**Climate Hope Children's Sermon Script**

*Props: A card table and two folding chairs are placed in the front of the sanctuary. On the table are two spoons, two bowls, a gallon of milk, a box of Cherrios, and a newspaper. The person delivering the children’s sermon will have a Climate Hope Voter Pledge Card. (Members of the church should also have pledge cards in their bulletin.)*

*Scene: A retired couple is sitting at the table for breakfast on Sunday morning. The person delivering the children’s sermon talks to the children in front of the table and the couple.*

Children’s Sermon Leader: Good morning, children! It is great to see all of you here today. I care a lot about God’s creation—the environment all around us—and I had a long speech prepared for you today about that. I am sure it would not have been boring at all, but then something truly remarkable happened this morning in the home of [Actor 1] and [Actor 2]. It’s something that will have a big impact on each of you. Let’s watch and listen to what occurred at the breakfast table in their household.

Actor 1 (reading newspaper): All this pollution in the world has created some real big problems! It can bring a person down just thinking about it. You know what there is not enough of in this world? Hope! The world needs more hope!

Actor 2: I agree, but you can't just buy hope at the grocery store with milk and Cheerios. How are we going to get more hope?

Actor 1: Isn't hope something that our church can help with?

Actor 2: If only the children of our church could help put some energy into doing something to make this world a better place. Those children have such great energy. They give me hope for the future!

Children’s Sermon Leader: Wow, what a scene! It just so happens there is a way that each of you can help give everyone here a boost of hope. In UCC churches across the country, people are working to reduce the pollution that makes the world warm up more than it should. One way churches are doing this is by collecting Climate Hope Voter Pledge Cards. I bet many of you have heard about the big election that is coming up. One of the ways voters can have an impact is if they think and care about the environment when they vote, so that we can have leaders who also care about the environment and have a good plan to reduce pollution. Can a couple of you help read this card?

(One reads part of the front, while another reads part of the back.)

From the front: Take the climate hope pledge! I pledge to vote as an act of hope for present and future generations.

From the back: By taking the Climate Hope Voter Pledge, you are making a sacred commitment to a more just and equitable world for people of all ages, races, and walks of life.

Children’s Sermon Leader: Do you think we should have the adults here fill this out? Should we ask them right now? Let's practice saying "Take the climate hope pledge!" on the count of three. Ready, one, two, three, “Take the climate hope pledge!” Great, let’s do it one more time with lots of energy. One, two, three, “Take the climate hope pledge!”

Great job! Thanks so much for giving us all a boost of hope. Let’s close in prayer: Gracious God, thanks for planting hope in our hearts. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to make a difference in caring for your creation. We pray now in the name of your Son, amen.

*Additional idea to add a little more fun: One can use the completed pledge cards as part of a contest to win a prize—like a* [*Climate Hope mug*](https://www.uccresources.com/products/mug-climate-hope-hands?variant=40848383443007) *or a potted flower. One can collect the pledge cards during the offering, and then, invite one of the children to pick out the winning pledge card during coffee hour.*