



## **Hope UCC Weekly Update: October 17, 2021**

*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.*

### **Men's Breakfast**

Men's Breakfast Fellowship has been suspended. Due to concerns of COVID, participation has been very low. So until further notice, there will be no Men's Breakfast Fellowship at this time. Any questions or concerns, please call Dan Hawotte.

### **Congregational Sympathy**

Congregational love and sympathy is extended to Sue Grchan and Joanne Bowman upon the death of their brother, Bob Seitz. Bob passed away Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. Our love and prayers are lifted for Sue and Joanne and their families in this time of loss.

### **Trunk or Treat October 23: Join Us on Noah's Ark!**

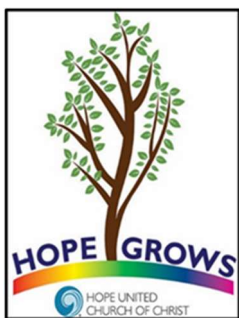
Our Mission and Outreach Ministry has registered our church for the City of Moline Parks & Recreation's annual Trunk or Treat event. Join us at the Green Valley Softball Complex from 3:00-5:00 P.M. to pass out candy, meet and engage with our neighbors from all around the community, and enjoy the afternoon together. Our theme is Noah's Ark, so you can dress up as Noah, his family, or any of the animals. Would you like to help but cannot make it to the event? We would be thankful for any donations of Halloween treats – specifically individual bags of animal crackers or other individual bags of animal themed candies/treats (gummy bears, teddy grahams, etc) you'd like to offer. Please bring any Halloween treat donations to the church office during the week or to Fellowship Hall on the Sundays before October 23rd. Please see any of the members of M&O for more information or to sign up to help on the 23rd: Kathy Hobson, Jenny Hookey, Barb Hawotte, Donna Werner, and Lisa & Brian Williams.

### **Celebrate Our Saints**

We will celebrate All Saints Sunday on November 7th this year. We will honor the memory of the saints in our lives during worship by adding to our 'Circle of Saints' wreath. The Circle of Saints holds ribbons with the names of beloved people in our lives who have died. Each year we add to the circle as we honor their memories. You can repeat the name(s) you included last year as well as adding any new names this year. Ribbons will be available beginning October 17 and we invite you to take one (or many) and write the names of the people in your lives whose memories you wish to honor. We are happy to mail them to you as well. Simply call or email the church office and let us know how many you would like. Please return the ribbons to church before or on the morning of November 7th, and they will be attached to the circle. Ribbons will be available at church during the weeks leading up to November 7th. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Santina or Pam in the church office.

### **Be the Church: Enjoy This Life Worship on October 31**

We will conclude our worship series, 'Be the Church,' as we explore what it means to 'Enjoy this Life.' What a great coincidence that it falls on October 31<sup>st</sup>! We will enjoy life together in a fun way during worship on October 31st. We invite you to come dressed in costume as your favorite Bible character, event, or item, or as your favorite religious figure/character. Yes, this is for all ages! ☺ Get creative – enjoy the fun of thinking about and creating your costume. Our Worship and Music Ministry team will host a baked potato lunch following worship. Your free will offering will be used to support the Blessing Box ministry.



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL  
 Worship Bulletin October 17, 2021  
 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost  
***“Protect the Environment”***

*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 journey,  
 you are welcome at Hope UCC!*

**BE THE CHURCH**  
*Protect the environment. Care for the poor.*  
*Forgive often. **Reject racism.***  
**Fight for the powerless.**  
*Share earthly and spiritual resources.*  
*Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.*

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are God's church:

**We come together to worship.**

God has given us God's Word:

**We come together to learn from God.**

God has filled us with God's love:

**We go out to share God's love with others.**

God calls us into God's family:

**We come together to share our lives.**

God has put God's words on our lips:

**We go out to tell the world about God.**

God has given us God's Spirit:

**We come together to celebrate and live the Good News.**

We are God's church:

**We come together to worship. We come together to be the church.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *Morning Has Broken* (see end of bulletin)

**\*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST**

God of Creation, we stand in awe of your glorious work. From the dust, you brought forth life; from the watery chaos, you brought forth the beauty and order of creation. Your work creates a sense of wonder within each of us and your holy designs bring us energy and life. As we celebrate your creation today, we rejoice knowing that your hands made this spectacular world and everything in it. And as your people, we reaffirm our place in creation and our care for and protection of it. Amen.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Saving God, Sometimes we forget that this earth is completely yours. Sometimes, we neglect to remember that these lands were made by you for all creatures. Sometimes, we think we know better and believe we are entitled to use creation in any way without thinking about how to protect your creation. For the times we neglected to remember you and have not cared or protected your creation as we are called to do, forgive us, God. Help us to remember it is by your hands that we have this soil, these plants, these creatures, and each and every person on this planet. 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.)*

