



**July 12, 2026
10 am Worship**

Pastor Wade Berkey

Message:
The Encounter!



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We Gather Together and Praise God

Prelude

Greetings and Announcements

Think about this . . .

We began a journey last week. For these four weeks we will be training our traveler's *mindset* and heart and soul, expanding our horizons, our understanding, and our love for the world and its people. We focused last week on leaving home. This week we find ourselves in *The Encounter* with things that feel *far from home*.

Call to Worship (responsive)

Jesus often crossed paths with others not from his *tribe*. He did not shy away. Actually, he most often sought out these opportunities. He met people in their daily lives and locales, such as the Samaritan woman at the well and her community, and engaged with them at the point of their deepest yearning. When we seek out and open to new encounters, new people, new relationships, we allow ourselves a spiritual rendezvous with humanity. And in this act, we discover more depth within us than we previously imagined. How can we shift our perception, redefining *strangers as friends we have not yet met*?

Far from home, we know we're seeing, everywhere is full of meaning; different folks expand our world and awe of all the creation and its beings.

Music

And Are We Yet Alive; UMH #553

Opening Prayer (unison)

Sojourning God, your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path, inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each other. Open us to the depth of our connections even when it seems difference is so profound. Show us our shared humanity so that we will know what others love, see that we love the same, and share the burdens and the love. Nudge and guide us, we pray. Amen.

We Hear God's Word!

First Reading
Second Reading

Psalm 146
John 4:7-40

Children's Message

Sermon Series
Sermon Title

Quest: The Awakened Traveler!
The Encounter!

We Respond to God's Word

Music

Christ for the World We Sing; UMH # 568

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

Go, Tell It on the Mountain; UMH # 251

Benediction

As you encounter others, especially those not in your immediate circles, may you be aware that these very moments are spiritual acts of expanding your horizon, traveling beyond your preconceptions, and embracing 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.

Far from home, we know we're seeing, everywhere is full of meaning; different folks expand our world and awe of 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.