LORD

#684

“For the Life That You Have Given”

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Mills

THE LORDS PRAYER (Please Use Debts/Debtors)

THE MORNING OFFERING

**(THOSE AT HOME, PLEASE SEND IN GIFTS BY CHECK
OR USE OUR ON-LINE GIVING)**

*THE DOXOLOGY

#34

*“Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.”*

*A PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison) Peggy Boswell

We choose to give. And we are thankful that we are able to help You, Lord. We simply ask Your guidance over the use of these gifts, that we will not waste them, but use them in a way that makes lighter the load that others carry, and makes more possible that they would have a true relationship with You. In Christ’s Name we pray these things. Amen.

THE MEDITATION

“Knowledge, Wisdom, and the Work of the Lord”

*WE WISH TO GROW IN FAITH

#462

“Renew Your Church”

THE COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Pastor Mills

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Are you willing to adopt an area outside of the church? That could include the front bushes in front of the sanctuary, either side of the Fellowship Hall, the area in front of the Education Building, or whatever you can do.

Let Pastor Joe know if there is an area you are willing to adopt and help take care of!!

CALENDAR

TODAY

Worship 10 am

Noon—Chicago Tamil Worship

Westchester Park District Day Camp

ALL WEEK

MONDAY

TUESDAY

Evening— Pastor Continuing Ed.

WEDNESDAY

Zoom Bible Study

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

11:00 a.m. Sue Casey Memorial—here

NEXT SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. Worship

Noon - Chicago Tamil Worship

BIRTHDAYS THRU 07/16:

07/11 Denise Karpes, Daniel Casey, Rev. Dr. Penny Taylor

07/12 Kathy Marinier

07/13 Julie Steik, Jillian Diaz

07/15 Jeanne Stange, Karen Hart

07/16 Guillermo Ruiz

ANNIVERSARIES THRU 07/16:

07/10 Lance and Lorraine Malczewski, 28 years

07/11 David and Jennifer Vrablic, 31 years

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PEOPLE AT THEIR HOMES: Carol Hoppe, Diane Ollie-Coleman, Arlene Ivers, Lou Bender, Walt and Lil Suva, John Mika, Shirley Patton, Emil Poprawski (and we remember spouse Pris), Carol Hoppe, Pastor Bob Hempel, Elaine Dildine, Carol Tibbie, Marilyn Sinde, Ed Monahan, Scott & Sharon Marczuk, Delores Patak, Aldona Kitt, Jerry Volkmar, Judy Frandsen, Gary Locigno, Kim Powers, Don Smith, Mark Henning, Carin Lucas, Serena Ivers & Chris, Elayne Dalheim, Milton and Patricia Ladner, Michael Kelstrom, Raymond and Patrick McCarthy

FRIENDS IN PRAYERS: Vi and Richard Allen, Barb Anthony, Robert Baker, Sharen Barile, Andee Brown, Lindsey Bzdyl, Evaleen Catrambone, Jim Craver, Dolores Donnelly, Pam Ensley, Denise Faikus, Lefirm Ellis, Ed Flowers, Bob Fridrych, Herman Goodloe, Addy Grande, Nancy Guerra, Donna Hansen, Kerry Ann, Kylie Grayson, Karen Hekr, Aimee Hudson, Miranda Johnson, Yolanda Keith, Betsy LeClerc, Martha Legging, Bill Lietzow, LeAnn Lipman, Lynn & Art, Sandy Matilus, Greg Moore, Amy Morlier, Patrick Mueller, Rich Panesh, Pat brother-in-law to Betty Ann Richeson, Brenda Phillips, Diana & Larry Ridener, Jake Roger, Scott Rouse, Jeff Schroeder, Heather Steanrod, Addilen Tibbie, Anthony Taylor, Luella Terry, Patricia Traylor, Ron Tulke, Lawrence Underwood Sr., Elmer Weil, Gloria Williams, Carol Wischhover, Monica Wojdziak, David Yondorf, Mary Lou Zellman

OUR MILITARY: Samantha Brown (overseas), Tyler Kimbler (Ft. Bragg, NC), Jay & Bri Mills (Ft. Bliss, Texas), Malik Taylor—Norfolk, VA, Anthony Taylor—Ft. Hood, TX; Nick Weeks-Peace Corp. South Africa

