**A Litany for Outdoor Ministries**

One: For the miracle of creation, in all its infinite diversity and splendor, we give thanks to the one who sustains us.

**Many: We give thanks that we, too, are part of creation. We pray that we might remember our status as children of God through our participation in the circle of life.**

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 on the water, and the dance of the dragonflies

**Many: We praise you!**

One: God, we know that we have too often isolated ourselves from the very things that bring us a connection to You. We pray for the wisdom to seek out places such as Jesus did: the mountain, the plain, the lake shore, the wilderness.

**Many: We pray that we might remember that Christ is present in ourselves and in others.**

One: We pray 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.

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

One: Gracious God, we pray for 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 in all United Church of Christ Outdoor Ministry programs, that they may have a safe and meaningful experience and a season of strengthening faith.

**Many: We thank you for the astoundingly beautiful place, infused with divinity, called Silver Lake. Bless this season with grace, abundance, safety, connection, and love**.

One: And God, please help all of us to live out the message of Silver Lake as inspired by Jesus:

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