



**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTMINSTER  
WEST (UCC)**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude: "Impromptu in A Flat major" (Schubert)**

## **Call to Worship (Jonah 2):**

One: I called to the LORD out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

**All: You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me.**

One: Then I said, ‘I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?’

**All: The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped around my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever.**

One: Yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O LORD my God.

**All: As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who worship vain idols forsake their true loyalty. But with the voice of thanksgiving I will sacrifice to you.**

One: What I have vowed I will pay.

**All: Salvation belongs to the LORD!**

## **Hymn: “The God of Abraham Praise!” (PH #14)**

The God of Abraham praise! All praised be his name; who was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same! The one eternal God, ere aught that now appears; the first, the last—beyond all thought his timeless years.

His spirit floweth free, high surging where it will, in prophet’s word he spoke of old; he speaketh still. Established is his law, and changeless it shall stand, deep writ upon the human heart, on sea or land.

He hath eternal life implanted in the soul; his love shall be our strength and stay while ages roll. Praise to the living God! All praised be his name; who was, and is, and is to be, for aye the same!

## **Call to Confession**

**. . . 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 upon us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon** (Micah 7: 18-20)

. . . Hear the good news: we are forgiven!

**All: Thanks to be to God.**

**Gloria**

(NCH#756, once in unison, then twice as a round)

**Prayers of the People:**

One: May the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

. . . This we pray in the name of your son Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying:

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 lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Scripture Readings:** the Book of Jonah, Luke 11: 29-32

**Hymn:** “Thou Judge by Whom Each Empire Fell”

Thou judge by whom each empire fell, when pride of power o’ercame it, convict us now, if we rebel, our nation judge, and shame it. In each sharp crisis, Lord, appear, forgive, and show our duty clear: to serve Thee by repentance.

Search, Lord, our spirits in Thy sight, in best and worst reveal us; shed on our souls a blaze of light, and judge, that Thou may’st heal us. The present be our judgment day, when all our lack Thou dost survey: show us ourselves and save us.

Lo, fearing naught we come to Thee, though by our fault confounded; though selfish, mean, and base we be, Thy justice is unbounded: so large, it naught but love requires, and judging, pardons, frees, inspires. Deliver us from evil!

**Sermon:** “Avoiding the Call, Sitting in Judgment”

**Offertory:**

“My God Loves Me” (*Jean-Paul-Égide Martini, arr. Sharon Wilson*)

**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:** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” (PH# 7)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above, thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all praise we would render, O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

## **Benediction**

**Postlude:** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”  
(Ludwig van Beethoven, arr. Becki S. Mayo)

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



Musician today: Eric Robinson; preacher today: Ray Huessy; Deacons:  
Sue Venman and Charlotte Gifford; Trustees: Guy Payne, chair; Ministers  
to the World: the Congregation



Sunday, June 28:

Windham Union joint service in West Brattleboro, 880 Western Avenue,  
at 10 am

Sunday, July 5:

Janet Langdon, preaching; music by Eric Robinson



As we seek a settled pastor, we are not offering office hours as usual, but the deacons (Karen Blanchard, Lee Crocker, Charlotte Gifford, Ray Huessy, Adrienne Major, and Sue Venman) are available to offer support. You can leave a message on the church answering machine (802-387-1175) or contact a deacon directly. In case of a pastoral emergency, one of the deacons will call on the Rev. Shawn Bracebridge (of the Dummerston UCC church) and put him in touch with you. For all

questions of church building use, please contact Tom Griffith at [tomgriffith1051@gmail.com](mailto:tomgriffith1051@gmail.com).