



*An Open & Affirming, A2A-Accessible to All
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

5 July 2026 – 10:30 AM
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

***indicates the congregation is invited to stand.
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.**

PRELUDE *Blue Skies* Irving Berlin
Aidan Santa Cruz • piano & vocals

WELCOME The Rev. David Pattee, pastor

PREFACE *Let America Be America Again* Langston Hughes

*HYMN 594 MATERNA

**How beautiful, our spacious skies, our amber waves of grain;
Our purple mountains as they rise above the fruitful plain.
America! America! God's gracious gifts abound,
And more and more we're grateful for life's bounty all around.**

**How beautiful, sincere lament, the wisdom born of tears,
The courage called for to repent the bloodshed through the years.
America! America! God grant that we may be
A nation blessed with none oppressed, true land of liberty.**

**Indigenous and immigrant, our daughters and our sons;
O may we never rest content till all are truly one.
America! America! God grant that we may be
A sisterhood and brotherhood from sea to shining sea.**

*GREETING OF PEACE

ANTHEM *Gravity* John Mayer

SCRIPTURE *Romans 7:15-25a* Jim Howley, liturgist

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

SERMON *A Few Words on Sin and Freedom* Pastor Dave

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

concluding with *A Prayer in the Spirit of Jesus*

**Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.
May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials 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.**

OFFERTORY

Invitation
Offertory Music

www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving
Contemplation



McCoy Tyner

As you come forward with your offering, you are invited to gather around the table
for the Communion prayers.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Prayers of Consecration
Distribution
Prayer of Thanksgiving

As you partake of the sacrament, you may return to your seat

**God of all goodness, we thank you for the nourishment of our faith and the renewal
of our lives through this Communion in Christ. So send us now into the world as
instruments of your peace. Where there is hate, let us sow love; where there is
injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there
is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O God, grant that we may not
so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to
be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are
pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life, through Jesus Christ,
our risen Lord and Savior. (inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1181 to October 3, 1226)**

*HYMN 547 (stanzas 1-3)

NEW BRITAIN

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace that that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home,**

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

That's All

Rutherford/Collins/Banks