

**Congregational Church  
of Westminster West, a  
United Church of Christ**

Sixth Sunday of Easter:  
May 25, 2025

*\*: all who are able,  
please stand*

**Welcome and  
Announcements**

**Prelude:** "Choral Prelude"  
(J.S. Bach, BWV 731)



**\* Call to Worship:** Psalm 32, a Psalm of David)

One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**All: While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. [Silence]**

One: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**All: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. [Silence]**

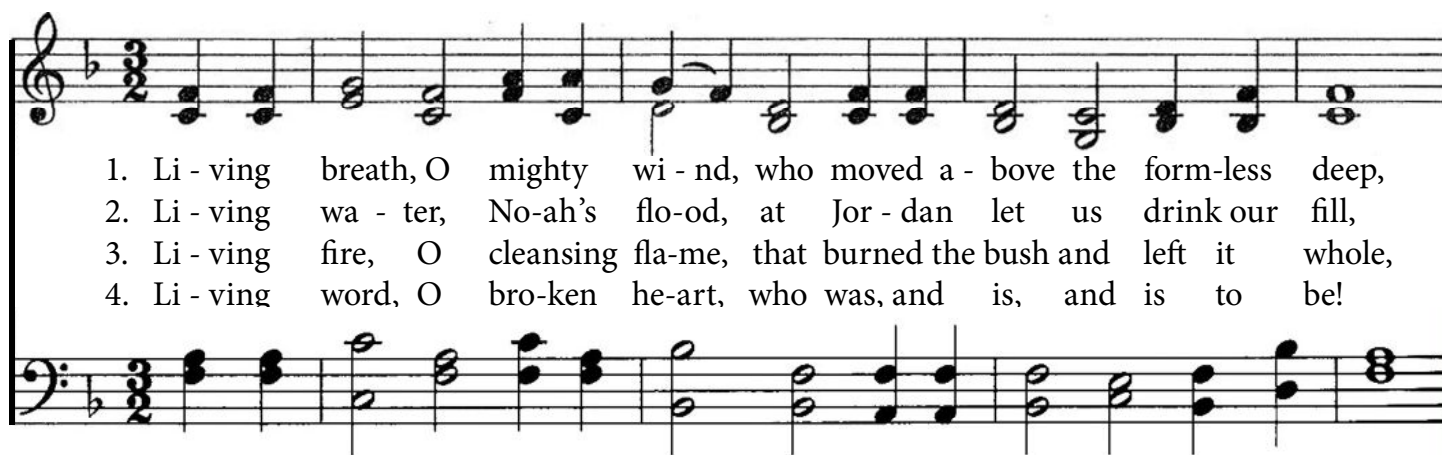
One: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**All: Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.**

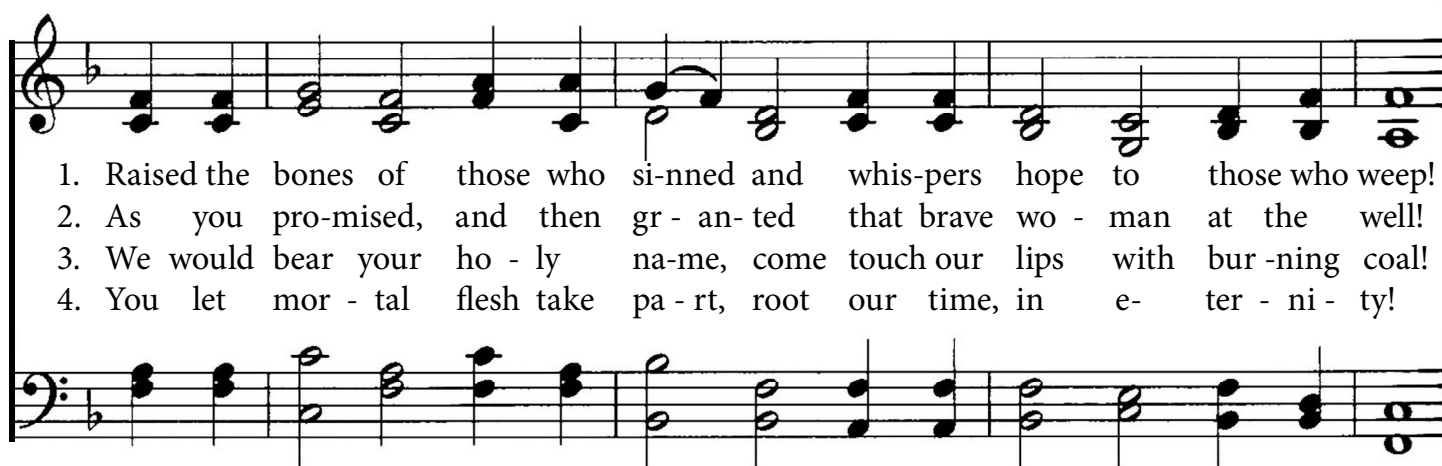
One: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