HOSPITALIZED/Long-Term: Dick Dolnics (Elmhurst); Jean Stange (Jacksonville Memorial), Marylu Mills (Pastor Joe's mom) - in hospice at Hearthside Manor, Tacoma, WA; Lil Klippel - The Radcliffe 410 Irving Park Road, Wood Dale, IL 60191 Room 418; Allan Pegues —Symphony Chicago; Steve Tomporowski – Wisconsin; Rosemarie Kosik (at Terra Vista, 1635 Ardmore, Oakbrook Terrace, 60181),

Please keep the following in prayers because of loved ones who have recently died: **Joyce Lietzow and Nancy Carberry and families** in the death of Joyce's spouse, **Bill Lietzow** (the funeral was held yesterday) and the Tagliola family in the death of Albert Tagliola

You are invited to the Memorial Service for long-time member Sue Casey. It is this coming Saturday, July 15, 11:00 a.m. here at WCC

We celebrate with **Tyler and Nicole Lemme** in the birth of daughter **Julie Taylor Lemme**, born June 26, 7 lbs., 15 oz., 21".
Congratulations!!!

669 Jesus, Come, for We Invite You

1 Je - sus, come, for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
 2 Je - sus, come! trans - form our pleas - ures, guide us in - to
 3 Je - sus, come in new cre - a - tion, heaven brought near by
 4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness; make us will - ing

friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
 paths un - known; bring your gifts, com - mand your ser - vants,
 power di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
 to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,

speak, and let us hear your word: lead us through our
 let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may
 chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of
 all the best you have to give: let us find your

need or doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 work in se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 your dis - ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 hid - den rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

684 For the Life That You Have Given

For the life that you have giv - en, for the love in Christ made known,

with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:

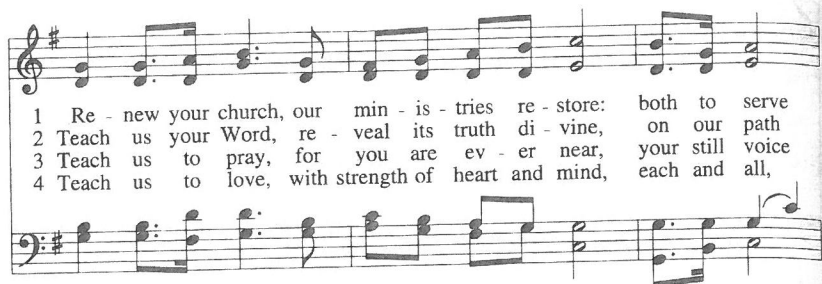
here we of - fer, Lord, our prais - es; heart and mind and strength we bring;

give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

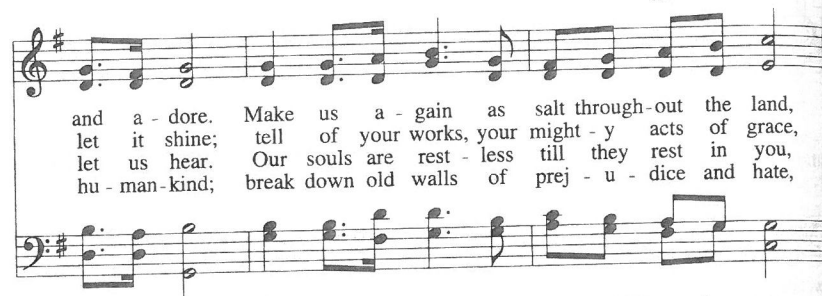
WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., (1944-)
MUSIC: Leavitt's *The Christian Lyre*, 1830
Words © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

