

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST EAST GOSHEN

We Are a Church of Extravagant Welcome for All People!

July 19, 2026—10AM



Learning to See

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

We are a Congregation that celebrates our LGBTQIA+ kindred

Rev. Lynice Pinkard, Pastor

Carolyn Scherer, Office Administrator

Marty Meyer, Music Director

Warren Cooper, Musician

Prelude *Cry of My Heart*

Butler, arr. Tornquist

Pastoral Welcome

Announcements

Ringling of the Singing Bowl

Invocation

Pastor Lynice

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We live in a world that teaches us to see only what is before our eyes.

People: But God sees more than we can yet see.

Leader: We see seeds.

People: God sees the whole tree.

Leader: We see wilderness.

People: God sees holy ground.

Leader: We see weeds among the wheat.

People: God sees a harvest still growing.

Leader: We hear creation groaning.

People: God hears new life struggling to be born.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose vision is deeper than our sight...

People: ...whose hope is greater than our fear...

Leader: ...whose love is always calling life toward its fullness.

People: Come, let us learn to see as God sees.

All: Let us worship God. Amen.

**This is My Father's World (see last page of bulletin)* (1-3)

Listening To Our Sacred Text

Rain Willover

Psalms 139:1–10, 23–24 (NRSVUE)

1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

3 You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.

5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

7 Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?

8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

9 If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

10 even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.

24 See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

Romans 8:18–25 (NRSVUE)

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

***Passing the Peace** *(in a safe and sensitive manner)*

We Regather in Song:

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

NCH 393 vs 1

Blessed be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life
Is like to that above.

Prayers of the People

Prayer leader: after a prayer: Lord in your mercy

Congregation: Hear our prayers.

***All:**

Our Creator/Mother/Father/Spirit,

who is in Heaven,

hallowed be your name.

Your Kin-dom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our faults, as we forgive the faults of others.

and deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kin-dom, power, and glory, forever. Amen.

Listening To Our Sacred Text

Naomi Washington-Leapheart

Genesis 28:10–17 (NRSVUE)

10 Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. 11 He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. 12 And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, 14 and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. 15 Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” 16 Then Jacob woke

from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” 17 And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

Matthew 13:24–30 (NRSVUE)

24 He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, 25 but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. 26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27 And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ 28 He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ 29 But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30 Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

**Be Now My Vision*

NCH 451 (1,2,4)

Sermon God Sees the Whole Tree in Every Seed

Pastor Lynice

Time of Silent Reflection

[In the silence after the sermon, we allow the sacred text and dialogue of the sermon to settle in our hearts, bones, bodies, and souls. We do this by opening our hearts and inviting God to settle the message we needed to hear.]

***Prayer of Commitment**

Leader: Let us pray together.

People: Holy God, we confess that we are often content with first impressions and quick conclusions.

Leader: We see only what is before us.

People: But You see the whole tree in every seed.

Leader: We mistake the present for the whole story.

People: We lose hope too quickly and judge too soon.

Leader: Where we see wilderness...

People: Help us trust that You are already preparing holy ground.

Leader: Where we see weeds...

People: Teach us to wait for the harvest You are growing.

Leader: Where we hear only groaning...

People: Help us listen for the sounds of new life being born.

Leader: Search us, O God, and enlarge our hearts.

People: Teach us to see our neighbors, our world, and ourselves as You see them.

Leader: Lead us beyond fear, beyond certainty, and beyond small imaginations.

People: Form in us the mind of Christ, who always saw more life, more possibility, and more promise than anyone else could see.

Leader: Lead us in the way everlasting.

People: Until we become people who call forth hope where others see despair, possibility where others see limits, and life where others see only endings.

All: Amen.

Offertory Music *Gracious*

arr. Schram

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

If you prefer to give electronically, please use your cell phone camera to scan this QR code.



***Doxology** *(sung)*

**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.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

O God,
We share our offerings from our resources, that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them, we offer our varied ministries, in the days ahead, that each of us may be a part of your answer to the cries of the world. Amen.

***Benediction**

Our worship has ended, and our service has just begun...
Please join us for fellowship in the Parlor.

