



"Let's Have Tea" Sculpture - Susan B. Anthony Square Park - Rochester

February 15, 2026



**UNITED CHURCH
of PITTSFORD**

American Baptist & United Methodist

Liturgist: Verna Hazen

Music Director: Alan Murphy

Pastor: Reverend Julius David Jackson, Jr. (Pastor JD)

*A hearing loop is available for the hearing impaired.
Please ask the ushers if you need assistance.*

** Indicates: Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN #513 (1,2,4)** Soldiers of Christ, Arise

***PRAYER OF GATHERING** (*in unison*)

Holy, Creator, Holy Teacher, Holy Wisdom: Dare us to respond to you beyond the limits of our love. Dare us to lay aside our quick anger for a lasting curiosity and an abiding humor. Dare us to forget all the ways we can separate ourselves from others, and to learn all the ways we can bind ourselves to their challenging uniqueness. Dare us to reveal the whole of your image in us instead of a few convenient parts. Dare us to risk all that we are to become all that you wish for us. Dare us to mean what we pray.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: God sets before us blessing and curse.

ALL: God sets before us abundance and scarcity.

ONE: God has told us what God desires for us;

ALL: Blessing and abundance.

ONE: God has told us what God asks us to be for the world;

ALL: Blessing and abundance.

ALL: We come to choose to live with wisdom and compassion. We come to be blessing, love, abundance, and mercy.

***UNISON READING**

Companion God, you have shown us what it is to be a faithful companion and true neighbor to our sisters and brothers. We almost always intend to follow where you lead. Beckon us to repent with our whole hearts when we are tempted by worldly messages of greed, violence and

entitlement. Forgive us our broken choices so that, with you, we may reveal the beauty of a universe made holy with love and respect. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 NRSV

***MEDITATION HYMN #163 (ALL)**

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

SCRIPTURE/MORNING MESSAGE

Matthew 5:21-37 NRSV

“LIVING IN FREEDOM”

Pastor Rev. Julius David Jackson, Jr.

***HYMN #388 (ALL)**

O Come and Dwell in Me

MORNING PRAYERS/ SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Pastoral Prayer

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Musical Selection

***Response:** #95 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.

***Prayer of Dedication for Offering**

***HYMN #585 (ALL)**

This Little Light of Mine

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

~ *Those who are able may stand!* ~

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for coffee in Howard Hall.

CALENDAR

February – *PB&J month for food pantry*

Wed., Feb. 18 Ash Wednesday

Mon., Feb. 23 UCP Fundraiser at Tom Wahl's 4:30-8pm

March – *Canned fruit month for food pantry*

March 15 Breakfast and Birds – Church Breakfast

March 21 UCP Spring Craft Fair – Howard Hall

*UCP Bake Sale!

Bake Sale on 3/21

Calling All Bakers! We will have a bake sale at the UCP Spring Craft Fair on Saturday, March 21. We need your cookies, pies, bread, fudge, jellies, jams, pickles and any other homemade items. As in the past, a portion of the proceeds will be designated for missions. Watch for more information. Questions? See Verna Hazen.

Lectionary Texts for next week (February 22, 2026)

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Psalm 119:33-40

1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

Matthew 5:38-48



BACKYARD BIRDWATCHING (AND BEYOND)

Come and learn about the interesting lives of the birds outside the window and how to identify them.

See some of the other wonderful birds that can be found around Rochester through the year, and how to start watching them.



Richard Ashworth started birding over sixty years ago in his native England, where he was active in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Since moving to Pittsford in 1986, Richard has studied the birds of our region intensively. He is a Past President of the Rochester Birding Association, for which he leads field trips to birding 'hotspots' in the Greater Rochester area.

Richard is a professional photographer, and he will share some of his many beautiful images of our local birds.

**Sunday March 15
12:00 PM in Howard Hall**



UNITED CHURCH
of PITTSFORD

*Each of you should give what you have
decided in your heart to give,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.*
2 Corinthians 9:7

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