



Hope UCC Weekly Update: November 27, 2022

There is always something happening at Hope UCC, so we thought we would add a weekly announcement feature to the bulletin that is mailed and emailed out to everyone. This Weekly Update will provide you with announcements, information, and updates on all that is going on in our community – at church and beyond.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Hope UCC's office will be closed November 24 and 25 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Advent Angel Tree at Hope UCC



This year Hope UCC's Mission and Outreach Ministry has partnered with Rock Island Academy to bring Christmas hope, love, peace, and joy to their teachers and students by filling the teacher classroom wish lists. We will also have the most needed items for World Relief on the Angel Tree as they continue to welcome newly arrived immigrants and refugees to the Quad Cities. The Angel Tree is located in Fellowship Hall. Please take a tag and attach it to the gift when you return it to church. Presents do not have to be wrapped, but please remember to attach that tag. If you would like to make a monetary donation to the Angel Tree, be assured it will be used to purchase items on the tree. If you make a monetary donation, please write "Angel Tree" on the envelope or memo line of the check. Gifts should be returned to Hope UCC by January 1. Thank you for supporting this special outreach ministry.

Advent at Hope UCC

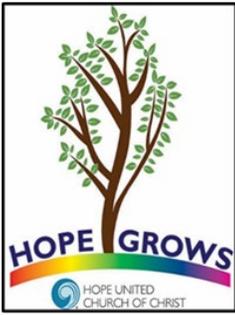
From Generation to Generation...
Intergenerational Advent Art Project
*Join us each Sunday at the table in
 Fellowship Hall to create
 a special ornament.*

**QUAD CITIES
 FLUTES UNLIMITED
 HOLIDAY CONCERT**
DECEMBER 5, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.
HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Come enjoy the wonderful songs of the holiday
 season at this free concert.*
3324 41st Street in Moline
www.hopeuccqc.org

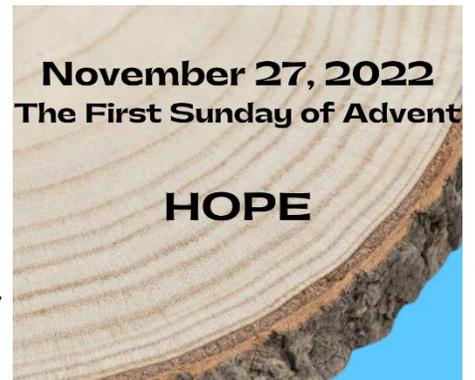
Blessing Box Donations

Thank you for your ongoing support with donations. Please keep it coming. This week's needs include: canned fruit, peanut butter, canned stew/chili, small Kleenex, bar soap, dry soup packages, and dry potato packages. Diapers size 4,5,6 are welcome, too.



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
 Worship Bulletin November 27, 2022
 First Sunday of Advent
 HOPE

*Thank you for joining us for worship today.
 We are glad you are here!
 No matter who you are or where you are on life's*



***Those who are able, please stand**

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: Over one hundred people, from the ages of two to eighty years old, were asked the question, "What gives you hope?" From the voices of different generations, hear their answers:

One: My children.

One: Dogs wagging their tails.

One: Talking with young people.

One: Kindness from strangers.

One: Praying

One: Babies trying over and over to take their first step.

One: The seasons changing

One: Working for progress and justice

One: My church community.

One: The sunrise every single morning.

One: What gives you hope?

One: Today we light the candle of hope to remind ourselves that God is at work in this world.

(First blue candle is lit)

Many: From generation to generation, God has brought good news of love and compassion, justice and community. Let us rest and abide in that good news. Amen.

LEAD US TO YOUR LIGHT

Gathering Rite

1. Processional Song
 Refrain

Carol Browning

Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark-ness.

Lead us to your light. Come, Je - sus, come.

Adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

SILENT REFLECTION

Where did you experience hope this past week?

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Draw near to us, O God;

Many: Even as we draw near to you.

One: Open our hearts and minds to your presence;

Many: And wake us up from the sleep and distractions holding us back.

One: Prepare us to receive your love;

Many: Even as we prepare our lives to celebrate the joy of Christ's birth with joyful hope.

*OPENING HYMN #110 *Now Bless the God of Israel* (see end of bulletin)

*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

God of the ages, in scripture we hear stories of people like us: ordinary people, people who longed to know you, people who longed to follow you, people who made mistakes, people who tried to grow. Your people are old, young, native, immigrant, new to the faith, or lifelong believers. In scripture we hear stories of people like us, so just as you walked with them, help us to hear and remember all the ways that you walk with us. We are listening. We are grateful. We are yours. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here." But we say, "Our lives are too messy." You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here." But we say, "It's too risky to hope." You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here." But we say, "Some things are easier to forget." God of today and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that there's room for us here. Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best. Help us remember, today and tomorrow, that there is room for every story. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND PASSING OF PEACE

We are created in the image of God and are blessed with the capacity to reflect God's will in our daily lives. God cares for us and invests us with responsibility. Thus, God honors us with high expectations and confidence in our willingness to seek out life's best for all people. We are loved. We are forgiven. Our baptism is renewed.

Let us offer one another the gift of peace. May the Lord's peace be with you! *(If you are using this liturgy as a private devotion or participating in the live stream worship, please hold out your hands in blessing for all you are joined with in spirit. If you are participating in the live stream worship, please type in your peace greeting.)*

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

One: May the Lord be with you.