THANK YOU to ALL helping with Worship Today:

: Greeters/Offering Collection
Susan Ward: Tech Support
Rain Willover, Naomi Washington-Leapheart: Lay Reader(s)
Cheryl Litzke, : Fellowship Hour
Linda Ardao, Webb Mealy: Counters

Worship Volunteers for Sunday, 7/26/26

: Greeters/Offering Collection
Susan Ward: Tech Support
Webb Mealy, Rain Willover: Lay Reader(s)
Naomi Washington-Leapheart, Kang Chen: Fellowship Hour
Bart Yost, Carol Swingle: Counters

Church Office Hours This Week

	<u>Pastor Lynice</u>	<u>Administrator</u>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Day Off</i>	<i>Work from home</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	10-4	<i>Work from home</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	10-4	<i>Work from home</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	10-4	<i>Church House</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Day Off</i>	<i>Work from home</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Work from home</i>	---

UCCEG Worship & Events

7/20/26: 6pm: Council Meeting (Zoom)

7/21/26: 1pm: Café Script (Hybrid-Come in person or join via Zoom)

7/26/26: 10am: Worship

Prayer Requests

Please fill out a prayer request form (on the table in the Foyer) and place in the offering plate, email office@ucceastgoshen.org, or contact Carol Swingle for any updates or additions to our prayer list.

We pray for the following members and friends of UCCEG:

Cliff Keljikian, Anne Phinney, Ron Rising, Family of Jim Wilson, Cherri Murphy, Marquita Kinard, Bunny Watts, Jeff Fletcher and family, Roger Meacham, Joanie Youse, Rain Willover, Nancy Jane van Krieken (mom of Beth Anne Keates), Andy and Thea Mahard, Johari Jabir, Jane and Frank Resides, Barbara Booth and family, Phyllis Taylor, Rafael Barber, Debra Ann Leapheart and family, Lanning and Dianne Risher as they deal with serious health issues, Lester Allen (uncle of Bonnie Jackson and brother of Beverly Myles), Bonnie Jackson and family on the loss of her brother Roy Garlisch, Pete Speece, Annie Sherman, Claudia Morrow, Cathie Bonner (cousin of Carolyn Scherer), Lurch Hill, Jeanine Hiester, Lizzy Hinton.



Announcements and Community Notices

CAFÉ SCRIPT IS BACK — ALL ARE WELCOME!

Café Script meets Tuesdays from 1–2 pm on Zoom as we continue our journey through the Gospel of **Mark, with Matthew, Luke, and John** still ahead. All are welcome — come as you are, whether you join regularly or drop in from time to time. Cafe Script is now hybrid—taking place at the Church House and on Zoom. Carolyn sends the Zoom link out every week. We hope you will join us for this time of Scripture, reflection, and shared learning.

WEST CHESTER FOOD CUPBOARD (WCFC)

Thank you from WCFC: Thank you so much for your continued generosity to the West Chester Food Cupboard. In these especially challenging times, your support means more than ever – not just to us, but to the growing number of families who rely on us. Last year we served over 8,000 people. Many are turning to us for the first time. You are truly making a difference in the lives of so many people. Needs: Cereal, non-grape jelly, canned meat, canned fish, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce (cans or plastic jars), hearty soups, and canned fruit. Personal care items are always needed. Please put items in the bin in the foyer. No glass items please. If you care to give a monetary donation, please write a check payable to UCCEG with WCFC on the memo line or put cash in a church envelope, label it for WCFC, and drop it in the collection plate. Thank you.

OUTREACH FOR SAFE HARBOR

Thanks to all who contribute to this essential ministry of service to the houseless and those working towards a permanent housing situation. Safe Harbor would appreciate donations of the following at this time: Lunch snack items (packaged chips, pretzels, etc.), water, juice boxes (or jugs), baked goods (e.g. brownies), and toilet paper. If you would like to learn about volunteering opportunities, please see Webb Mealy. Monetary donations will support purchase of special baskets/bins for refrigerated food storage. If you care to donate to this effort, please write a check payable to UCCEG with Safe Harbor on the memo line or put cash in a church envelope, label it for Safe Harbor, and drop it in the collection plate. Thank you for your kind generosity.

This Is My Father's World 21

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-tening ears all
 2 This is our Fa-ther's world: O let us not for-get that
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world: he shines in all that's fair; in the

na-ture sings, and round me rings the mu-sic of the spheres.
 though the wrong is great and strong, God is the rul-er yet.
 rus-ling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me ev-ery-where.

This is my Fa-ther's world: I rest me in the thought of
 He trusts us with his world, to keep it clean and fair—all
 This is my Fa-ther's world: why should my heart be sad? The

rocks and trees, of skies and seas—his hand the won-ders wrought.
 earth and trees, all skies and seas, all crea-tures ev-ery-where.
 Lord is King, let heav-en ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!

WORDS: Maltbie D. Babcock (1858-1901), alt.; vs. 2 rev. Mary Babcock Crawford (1909-)
 MUSIC: English melody; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard (1852-1930)

TERRA BEATA
 S.M.D.