**All: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

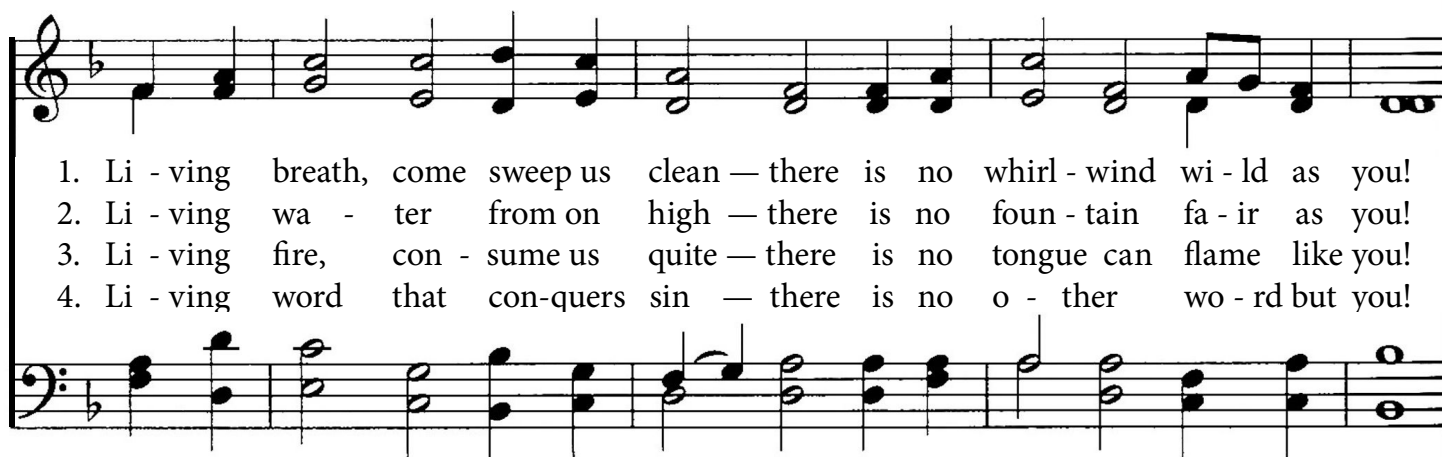
Living Word, O Broken Heart! ("Beech Spring," *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; lyric: Raymond Huesey)




1. Li - ving breath, O mighty wi - nd, who moved a - bove the form-less deep,  
2. Li - ving wa - ter, No-ah's flo-od, at Jor - dan let us drink our fill,  
3. Li - ving fire, O cleansing fla-me, that burned the bush and left it whole,  
4. Li - ving word, O bro-ken he-art, who was, and is, and is to be!



1. Raised the bones of those who si-nned and whis-pers hope to those who weep!  
2. As you pro-mised, and then gr - an-ted that brave wo - man at the well!  
3. We would bear your ho - ly na-me, come touch our lips with bur - ning coal!  
4. You let mor - tal flesh take pa - rt, root our time, in e - ter - ni - ty!



1. Li - ving breath, come sweep us clean — there is no whirl - wind wi - ld as you!  
2. Li - ving wa - ter from on high — there is no foun - tain fa - ir as you!  
3. Li - ving fire, con - sume us quite — there is no tongue can flame like you!  
4. Li - ving word that con-quests sin — there is no o - ther wo - rd but you!



