

**Congregational Church of Westminster West**  
(United Church of Christ)  
**July 5, 2026**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:**

**Call to Worship:** Sioux Prayer (unison)

O our Father, Sky, hear us and make us strong. O our Mother, the Earth, hear us and give us support. O Spirit of the East, send us your Wisdom. O Spirit of the South, may we tread your path of life. O Spirit of the West, may we always be ready for the long journey. O Spirit of the North, purify us with your cleansing winds.

**Opening Hymn:** “This Land is Your Land”

This land is your land, this land is my land, from California to the New York island, From the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters. This land was made for you and me.

As I was walking that ribbon of highway, I saw above me that endless skyway; I saw below me that golden valley. This land was made for you and me.

I've roamed and rambled, and I've followed my footsteps to the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts, and all around me a voice was sounding: this land was made for you and me.

When the sun came shining, and I was strolling, and the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds rolling, As the fog was lifting a voice was chanting: this land was made for you and me.

As I went walking, I saw a sign there, and on the sign it said "No Trespassing," but on the other side, it didn't say nothing—that side was made for you and me.

**Confession:** UN Environmental Program

We who have lost our sense and our senses: our touch, our smell, our vision of who we are; we who frantically force and press all things, without rest for body or spirit, hurting our earth and injuring ourselves; we call a halt.

We need to rest and allow the earth to rest. We need to reflect and to rediscover the Mystery that lives in us, that is the ground of every unique expression of life, the Source of the fascination that calls things to communion. Hear us now as we speak in silence those things that weigh on our hearts...

[Silence]

### **Assurance of Pardon** (unison)

We declare a Sabbath, a space of quiet: for simply being and letting be; for recovering the great, forgotten truths; for learning how to live again.  
Amen.

### **Gloria:**

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

### **Prayers of the People**

One: May God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray . . .

[Silence]

### **New Zealand Lord's Prayer** (unison)

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: the hallowing of your name echo through the universe; the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world; your heavenly will be done by all created beings; your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us; in the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us; from trial too great to endure, spare us; from the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

### **Scripture**

Amos 5: 18-24

Matthew 10: 34-39; 11: 28-30

**Hymn:** "America The Beautiful"

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America, America, God shed full grace on thee, and may we bind all humankind in love and liberty!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life! America, America, God shed full grace on Thee; And may we bind all humankind in peace and harmony.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears! America, America, God shed full grace on thee! and may we bind all humankind from sea to shining sea!

**Sermon:** “Imagine”

**Offertory:**

**Doxology:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God for all the Love has done; Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.

### **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

[We celebrate an open table. When the time comes to receive communion, all are welcome to come forward and share in the meal; if you are unable to walk forward but would like to participate, we will bring it to you. If you prefer not to receive communion, please remain seated in quiet meditation.]

**Hymn:** “Lift Every Voice and Sing” (NCH #593)

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty; let our rejoicing rise high as the list’ning skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us, sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us! Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast’ning rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our parents sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered; we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaugh- tered, out from the gloomy past, till now

we stand at last, where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; Thou who hast by Thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee, lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee, shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

## **Benediction**

### **Postlude:**



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



Preacher today: the Rev. Janet Langdon  
Musician: Eric Robinson;  
Deacons: Karen; deacon tech: Lee Crocker;  
Trustees: Guy Payne, chair  
Ministers to the World: the Congregation



As we seek a settled pastor, we are not offering office hours as usual, but the deacons (Karen Blanchard, Lee Crocker, Charlotte Gifford, Adrienne Major, Ray Huessy, 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).