PLEADING SAVIOR
8.7.8.7.D

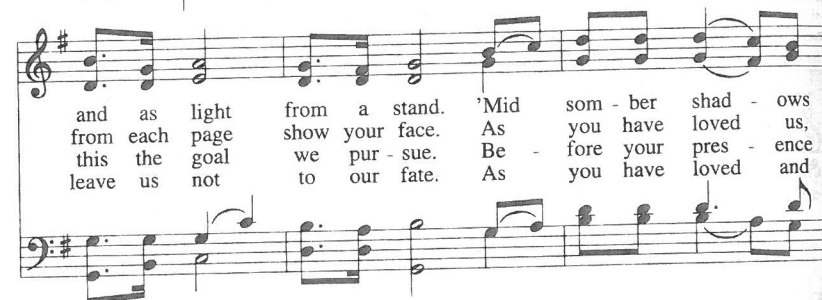
Renew Your Church



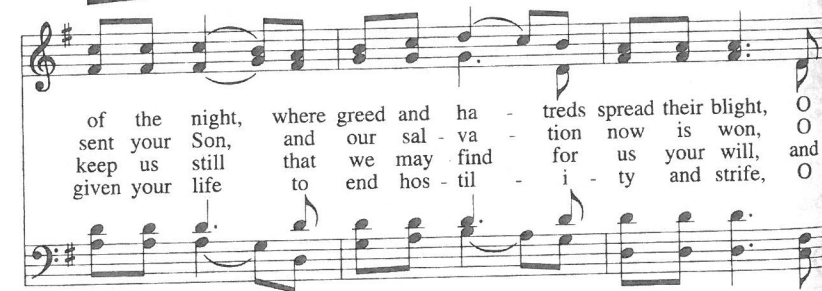
1 Re - new your church, our min - is - tries re - store: both to serve
 2 Teach us your Word, re - veal its truth di - vine, on our path
 3 Teach us to pray, for you are ev - er near, your still voice
 4 Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind, each and all,



and a - dore. Make us a - gain as salt through-out the land,
 let it shine; tell of your works, your might - y acts of grace,
 let us hear. Our souls are rest - less till they rest in you,
 hu - man-kind; break down old walls of prej - u - dice and hate,



and as light from a stand. 'Mid som - ber shad - ows
 from each page show your face. As you have loved us,
 this the goal we pur - sue. Be - fore your pres - ence
 leave us not to our fate. As you have loved and



of the night, where greed and ha - treds spread their blight, O
 sent your Son, and our sal - va - tion now is won, O
 keep us still that we may find for us your will, and
 given your life to end hos - til - i - ty and strife, O

ALL IS WELL



send us forth with power en - dued, help us, Lord, be re - newed.
 let our hearts with love be stirred, help us, Lord, know your Word.
 seek your guid - ance ev - ery day, teach us, Lord, how to pray.
 share your grace from heaven a - bove, teach us, Lord, how to love.

ON-LINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE!!

WCC introduces a new electronic option for making your offerings to the church.

We are utilizing VANCO Financial Solutions to safely and securely make your offering. Your gift will be automatically debited from your checking/savings account or processed using your debit/credit card.

Vanco Online Giving allows:

1. Anytime and anywhere giving, conveniently and securely.
2. No need to write out physical checks or prepare envelopes
3. Schedule for and manage recurring offerings.
4. View your complete online-giving history.

You can access Vanco by using our website

www.westchesterucc.org and click on the E Giving tab - or - scan the QR Code on your smart phone



If you need any help please see Sue Becerra or Carolyn Savage or call the church office.

July 9, 2023

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Chosen Journeys

[Jesus said:] "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Dear Jesus, our brother and friend,

Today we pray for all those who are weary, that they may feel the easiness of your yoke and the lightness of your load.

We pray for others who are ill, weary from battling the enemy within their own bodies. And we pray for the healing of our own illnesses of body, mind and spirit. Send your healing power like a balm over all who suffer in this way, and help us all to know that you are always near to comfort and to soothe.

We pray for others who are weary from the demands of overwork or from the worthlessness of worklessness. And we pray for ourselves, that we may remember that productivity is not a Kin-dom value. Send your grace, Holy Friend, upon all of us who suffer from the delusion that we are only as valuable as their work. Remind us that your ease is for all people, and draw them into the shelter of your mercy.

We pray for others who are trapped in cycles of addiction or violence. And we pray for ourselves, that the bonds of our violent and addictive tendencies be loosened bit by bit in the wake of your healing and hope. Shower us with the full confidence and faith to take the next step forward, and the next, then the next after that. Draw into our circles those who can counsel and guide us in new ways and patterns of being.

We pray for those who are pressed down into the cracks of the broken places in our society and culture. And we pray for ourselves when we find ourselves squeezed into the cracks, so heavily burdened by sexism, racism, or homophobia that it feels that we cannot stand. Raise us up, shattering that which keeps us fast and opening the eyes of all to the ease and joy of your justice.

We pray all these things in your name. Amen.

