



Hope UCC Weekly Update: July 3, 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.

A Different Style of Worship on July 3rd

On July 3rd we will kick off a new worship series: “Gathered at the Table – The Holy Experience of Sharing Food.” Throughout this worship series we will explore the many ways God is present around the “Table” both in offering and receiving the gifts of hospitality. We will use holy texts from both the Old and New Testaments in this series. As we kick off this summer series, we will gather in Fellowship Hall for worship on July 3rd. We will have our 10:00 a.m. service in Fellowship Hall only on July 3rd. The rest of our worship services in this series will take place in the sanctuary as usual.

The format of worship on July 3rd will be a little different – not just where we’re sitting (around tables) but also in how the service is delivered. We will celebrate Holy Communion in two parts: sharing the bread early in the service and the cup at the conclusion of the service. Also, instead of a formal ‘sermon,’ Pastor Santina will offer a reflection on the text and then you will discuss the scripture at your tables using prepared discussion questions offered by your Table Facilitator.

We thank you for your willingness to be part of a different way of ‘doing church’ today!

Hope UCC’s office will be closed on Monday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

Book Club meets July 25th this month. The book is “The Messy Lives of Book People” by Phaedra Patrick.

Blessing Box Donations Needed Small jars of Peanut Butter, disposable razors, Pop Tarts, & Individually wrapped snack items like bars, nuts, snack crackers, or raisins, and canned meat products like tuna or chicken. Also needed are hygiene items: individually wrapped bars of soap, deodorant, sunblock, women’s menstrual products, small containers of laundry detergent, and small (trial, travel, hotel sized) shampoos and lotions and body wash.

Ruth Circle meets July 18.

Library/Classroom Cleaning Wednesday July 13 from 1-3. Please join us!

Did you receive your July newsletter? If you would like a hard copy mailed to you and/or an electronic version delivered to your email, please let the church office know! Bridget can be contacted at (309) 762-1419 or emailed at office.hopeuccqc@gmail.com.



**Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin July 3, 2022
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

*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!*

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



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sometimes good things are right in front of us and we don't see them.

Many: Our fears and our prejudices blind us.

One: Open your eyes this day to see the goodness of the Lord.

Many: Open our hearts, gracious God, to receive your blessings.

One: Bring your praises and your songs to the table of the Lord.

Many: May our hearts and spirits rejoice in this day as we gather at the Table to share a life-giving meal.

*OPENING HYMN #421 *We Gather Together* (see end of bulletin)

*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

Meet us, Lord, on the road to Emmaus, guide us on the path toward our destination, and renew our strength as we continue to walk and commune with you. Open our eyes, so we see the signs of your presence around us; Open our hearts, so we may receive your peace and love; and empower us, through the grace you have shared with us so freely, to always make room at the table you have created for us. Amen

Adapted from a prayer written by Rev. Frank Schaefer

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

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.)*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: BREAKING AND SHARING THE BREAD

We will share the bread now. We will share the cup at the conclusion of worship.

WELCOME

One: May God be with you.

Many: **And also with you**

One: Let us lift up our hearts.

Many: **We lift them to God**

One: Let us give thanks to God most high

Many: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

REMEMBER

CONSECRATION

BREAKING & SHARING THE BREAD

*Please pass a container of bread to the person sitting on your right with the words,
"Take and eat this Bread of Life" as you accept the gift of bread from your neighbor.*

**Gluten free containers of bread are in a separate basket on each table. **

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.

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:13-35

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" 19 He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. 22 Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23 and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." 25 Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that

the prophets have declared! 26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" 27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. 28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" 35 Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

PASTOR'S REFLECTION

DISCUSSION AT TABLES

We will have an opportunity to share our thoughts, reactions, and reflections on this text with each other at our tables. Please reflect and respond to the questions offered by your Table Facilitator. We hope that this opportunity to share our thoughts on the text provides you with new insights and understandings of the text, how God is at work in your life, as well as an opportunity to get to know your neighbors a little more deeply.