1. Fill our hearts grown small and me-an, Lord, come and make our life a - new.  
2. Fill our hearts long bare and dr - y, Lord, come and make our life a - new.  
3. Fill our hearts, set us a - li-ght, Lord, come and make our life a - new.  
4. We can be more than we've be-en, Lord, come and make our life a - new.

**\* Opening Hymn:** “O Living Word!” (score on the preceding page)

Living breath, O mighty wi-nd, who moved above the formless deep,  
Raised the bones of those who si-nned, and whispers hope to those who weep!  
Living breath, come sweep us clean— there is no whirlwind wild as yo-u!  
Fill our hearts grown small and me-an, Lord, come make our life anew.

Living water, Noah’s flo-od, at Jordan let us drink our fill,  
As you promised and then gra-nt-ed that brave woman at the well!  
Living water from on hi-gh, there is no fountain fair as you!  
Fill our hearts grown bare and dr-y, Lord, come make our life anew.

Living fire, O cleansing fla-me, who burned the bush and left it whole,  
We would bear your holy name—so touch our lips as glowing coal.  
Living fire, consume us quite—there is no tongue of flame like yo-u!  
Fill our hearts, set us alight, Lord, come make our life anew.

Living word, O broken he-art, who was, and is, and is to be!  
You let mortal flesh take pa-rt, our time share in eternity.  
Living word that conquers sin there is no other word but you!  
We can be more than we’ve be-en, Lord, come make our life anew.

### **Call to Confession:**

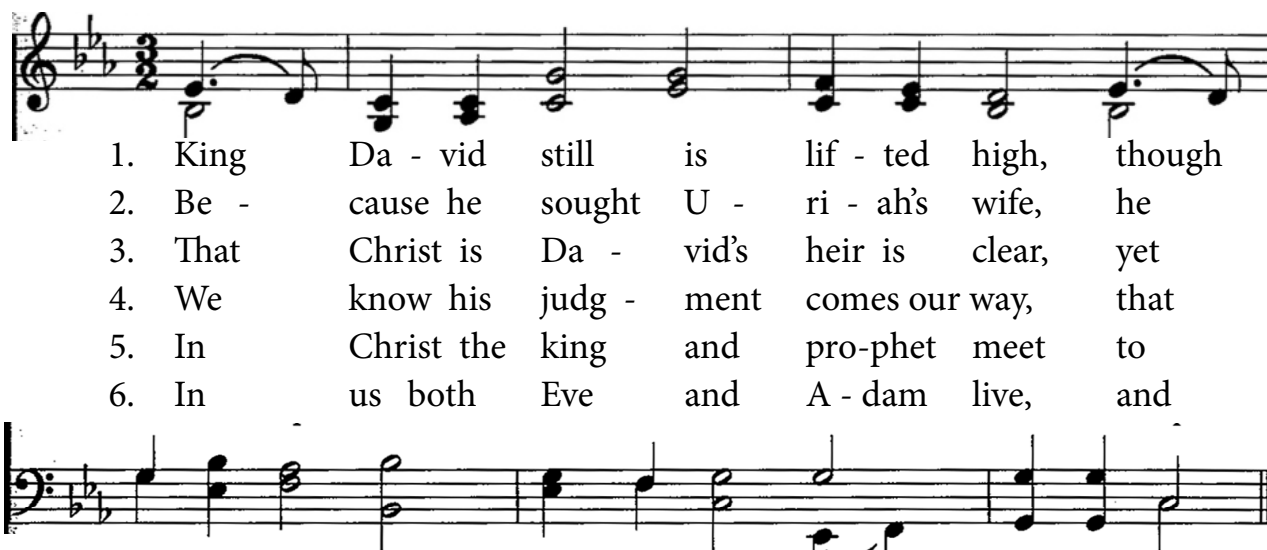
One: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts in the fire of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. For the sake of our brother, Jesus the Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