## SPECIAL MUSIC *All Nature Sings* Bell Choir

## 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 LESSONS

Genesis 2:1-15

<sup>1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, <sup>5</sup>when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; <sup>6</sup>but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—<sup>7</sup>then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground,<sup>8</sup> and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

<sup>9</sup>Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. <sup>11</sup>The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; <sup>12</sup>and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. <sup>13</sup>The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. <sup>14</sup>The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. <sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

Leviticus 25:1-7, 18-23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying: <sup>2</sup>Speak to the people of Israel and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you, the land shall observe a sabbath for the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather in their yield; <sup>4</sup>but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of complete rest for the land, a sabbath for the LORD: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. <sup>5</sup>You shall not reap the aftergrowth of your harvest or gather the grapes of your unpruned vine: it shall be a year of complete rest for the land. <sup>6</sup>You may eat what the land yields during its sabbath—you, your male and female slaves, your hired and your bound laborers who live with you; <sup>7</sup>for your livestock also, and for the wild animals in your land all its yield shall be for food. <sup>18</sup>You shall observe my statutes and faithfully keep my ordinances, so that you may live on the land securely. <sup>19</sup>The land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and live on it securely. <sup>20</sup>Should you ask, “What shall we eat in the seventh year, if we may not sow or gather in our crop?” <sup>21</sup>I will order my blessing for you in the sixth year, so that it will yield a crop for three years. <sup>22</sup>When you sow in the eighth year, you will be eating from the old crop; until the ninth year, when its produce comes in, you shall eat the old.

SERMON “Protect the Environment”

SERMON HYMN #539 *Touch the Earth Lightly* (see end of bulletin)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We are always connected to all of creation. Through the call of God’s Spirit, we are asked to care for the work of God’s hands- to protect the environment. We offer this care through our time, talent and treasures. Let us offer our treasures in this time and space.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Through our financial treasures we can Be the Church. Through these gifts we can care for your entire creation. May your wisdom carry us as we use these gifts to strengthen your kingdom. May your Spirit guide us to use our gifts of time and talent to build a heaven-like earth. Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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# Morning Has Broken

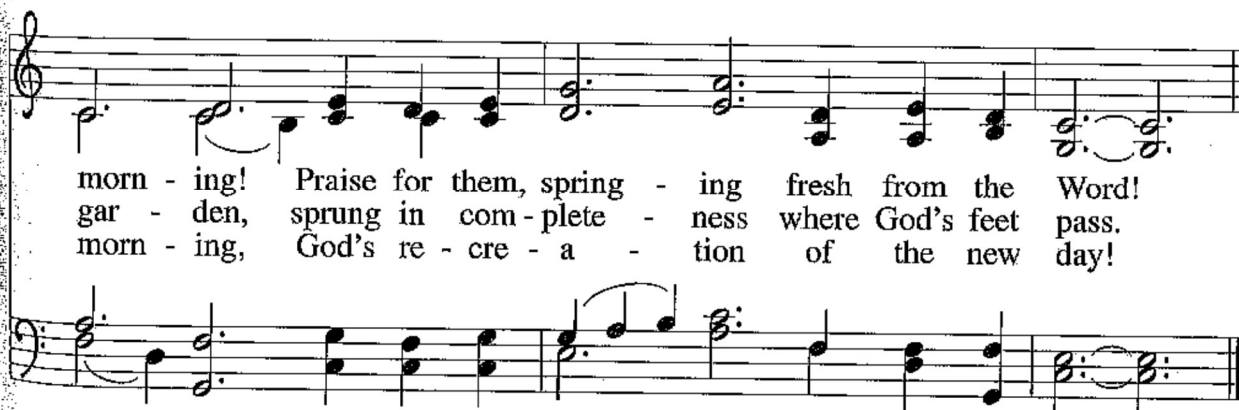
556



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965  
 Music: Gaelic tune: arr. hymnal version

BUNESSAN



569

## Touch the Earth Lightly

Unison  
Brightly

Shirley Erena Murray, 1992

1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,  
 \* 2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,  
 3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,  
 4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,

\*The second verse only may be sung in A minor, omitting the sharps except where indicated in parentheses.

nour-ish the life of the world in our care:  
 a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,  
 wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,  
 God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,

Gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,  
 We who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—  
 Health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,  
 Teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,

trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
 God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!  
 re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.  
 us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

Shirley Erena Murray's notes on this hymn state that the title line is borrowed from an Australian Aboriginal saying. The "clouds of disaster" mentioned in stanza 2 refer to nuclear testing by France, which New Zealand has protested at the United Nations many times.

Tune: TENDERNESS 5.5.10.D.  
 Colin Gibson, 1992