Reflection Questions:

*How familiar are you with this story? When do you remember hearing it?

*What is surprising to you about this story?

*What stood out to you? Why do you think you noticed this?

*How has an act of hospitality affected you/made and impact on you/changed the way you see & experience things

SERMON HYMN #343 *Jesus Took the Bread* (see end of bulletin)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Like the disciples at Emmaus, we offer what we have. They offered their company, their table, their bread. Together we share these gifts so that others may grow and thrive and know God's love through Christ.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy and loving God, we invite you to be with us as we offer you our love and our devotion through these gifts. Holy May our eyes be opened to your holy presence among us, now and always. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: SHARING OF THE CUP

At this time, we will share the Cup.

WELCOME

REMEMBER

CONSECRATION

POURING AND SHARING THE CUP

At this time the Table Facilitator will pour each of you a cup of juice. Once everyone has a cup, please drink in response to Pastor Santina's invitation to drink from the Cup of Salvation.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our savior. Amen

BENEDICTION

One: People of the Road, rejoice, for God is with you.

Many: We will bring God's love and peace to all whom we meet.

One: Make room at the Table for the unexpected guest.

Many: We are given eyes and hearts to see the Holy within others and to know God's peace and love through all whom we meet. Amen

POSTLUDE

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We Gather Together

*Netherlands folk hymn, 16th century
Transl. Theodore Baker, 1894
Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992*

- 1 We gath-er to-geth-er
to ask for God's bless-ing,
to live in com-mu-ni-ty,
seek-ing God's will.
We come now, as sis-ters
and broth-ers, con-fess-ing
the sins that di-vide
and the wrong in us still.
- 2 Be-side us, for-giv-ing,
en-a-bling, sus-tain-ing,
you call us, O Sav-ior,
to life that is new.
You draw us a-way
from self-cen-tered com-plain-ing.
You lead us and guide us
in ways that are true.
- 3 All praise to the Spir-it,
pro-vid-er, de-fend-er.
You of-fer us free-dom,
to fol-low or stray,
Em-pow-er-ing all by
the hope you en-gen-der.
Grant wis-dom and cour-age
to fol-low your way.

The original text of this hymn was one of thanksgiving for The Netherlands' independence from Spanish domination in the sixteenth century. It has been reinterpreted for contemporary congregations by United Church of Christ minister and writer Lavon Bayler.

Tune: KREMSER 12.11.12.11.
*16th-century Dutch melody
Arr. Edward Kremser, 1877*

343

Jesus Took the Bread

Matt. 26:26-28; Luke 9:16; 22:19; 24:30

Ruth Duck, 1982

Unison D A F#m Bm Em7 D/A A7

1 Je - sus took the bread, dai - ly gift of God,
 2 Je - sus blessed the bread, thanked the God of grace,
 3 Je - sus broke the bread; then he poured the wine.
 4 Je - sus gives the bread at our ta - ble still,

Bm Bm7 GM7 C Em7 A7

formed of wheat and sweat and toil, sun, rain, and sod.
 thanked the One who made all worlds, all time, all space.
 Bro - ken bod - y, life poured out, God gives as sign.
 gives the cup to those who seek God's lov - ing will.

D A Bm Em F#m GM7 A7

In our hands we take gifts of bread and wine,
 Bless - ing, hon - or, praise, all to God be - long.
 Weak, a - fraid, and lost: that is when we're healed.
 Let us go in peace; let us free - ly give,

D A F# Bm Em A7 D

gath - ered from the fields of earth, signs of love di - vine.
 Let us lift our hearts to God in a thank - ful song.
 In our hu - man bro - ken - ness: there God is re - vealed.
 shar - ing love with all the world dai - ly as we live.

Ruth Duck wrote this hymn emphasizing the actions of communion—taking, blessing, breaking, and giving the bread—following a summer study of liturgy at the University of Notre Dame. It was first used at New Hope United Church of Christ in Milwaukee.

Tune: NEW HOPE 10.11.10.12.

Ruth Duck, 1982

Arr. Randall Sensmeier, 1982