



**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
P.O. Box 267, Walker, MN 56484 (218) 547-1093
www.uccwalker.com commchurchucc@gmail.com

“No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!”

June 7, 2026 – Second Sunday after Pentecost | Year A
“Journeyed on by Stages”

Worship Leaders:
Pastor: Michael Small
Liturgist: Dan Batson
Greeter: Joanne Detwiler
Special Music: Voices of Community
Keyboard: Sabbastian Wilson-Webb

Tech: Ace Diehl (Video), Samuel Batson (Audio)
Spiritual Life, Chancel and Communion Preparation

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

RINGING OF THE HOUR

† HYMN

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

#25

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 33)*

One: Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God's steadfast love.

All: The Voice created the heavens and the earth. Praise God with loud shouts!

One: Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God's steadfast love.

All: Let our voices ring and sing a new song. Let us turn toward the Creator in awe.

One: Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God's steadfast love.

† For those who are able, please stand.

All: Happy are the people who seek God's counsel, who seek God's heart, and who seek God's kingdom. Rejoice in the Holy One!

A TIME OF CENTERING

(During this time of centering, open your hearts to God; be in the present, here and now.)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Holy One, through the Prophet Hosea, you declared, "I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings." We confess that, at times, we offer the ritual and routine of religious practices rather than a discerning heart that breaks with compassion and beats for justice. Strengthen us to the tenderness of knowing you, O God, more deeply, loving our neighbors more justly, and embracing our lives more fully.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

(Each person can take this time to surrender to God privately anything weighing heavy on their heart.)

WORDS OF GRACE

† PASSING THE PEACE

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Focus Scripture: Genesis 12:1-9 from *Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation* (pp. 6-7). Bloomsbury Publishing. Kindle Edition.

¹ YHWH said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people, and the home of your parents, and go to a place I will show you. ² I will make of you a great people. I will bless you and make your name so great that it will be used in blessings. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse those who curse you. And all the people on the face of the earth will be blessed through you."

⁴ Abram, who was seventy-five years old when he left Haran, began the journey as YHWH had instructed, and his nephew Lot went with them. ⁵ Abram took Sarai his spouse, Lot, all their possessions, and all the dependents they acquired in Haran, and set out for Canaan.

† For those who are able, please stand.

When they arrived in Canaan, ⁶ Abram and his family traveled through the land until they arrived at the sacred place at Shechem and came to the oak grove of Moreh.¹ The Canaanites occupied the land at that time.

⁷ YHWH appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your descendants." Abram built an altar where YHWH appeared to him. ⁸ Then they moved off toward the hill country east of Bethel and set up camp, with Bethel toward the sea and Ai to the east. Abram built an altar to YHWH and invoked the Name of YHWH.

⁹ After that they traveled in stages toward the Negev.

REFLECTION

"By Stages"

HYMN

"God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

#412

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

REMEMBERING

HYMN

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

#330

DISTRIBUTION

One: Bread that is broken – take and eat that you may be made whole.

(As the bread is served, hold on to the bread until all have been served – we eat together affirming that we are a part of the beloved community, the Body of Christ)

One: The cup of salvation – receive this cup of the new covenant knowing you are forgiven and set free.

(As the cup is served, drink when you are ready – though we are one in Christ we drink as we acknowledge our personal relationship with God/Christ/Spirit)

One: Let us pray.

All: Holy Creator, we remember the sacrifice of Jesus, and all who follow to bring love and justice to the world. May this bread and drink nourish us as they are the symbol of Christ's essence in all of us. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

¹ It is clear that oak groves were held as sacred places to many ancient peoples, not only the Celts. It is likely that Abram found that these places had already been sites of worship by the Canaanites, and set up altars to God there; it is not uncommon for new cultures to piggyback their traditions, places of worship, and holidays onto those of the cultures that precede them.

† For those who are able, please stand.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Please use words that are most familiar to you)*

Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come; your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

DOXOLOGY: *(as collection plates come forward)*

Tune #780

**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. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

† HYMN

"We Would Be Building"

#607

PARTING WORDS

POSTLUDE

WI-FI – "Guest" Scan QR Code for Internet Access

Journeyed on by Stages: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday after Pentecost Year A was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

