



*An Open and Affirming Congregation  
of the United Church of Christ*



**Order of Worship for  
May 24, 2026 10:30 am  
Camp Asto Wamah in Columbia, CT**

*Welcome to Worship at Center Church!  
We are delighted that you are with us today.*

PENTECOST SUNDAY – CAMP ASTO WAMAH SUNDAY  
ORDER OF SERVICE FOR MAY 24, 2026

*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

WELCOME

*Elle Reynolds*

*Good morning and welcome to Center Church Camp Asto Wamah. As part of the United Church of Christ, we believe that no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT\*†

*Theo Webster*

*Most weeks Center Church worships on the ancestral lands of the Saukiog ('SAW-kee-ahg) people, as well as on land where named Europeans as well as enslaved Africans and indigenous people whose names we do not know are buried. This morning we worship in Columbia, CT, on the ancestral lands of the Mohegan (mow- 'HEE-gan) peoples.*

\*GATHERING WORDS

*Dayanand Arulampalam*

*Adapted from Psalm 98*

Leader: O sing to God a new song!

**Adults: Because God does amazing things!**

**Children and Youth: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!**

Leader: Sing songs of joy and praise!

**Adults: Use every instrument you can find to send praise!**

**All: (Clap, stomp, whistle, make trumpet sounds, etc.)**

Leader: Listen! Seas, rivers, lakes, sing their songs of joy!

**Children and Youth: Even the mountains praise God!**

**All: Let's all praise God!**

\*GATHERING MUSIC

Do Lord

African American Spiritual  
*adapted*

*Chorus*

***Do lord, Oh do lord, Oh do remember me! (x3)***

***Look away beyond the blue!***

***I've got a home in glory land, that outshines the sun (x3)***

***Look away beyond the blue! (to chorus)***

***Center Church has come to camp to sing and to pray (x3)***

***Look away, beyond the blue. (to chorus)***

***All our friends are here with us and Jesus is too (x3)***

***Look away, beyond the blue! (to chorus)***

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Jean-Luc Reynolds*

*Let us now pass the peace of Christ with one another. Greet your neighbor in a language other than English. Our icebreaker question this morning is, "Did you go to camp growing up?"*

SCRIPTURE

Acts of the Apostles 2:1-17, 41-47

*Hank Webster*

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven, there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

*<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams...*

<sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. <sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

MEDITATION

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE Spirit of the Living God

IVERSON

*Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me,  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Nivy Arulampalam*

**Our Father, 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.  
Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CALL TO OFFERING

*Sahana Arulampalam*

*We are a generous people. We love generously, we serve generously, and we give generously. With hearts of gratitude, let us now collect this morning's offering.*

OFFERTORY      This is the Day

*This is the day, this is the day.  
That our God has made, that our God has made.  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.*

*This is the day that our God has made.  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
That our God has made.*

\*DOXOLOGY      Give Thanks

D. Moen

*Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us"  
Give thanks...*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Sandra French*

*Amazing God, you made everything there is!  
We are giving back to you what is already yours.  
Help us to work with you to use these gifts to make this world a better place. Amen.*

SONG Rise and Shine (with hand motions!)

***The Lord told Noah there's gonna be a floody, floody,  
Lord told Noah there's gonna be a floody, floody;  
Get those animals out of the muddy, muddy, Children of the Lord!***

*Chorus*

***Rise, and shine, and give God the glory, glory,  
Rise, and shine, and give God the glory, glory,  
Rise, and shine, and give God the glory, glory, Children of the Lord!***

***The Lord told Noah to build Him an arky, arky,  
Lord told Noah to build Him an arky, arky,  
Build it out of hick'ry barky, barky, Children of the Lord! (to Chorus)***

***The animals, the animals, they came in by twosies, twosies,  
Animals, the animals, they came in by twosies, twosies,  
Elephants and kangaroosies, 'roosies, Children of the Lord! (to Chorus)***

***It rained and poured for forty daysies, daysies,  
Rained and poured for forty daysies, daysies,  
Almost drove those animals crazies, crazies, Children of the Lord! (to Chorus)***

***The sun came out and dried up the landy, landy,  
Look, there's the sun! It dried up the landy, landy,  
Everything was fine and dandy, dandy, Children of the Lord! (to Chorus)***

***That is the end of the end of my story, story,  
That is the end of the end of my story, story,  
Everything is hunky dory, dory, Children of the Lord! (to Chorus)***

## LITANY OF BLESSING

One: On this Camp Sunday, we celebrate Camp Asto Wamah. Each camper has heard God's call to spend time in this special place this summer. As the Holy Spirit prepares their hearts, we want to pray for them and with them. We also want to pray for those who are not here and will fill this lodge and the cabins. For the miracle of creation, in all its infinite diversity and splendor, we give thanks to the One who sustains us.

**All: We give you thanks, Holy One.**

One: For the rhythm of a paddle gently striking the water, the morning mist in a field of clover, the call of the loon, the radiance of sunset, the sparkle of water, and the dance of the dragonflies,

**All: We give you thanks, Creator God.**

One: For all those who need to be part of an inclusive community, a place where the natural world radiates, or to both, and yet, who cannot find the time or courage to do so,

**All: We give thanks for the places in our lives that give us renewal and help us to deeply know others on the journey.**

One: For all camps and retreat centers, and all sacred places whose mission is to bring people to an awareness of your glory. We pray for each participant at Camp Asto Wamah, that they may have a safe and meaningful experience, and a season of strengthening faith,

**All: We pray to you, God.**

One: For the safe travel to camp and safety while here,

**All: We pray to you, God.**

One: For the fun time in fellowship together and the relationships strengthened at camp,

**All: We pray to you, God.**

One: For new ways campers will experience your love through prayer, games, nature hikes, and all that camp has to offer,

**All: We pray to you, God.**

One: For the Asto Wamah staff, who will need strength, energy, guidance, and endurance to serve you this summer as they work with campers,

**All: We pray to you, God.**

One: For your Holy Spirit to work in exciting and unexpected ways through the outdoor ministry of Center Church Camp Asto Wamah,

**All: We pray to you, God.**

One: For this beautiful place, infused with divinity, called Camp Asto Wamah. Bless this season with grace, abundance, safety, connection, and love.

**All: We pray to you, God.**

One: And God, please help all of us to live out the message of Camp Asto Wamah, as inspired by Jesus:

**All: To love You, to love ourselves, and to love our neighbor. Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

*Thank you to everyone who participated in worship this morning. Go in Peace!*