



### **Hope UCC Weekly Update: September 26, 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.*



### **CROP Walk to End Hunger October 3, 2021**

Hope UCC will participate in this year's CROP Walk to End Hunger. CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by religious groups, businesses, schools and others to raise

funds to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world. 25% of the money raised in the Quad Cities CROP Walk remains right here to help end food insecurity in the Quad Cities. The Quad Cities CROP Walk is the only bi-state walk in the US! We will walk from the Freight House over the Centennial Bridge into Rock Island and then return to Davenport. How great is that?! If you would like to make a donation to support Hope UCC's Team or sign up to walk with us, please use this link to join in support:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/hope-united-church-of-christ>

### **Rock Island Academy Annual Million Father March:**

**Monday, September 27, 7:45-8:45 A.M.**

We have been invited to participate in Rock Island Academy's annual event providing encouragement and support to their students. Please see Pastor Santana for more information about participating in this special event.



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL  
 Worship Bulletin September 26, 2021  
 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
**"Care for the Poor and Powerless"**

*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 #394 *In Christ There Is No East or West* (see end of bulletin)**

**\*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST**

**God of creation, who loves us deeply and cares for all, be with us in this worship experience. With joy and thanksgiving we feel your welcome and anticipate your teaching. Open our hearts, minds, and eyes that we may hear from you. Show us this day what you would have us do. Whether it is great or small, we want to do what you command. Let our ears be attentive you your Word, and our hearts be responsive to the opportunities you grant us to care for one another and to bear one another's burdens in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and ever-present God, we know that you have made us for yourself, to love you and to love our neighbors. Yet still we cannot help but live for ourselves, and every day we justify ourselves by our own standards, not yours. But Lord, you have found us in the ditch, and you have rescued us. Now soften our hearts to our will, and make us to love others as you have loved us; especially those who are most in need, whom we pass by every day. In Jesus' name, 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.**

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

James 2:1-17

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters,<sup>£</sup> do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ?<sup>£</sup> <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet,"<sup>£</sup> <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters.<sup>£</sup> Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. <sup>11</sup>For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters,<sup>£</sup> if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Luke 10:25-37

<sup>25</sup>Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.<sup>£</sup> “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup>He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” <sup>27</sup>He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup>And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

<sup>29</sup>But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day he took out two denarii,<sup>£</sup> gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ <sup>36</sup>Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” <sup>37</sup>He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

SERMON “Be the Church: Care for the Poor and Powerless”

SERMON HYMN #388 *Help Us Accept Each Other* (see end of bulletin)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

You shall love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. This love motivates our giving. As God loves us, we return that love in our offering of energy, time, and resources.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**May these gifts and our lives bear fruit in many good works, increasing among all people knowledge of God, patience and endurance, and wisdom and understating, love and joy. We would act with compassion toward one another and toward neighbors near and far. Thankful for the mercy you have shown us, we pledge ourselves and these offerings to extend mercy to all. Amen**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

394

## In Christ There Is No East or West

*1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22**John Oxenham, 1908; alt.  
St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987*

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;  
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery-where their high com - mu - nion find;  
 3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and nei - ther slave nor free;  
 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;

But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through - out the whole wide earth.  
 God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
 For men and wom - en live in God, and all are kin to me.  
 One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through - out the whole wide earth.

*Singer and composer Harry T. Burleigh studied at the National Conservatory of Music from 1892 to 1896. He is recognized as the first African-American composer to employ spirituals in concert arrangements. This tune is named after the rector of St. George's Episcopal Church in New York City, where Burleigh served as baritone soloist for more than fifty years.*

*Tune: McKEE C.M.  
 African-American melody  
 Arr. Harry T. Burleigh, 1939  
 Alternate setting: ST. PETER*

# Help Us Accept Each Other

388

*Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.*

*John 15:12; 17:20–23; Eph. 4:1–6, 11–16*

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er  
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;  
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,  
each per-son to em-brace.  
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,  
and bring us to be-lieve  
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed  
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,  
as in our dai-ly life  
we strug-gle to be hu-man  
and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for peo-ple,  
for all, not just for some,  
to love them as we find them,  
or as they may be-come.
- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,  
so that we may be moved  
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions  
to do the truth in love;  
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,  
un-til we know by heart  
the ta-ble of for-give-ness  
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters  
with all who are in need,  
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,  
for righ-teous-ness and bread,  
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,  
new hands for hold-ing on;  
re-new us with your Spir-it;  
God! Free us, make us one!

*Dutch theologian Fred Kaan was ordained in the United Reformed Church in England and Wales and has served as an international church administrator. Author of more than 200 hymns, Kaan frequently has addressed contemporary issues in his texts.*

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.  
*Samuel S. Wesley, 1864*

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