

Jesus Welcomes the Children by Jesus Mafa. 1973

Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL Worship Bulletin June 28, 2020 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!

PRELUDE My Faith Looks Up to Thee - Lowell Mason

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Early in the morning, our thoughts turn toward God. We have been led to this mountaintop of worship

Many: We come, trusting in God's steadfast love. We gather, seeking the way of salvation and peace.

One: God has made an everlasting covenant with us. Let us proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.

Many: Sometimes we think God has forgotten us. Often we do not understand what God expects of us.

One: God deals bountifully with us in much that we take for granted. God shows us the value of life and helps us celebrate it.

Many: We bring our sorrow and pain to this healing time. May God provide what we need to grow in Christ.

OPENING HYMN God Is Truly With Us (Wunderbarer Konig)

INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

Have you forgotten us, God? Will you remain hidden from us forever? We speak of you, but we do not know you. We often distrust those who speak glibly of your intervention in their lives. We marvel at the amazing variety of life on this planet. All that we see with our eyes is but a small hint of all that is revealed through microscopes and telescopes—other worlds of form and beauty so amazing beyond any telling. Yet our spiritual ancestors have known you not only as Creator of all things but as one who knows and loves each one of us. Help us to know you're here, today. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Free us, O God, from such absorption in our own concerns that we forget your loving intention for us. We find it hard to view what is happening around us through any eyes but our own. We obey our own passions rather than joining your intention for the good of all. It is hard for us, who so value our autonomy, to speak of obedience. Yet we are ashamed of things we have done and things we have failed to do. We want to claim your free gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. We sense that you intend for us to accept and live within that gift here and now. Help us, loving God. 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 by 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

Psalm 13

How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

- How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
 How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
- ³ Consider and answer me, O LORD my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,
- and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.
- ⁵ But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
- ⁶ I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Genesis 22:1-14

¹After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill[£] his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; [£] as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 10:40-42

⁴⁰"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

SERMON "Hospitality, Jesus Style"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We can offer to God only what we have been given. God may require our dearest treasure, for it is only lent to us for a time. What God has provided, we are now invited to invest in the disciple-making business of the church.

We are profoundly grateful for your continued support of Hope UCC as we stay connected as a faith community in this time of social distancing and spiritual connection. We are continuing the ministry of our church throughout this stay at home order and we thank you for making this possible. We now have two ways to make your offering. Hope UCC is now able to offer e-giving through Breeze Management System to make it safer and easier for you to give anytime. You are able to safely donate electronically using your credit card or ACH transfer. You can find the link on our church website (www.hopeuccqc.org). We also invite you to mail your offering to the church office – mail and messages are checked daily by Pastor Santina. Thank you for your generosity- your commitment is vital to continuing our congregation's ministries and commitments. Hope Grows! And there is nothing-not even a global pandemic - that can stop it! \odot

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We bring our offering, not with thought of reward, but because we are grateful. We give, not from guilt over having so much, but because it is such a privilege and joy to share. We dedicate these gifts, not to pay bills, but to enable a ministry that meets basic human needs with the good news of the gospel. May your people be empowered to give the service each moment requires, in even a deed as simple as giving a cup of cold water to quench another's thirst. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (Chereponi)

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BENEDICTION

One: The Teacher has called you as disciples. Learn from Christ to serve without fear.

Many: We expect to learn daily from our Teacher. We commit ourselves anew to Christ's service.

One: You have been baptized into Christ's death. Live, with Christ, your resurrection faith.

Many: We are not afraid of the cross. It calls us to fullness of life, spent for others.

One: Let God's love be your first awareness each day. Let that love flow through every activity.

Many: We bow down to glorify God's name. We rejoice that God makes a place for our witness.

POSTLUDE Praise to the Lord, The Almighty - arr. Labenske

<u>Announcements</u>

Congregational sympathy is extended to Marilyn Bustard upon the death of her daughter, Nancy. Nancy Freece passed away June 19.

Pastor Santina will be away on vacation June 25-July 2. Thank you to Rev. Carol Holz-Martin for preaching and leading worship June 28. Rev. Mariah Marlin-Warfield from Church of Peace UCC is on call for any emergencies. In case of any emergencies or pastoral care needs, please contact Pam in the church office or Council President Grady Birdsell or Vice President Kathy LeMaster and they will connect you with Pastor Mariah.

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Matt. 1:23; 2 Cor. 9:8; Rev. 4:8-11

God Is Truly with Us

Gerhard Tersteegen, 1729 Transl, Frederick W. Foster and others; alt.



Gerhard Tersteegen, an important German hymnwriter of the Reformed Church, began preaching at prayer meetings and gained a considerable following. He devoted his life to praying, preaching, visiting the poor, and writing and translating devotional material. Tune: WUNDERBARER KÖNIG 6.6.8.6.6.8.3.3.6.6.
Joachim Neander, in A und Ω,
Glaubund Liebesübung, Bremen, 1680

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Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

John 13:1-20; Gal. 5:13-14

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994



This African folk melody was presented to the Church at Chereponi, Northern Ghana, by Ghanaian musicologist, A. A. Mensah, when United Church of Christ missionaries, Al and Sue Krass were serving there. Like Tom Colvin, a Scottish missionary in neighboring Tamale, Al Krass was encouraging the making of hymns to indigenous melodies. Tom Colvin wrote these words to this adapted form of the melody in dedication to the Church at Chereponi.

Tune: CHEREPONI Irr. with refrain Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1969 Arr. Jane Marshall, 1982

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