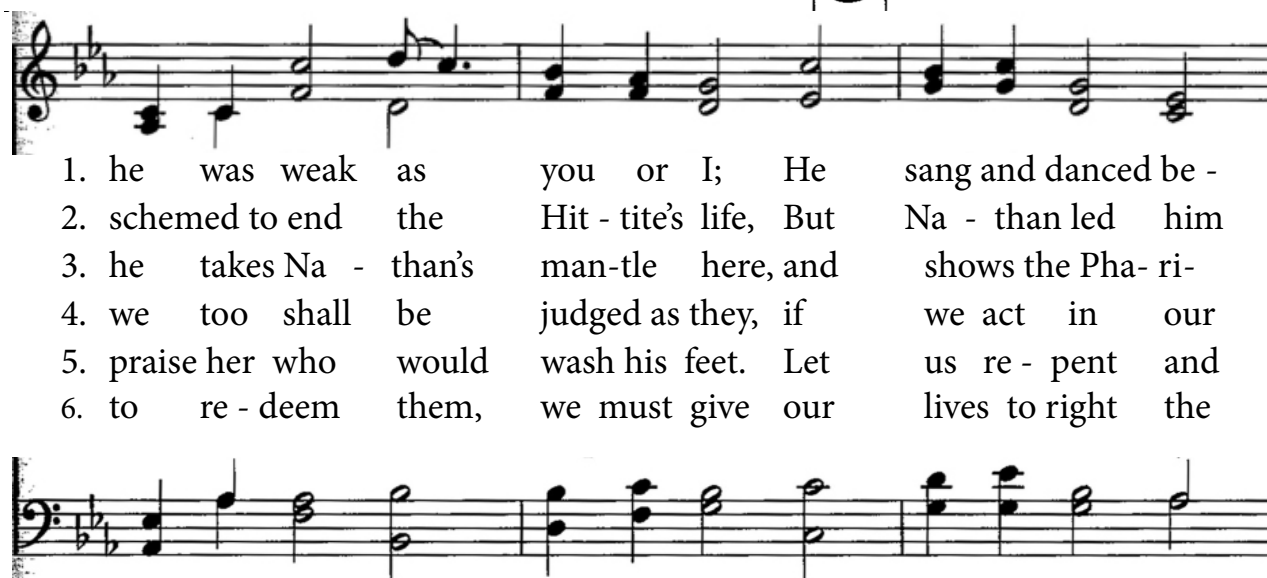
One: May your Maker forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

**All: May your Maker forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love. Amen.**

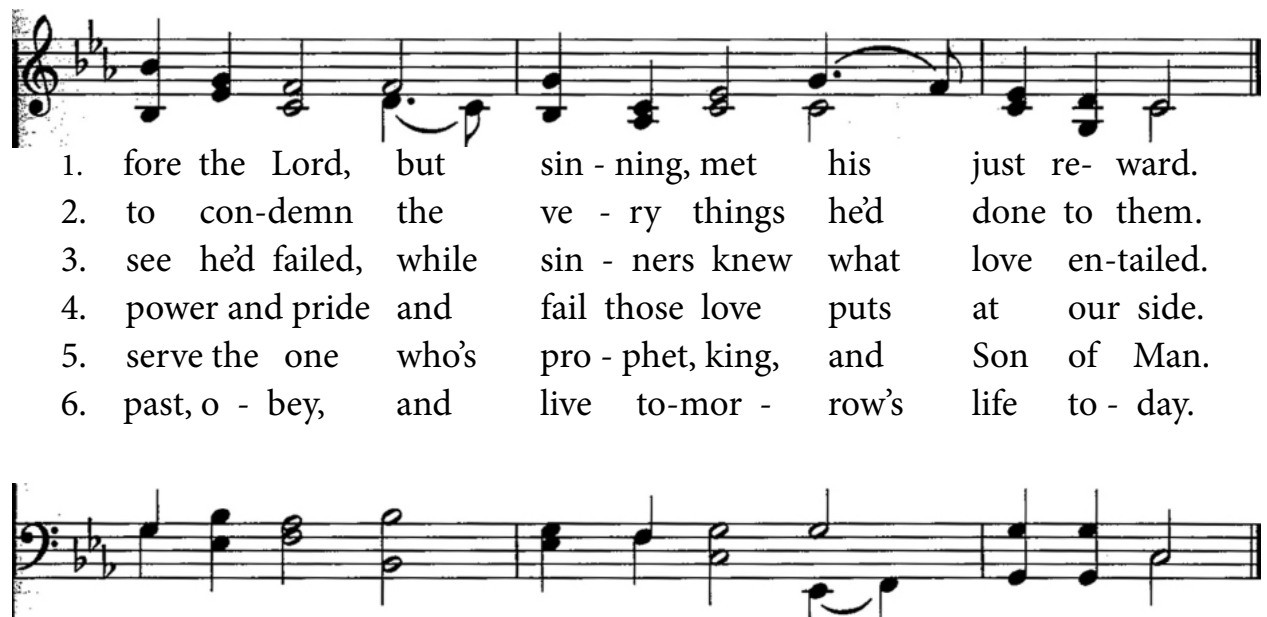
"In Us Both Eve and Adam Live" (KEDRON, *Southern Harmony* (1835); Raymond Huesy)



