



**July 26, 2026
10 am Worship**

Pastor Wade Berkey

Message:
Returning Home!



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We Gather Together and Praise God

Prelude

Greetings and Announcements

Think about this . . .

Sometimes when we have traveled away from the familiar, we return and find the familiar holds more than we had noticed before. Our eyes, now trained to wonder and appreciate, behold the place we left afresh. Our *Quest* has brought us right around again.

*Call to Worship
(responsive)*

As we bring our series on travel to a close, we contemplate what it means to return home. After stretching our spirits and our love to include more of the glorious creation and its peoples, we return to a home that will never be the same to us. We have returned with guests—memories of new friends and new perspectives. Perhaps we also return with new convictions to be more active and loving citizens of humanity right where we reside. Jesus says *abide in me* and follows that up with the commandment to love one another. The beauty of travel as a spiritual act is that our prized souvenirs are the *strands of different cultures we decide to knit into our own character*.

Coming home, we set our seeing to hold onto deeper meaning; loving life and making home a place for all the creation and its beings.

Music

Happy the Home; UMH # 445

*Opening Prayer
(unison)*

Sojourning God, your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path, inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each other. May we see that our home paths are the unfamiliar paths for someone else. With renewed compassion, open our hearts for hospitality, so that in our welcoming, we will grow together in peace, expand our chances for love, and deepen understanding right where we are. Nudge and guide us, we pray. Amen.

We Hear God's Word!

First Reading
Second Reading

Psalm 36:5-9
John 15:1-17

Children's Message

Sermon Series
Sermon Title

Quest: The Awakened Traveler!
Returning Home!

We Respond to God's Word

Music

For the Beauty of the Earth; UMH # 92

Morning Prayer

Prayer Requests

The Lord's Prayer

*Invitation to
the Offering*

Christ invites us to live and serve with him — letting his burden lighten our own. He multiplies the gifts we share — making thousands of myriads of love and of blessing.

Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #95

Offering Prayer

Going Forth to Serve God

Music

Marching to Zion; UMH # 733

Benediction

As you move into the journey of your life, may you love the journey as a spiritual act, always expanding your horizons, inviting you to travel beyond your preconceptions, and encouraging you ever to embrace the infinite delight of this earth and its beings. And may the Creator continue your unfolding, the Christ accompany your deeper knowing, the Spirit enliven your growing, until one day we all gather in the Kingdom of Love.

Coming home, we set our seeing to hold onto deeper meaning; loving life and making home a place for all the creation and its beings.

Postlude



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Our Mission

The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.