Many: And also, with you.

One: Let us pray: ...

With the assurance Jesus offers, together we pray the words Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. 3 Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. 5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 1:1-17

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, 4 and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, 7 and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, 8 and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, 9 and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 10 and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, 11 and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. 12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, 15 and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, 16 and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the Messiah. 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

SERMON "An Invitation for All Generations"

SERMON HYMN #121 *All the Earth Is Waiting* (see end of bulletin)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We are stewards of God's household, managers of the Earth's treasures for a little while. This time of offering gives us opportunities to invest in causes consistent with God's will for us, to offer the light of God's love to sisters, brothers, and siblings living in despair. Let us not withhold what is already God's own.

Hope UCC thanks you for the gifts you share with this congregation. Your offering enables us to live into our mission. Offering plates are located near the Sanctuary doors.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Thank you, God, for the privilege of sharing your bounty with those in need. Thank you for blessing our work and witness. We seek to walk in your light and follow the pathways where you lead. We want to share the good news of salvation through these gifts and by the way we live. May all generations be made ready for Christ's coming. Amen.

BENEDICTION

One: Let us live honorably as in the day. May we have nothing to hide from God or others.

Many: We seek to live in the light of God's love. We want to be ready when Christ comes.

One: We have been privileged to ascend God's mountains. We are honored by God's call to us.

Many: It has been good to meet together in God's house. It is good to serve together in God's world.

One: May we carry the peace of God wherever we go. Let us share that peace with all whom we meet.

Many: For the sake of all, we say, "Peace be with you." To all the world, we promise, "We will seek your good." Amen.

CLOSING INVITATION

How will you share Hope this week?

POSTLUDE

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Now Bless the God of Israel

*Luke 1:68-79; Ps. 18:1-3; Isa. 9:2-7**Ruth Duck, 1985*

1 Now bless the God of Is - ra - el, who comes in love and power,
 2 Re - mem-ber-ing the cov - e - nant, God res - cues us from fear,
 3 In ten - der mer-cy, God will send the day - spring from on high,

who rais - es from the roy - al house de - liv - erance in this hour.
 that we might serve in hol - i - ness and peace from year to year;
 our ris - ing sun, the light of life for those who sit and sigh.

Through ho - ly proph-ets God has sworn to free us from a - larm,
 And you, my child, shall go be - fore to preach, to proph - e - sy,
 God comes to guide our way to peace, that death shall reign no more.

to save us from the heav-y hand of all who wish us harm.
 that all may know the ten - der love, the grace of God most high.
 Sing prais-es to the Ho - ly One! O wor - ship and a - dore!

This text by United Church of Christ clergywoman Ruth Duck is a paraphrase of the "Benedictus," which is often sung at morning prayer. She came to appreciate daily prayer while studying at the University of Notre Dame.

Tune: FOREST GREEN C.M.D.
Traditional English melody
 Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

121

Toda la Tierra

(All Earth Is Waiting)

Isa. 40:3-5; Luke 3:4-6; Matt. 1:23

*Alberto Taulé, 1972; alt.
Transl. Gertrude C. Suppe, 1987; alt.*

Unison

1 To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor y el sur - co a - bier - to, la
 2 Di - ce el pro - fe - ta al pue - blo de Is - ra - el: "De ma - dre vir - gen ya
 1 All earth is wait - ing to see the Prom - ised One, and o - pen fur - rows, the
 2 Thus says the proph - et to those of Is - ra - el, "A vir - gin moth - er will

o - bra del Crea - dor; es el mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad,
 vie - ne Em - ma - nuel," se - rá "Dios con no - so - tros," se - mi - lla se - rá,
 sow - ing of our God. All the world, bound and strug - gling, seeks true lib - er - ty;
 bear Em - man - u - el": One whose name is "God with us," our Sav - ior shall be,

re - cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. (4 dar - nos li - ber - tad.)
 con él la es - pe - ran - za al mun - do vol - ve - rá.
 it cries out for jus - tice and search - es for the truth. (4 brings us lib - er - ty.)
 through whom hope will blos - som once more with - in our hearts.

Alberto Taulé, composer and author of this new Advent hymn, has served as a parish priest and music editor for the Roman Catholic Church in Spain. This hymn was his first to be published in the United States.

Tune: TAULE 11.11.12.12.
 Alberto Taulé, 1972
 Harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1988

3 Mon-tes y va-lles
 ha-brá que pre-pa-rar;
 nue-vos ca-mi-nos
 te-ne-mos que tra-zar.
 Dios es-tá ya muy cer-ca,
 ve-nid-lo a en-con-trar,
 y to-das las puer-tas
 a-brid de par en par.

4 En un pe-se-bre
 Je-sús a-pa-re-ció,
 pe-ro en el mun-do
 es-tá pre-sen-te hoy.
 Vi-ve en-tre la gen-te,
 con e-llas es-tá;
 y vuel-ve de nue-vo
 a dar-nos li-ber-tad.

3 Moun-táins and val-leys will
 have to be made plain;
 o-pen new high-ways,
 new high-ways for our God,
 Who is now com-ing closer,
 so come all and see,
 and o-pen the door-ways
 as wide as wide can be.

4 In low-ly sta-ble
 the Prom-ised One ap-peared,
 yet feel that pres-ence
 through-out the earth to-day,
 For Christ lives in all Chris-tians
 and is with us now;
 a-gain, on ar-riv-ing
 Christ brings us lib-er-ty.