1. King Da - vid still is lif - ted high, though  
 2. Be - cause he sought U - ri - ah's wife, he  
 3. That Christ is Da - vid's heir is clear, yet  
 4. We know his judg - ment comes our way, that  
 5. In Christ the king and pro-phet meet to  
 6. In us both Eve and A - dam live, and



1. he was weak as you or I; He sang and danced be -  
 2. schemed to end the Hit - tite's life, But Na - than led him  
 3. he takes Na - than's man-tle here, and shows the Pha-ri-  
 4. we too shall be judged as they, if we act in our  
 5. praise her who would wash his feet. Let us re - pent and  
 6. to re - deem them, we must give our lives to right the



1. fore the Lord, but sin - ning, met his just re - ward.  
 2. to con-demn the ve - ry things he'd done to them.  
 3. see he'd failed, while sin - ners knew what love en-tailed.  
 4. power and pride and fail those love puts at our side.  
 5. serve the one who's pro - phet, king, and Son of Man.  
 6. past, o - bey, and live to-mor - row's life to - day.

## **Gloria (NCH#756)**

### **Prayers of the People:**

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father/Mother/Creator, 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 let us not fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Scripture Readings:** 2 Samuel 11:26-12:15a  
Galatians 1: 11-24; 2:1-2, 9-21  
Luke 7: 36-50

\* **Hymn:** "In us both Eve and Adam live" (score on the preceding sheet)

King David still is lifted high, though he was weak as you or I;  
He sang and danced before the Lord, but sinning, met his just reward.

Because he sought Uriah's wife, he schemed to end the Hittite's life,  
But Nathan led him to condemn the very things he'd done to them.

That Christ is David's heir is clear, yet he takes Nathan's mantle here,  
And shows the Pharisee he'd failed, while sinners knew what love entailed.

We know his judgement comes our way, that we too shall be judged as they,  
If we act in our power and pride and fail those love puts at our side.

In Christ the king and prophet meet to praise her who would wash his feet.  
Let us repent and serve the one who's prophet, king, and Son of Man.

In us both Eve and Adam live, and to redeem them, we must give  
Our lives to right the past, obey, and live tomorrow's life today.

**Sermon:** "David and Nathan, Christ and Simon, Peter and Paul"

**Offertory:** "Sarabande: Auf meinen lieben Gott" (Dietrich Buxtehude, BuWV 179)

\***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.

\* **Dedicatory Prayer**

\* **Hymn:** "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" (on the next sheet)

\* **Benediction**

**Postlude:** "Come Rain or Come Shine" (David Francey)



Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service  
in the community hall downstairs



## **Church and Community Notes**

Until the Rev. Kurt Shaffert begins his interim ministry on June 8th, we will not be able to offer office hours as usual, but the deacons (Karen Blanchard, Charlotte Gifford, Ray Huessy, Adrienne Major, and Sue Venman) are available to support the congregation. You can leave a message on the church number (802-387-1175) or you can contact a deacon directly. In case of pastoral emergency, a deacon will call on the Rev. Shawn Bracebridge (pastor of the Dummerston UCC), and help a person in need get in touch with him. For all questions of church building use, please contact Tom Griffith.



## **Worship Participants Today**

Musician: Fred Gray  
Leading: Ray Huessy  
Deacon: Sue Venman  
Tech: Charlotte Gifford  
Ministers to the World:  
the Congregation



## **Upcoming Events:**

June 1: Communion service with Sharon Easterling  
June 8: Pentecost service with Rev. Kurt Scheffert  
June 15: Adrienne Major preaching  
June 22: Kurt Scheffert preaching



Front page image: “Nathan Admonishes David” by Rembrandt van Rijn