



**CHESHIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

205 Academy Road, Cheshire, CT 06410

(203) 272-4626

[www.cheshireumc.com](http://www.cheshireumc.com)



@cheshireumc



@cheshire.umc

**Welcome to the Cheshire United Methodist Church.  
All are welcome (all means all)!**

The Reverend Doctor Steve Y.D. Kim, *Pastor*      [pastor@cheshireumc.com](mailto:pastor@cheshireumc.com)

Mara M. Weed, *Music Director*

Mara M. Weed, *Admin. Assistant*      [office@cheshireumc.com](mailto:office@cheshireumc.com)

Lisa Moran, *Sexton*

# TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 17, 2025

10:00 A. M.

PRELUDE

Mara Weed

OPENING PRAYER

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Pastor

♦ CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

**Leader:** Come, people of God—not to be soothed by easy answers, but to be stirred by the living Word.

**People:** We come not to escape the fire, but to be refined by it.

**Leader:** Jesus brings not comfort without cost, but truth that sets us free.

**People:** We come to follow Christ, even when it leads through disruption, trusting that His fire brings light, healing, and new life.

**All:** Let us worship the One who ignites justice, kindles courage, and calls us to holy transformation.

♦ OPENING HYMN #578

“God of Love and God of Power”

♦ PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

Holy and living God, You are not tame or distant. You are fire and breath—awakening hearts, shaking foundations, and calling us to more than comfort. We praise You for the refining flame of Your love, for the way You unsettle our assumptions, and draw us into deeper truth. You do not leave us as we are—You burn away what is false, and illuminate what is eternal. So, we lift our praise to You, not in fear, but in trust—knowing that in Your fire, we are made whole. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

♦ CHILDREN’S HYMN #558 (v. 1 )

“We Are the Church”

CONVERSATION WITH THE CHILDREN & THE LORD’S PRAYER

“Jesus Loves Me”

*(ushers collect green prayer cards)*

FIRST LESSON (p. 511-512 OT)

Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19

♦ GOSPEL LESSON (p. 71 NT, responsive)

Luke 12:49-56

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“THE FIRE JESUS BRINGS”

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Holy Ground”  
Soloist: Maggie Ray

Geron Davis

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY

♦Doxology #95, Prayer of Dedication and Altar Call

♦CLOSING HYMN #577

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

♦THE BENEDICTION

♦PASSING OF THE PEACE

♦Stand, if you are able

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*Usher:* Renee Poet

*Visual Arts Creator:* Carl Strand

*Ambassador:* Jim Jackson

*Visual Arts Engineer:* Mark Gilleylen

*Fellowship:* Carolyn Kelly

*Livestream Tech:* Steve Trumbo

*Member Outreach:* Elizabeth Thomas

*Counters:* Joe Pisani, Leann Spalding

*Nursery:* Caroline Veleber, Claire Strand

*Prayer Cards:* Chris Driscoll

*Lector:*

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## *Announcements*

The **altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Claire and Carl Strand in honor of Colin’s seventh birthday.

This is the final Sunday that CUMC will be collecting **school supplies** for children at Fair Haven School and Conte West Hills in New Haven. Please consider making a donation. Leave your items in the collection bin in the narthex. If you would prefer to make a monetary contribution, you can put cash or a check (made out to CUMC with note "Back to School") in the offering plate. See the Courier for other details.

**Booklettes** meet Tuesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in The Faithful Thomas Room.

The **Trustees** also meet on Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

To aid our **live streaming** efforts, please be sure your phone is off or in airplane mode.

# *The Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.

## *Welcome!*

This is a Welcoming, Reconciling congregation. We embrace diversity and affirm the dignity and worth of every person because we are all created by a loving God. We seek to live Christ's call for compassion, justice, healing and wholeness. Therefore, we welcome into our faith community persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, mental and physical ability, economic and social position, gender identity and expression, level of education and family structure. We believe we can all love alike, even if we don't think alike. We invite all to share in the life, leadership, lay and ordained ministry, worship and sacraments, the covenant of committed love in holy matrimony, fellowship, blessings and joys of our congregation as we seek to grow together in faith and love.

## *Who We Are . . .*

We are a church family that welcomes everyone through our doors no matter the political affiliation, no matter which forms of Christian thought you hold, no matter what - you are welcome here because we are all members of the family of God.

Like other families, we may not always agree on everything, but we are called to love one another enough to forgive one another, respect our differences, and work and minister together as we spread and live out the Gospel message of God's love offered to this world in the form of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.

To this end, we aspire to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8).