



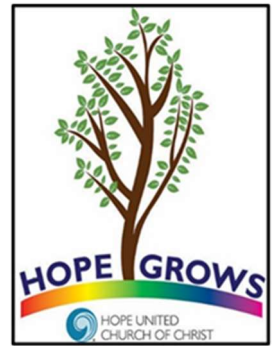
Thankful
by Henry Ossawa Tanner

**Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin October 11, 2020
Nineteenth 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 *Now Thank We All Are God* - Rinkart

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come away from the valleys of misplaced loyalty. Come, seeking to meet the God of all worlds.

Many: We have come to praise God and give thanks. We believe God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: We come together that our faith might be strengthened. We seek the strength to live by all we profess.

Many: God's awesome deeds saved our ancestors. Surely God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: God continues to deliver us in times of distress. God's steadfast love endures forever.

Many: We rejoice that God is near and available to us. We hear God welcoming us to this time of prayer.

INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

Gracious god, you have invited and welcomed us to this place of worship. You draw us away from the idols we create to take your place. When we come together, we sense that there is nothing in life that can substitute for a vital relationship with you. Yet we are only dimly aware of who you are. All the mysteries of the universe are in your hands, yet you have made yourself known among the people of this earth. We catch glimpses of your work among us and are amazed. We want to meet you again today, as for the first time. Touch us. Remake us. Help us to stand firm in the faith. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all mercy, you have planted within us a desire to observe justice and do righteousness. We want to be fair and honorable delighting in life shared openly and honestly with family, friends, and co-workers. Instead, we are often defensive, fearful, and distracted. We spend more time with our toys than with your truth. We seek temporary thrills rather than lasting meaning. Then we are disappointed when our "golden calves" bring no fulfillment. We return to you, loving God, intent on following the guidance we are receiving from you. Save us from ourselves. 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 *Amazing Grace*

Calesia House

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 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;[£]
- 3 he restores my soul.[£]
He leads me in right paths[£]
for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,[£]
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely[£] goodness and mercy[£] shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.[£]

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Phillipians 4:1-9

^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters,[£] whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

^{4:2}I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion,[£] help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice[£] in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.[£] ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved,[£] whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about[£] these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

SERMON

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Bob Tallitsch, Hope UCC Treasurer

INVITATION TO OFFERING

God invites us to invest our time and resources in ways that build rather than destroy, in work of lasting value rather than temporary distraction. Through the church, we seek to offer a quality of life focused on the worth of every individual, on justice for all and excellence in all things. May our offerings and our lives praise God.

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! 😊

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May our offerings help to prepare many to feast at your banquet table. May our generosity reflect the amazing abundance you entrust to our care. As we find joy in giving, may others be inspired to give their best, and may all of us realize your peace, dwelling within and among us as we serve in Christ's name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

One: God is opening our minds to what is true. God is filling our lives with ways that are just.

Many: We will honor God by respecting one another. We stand firm in the faith that God can be trusted.

One: God calls us to daily self-examination. God offers us choices that lead to wholeness.

Many: We will seek what is pure and pleasing to God. We want to think and do what is worthy of praise.

One: God's plan for us is not disaster but fulfillment. God delivers us from evil and gives us peace.

Many: We rejoice in God, who loves us. We are eager to live as Christ teaches us. Amen

POSTLUDE *Take My Life and Let it Be* - arr. Herold

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