



Beauty of Stained Glass by Rowan LeCompte, & Irene Matz LeCompte, 1972

Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
 Worship Bulletin June 7, 2020
 Trinity Sunday

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!*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Message from The Rev. Dr John Dorhauer, General Minister & President of The United Church of Christ.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: How majestic is God's name in all the earth! We see God's glory in the expanse of the heavens.

Many: All plants and animals are God's creation. All that God has made reflects God's goodness.

One: We are created in God's image, to relate to God. We receive great abundance and care from our Creator.

Many: God blesses us day by day with good things. We are given dominion over the works of God.

One: Gather to praise God and greet one another. Celebrate all the ways God is revealed to us.

Many: We worship the Creator and Sustainer of all things. We rejoice in Christ's promise of the Holy Spirit.

OPENING HYMN *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Music by Martin Shaw, Words by Cecil F. Alexander

INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

Triune God, known to us in more ways than we can count, we marvel at the mystery of life, and wonder at your attention to our lives. As we ponder the vast expanse of space, we are fascinated by distances too extensive to understand. The times we have measured are a tiny ripple in your eternity. Yet you have honored this planet by revealing yourself in the life and ministry of Jesus and the empowerment of your Holy Spirit. Let us experience your presence in this time of worship. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amazing God, the more we learn of your creation, the more we are filled with awe and wonder. Yet, our vision narrows to our limited concerns, and we forget the immense reaches of the stewardship to which you appoint us. We have not taken good care of this tiny spaceship, Earth, which is our home. We have not cared well for one another as sisters and brothers. Our doubts

outweigh our obedience. O God, help us fulfill our baptism and claim our discipleship, as forgiven and forgiving sinners. 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.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:1-2:4

¹In the beginning when God created² the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God³ swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light

from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind[£] in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,[£] and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷ So God created humankind[£] in his image,
in the image of God he created them;[£]
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

SERMON "Living as God's Creation"

INVITATION TO OFFERING

What will we return to God for all the bounty of the universe we have been given to enjoy? We cannot count the blessings of life which God supplies to us. The mandate of Christ is clear: "Go and make disciples of all nations." That means we must, first of all, accept our own discipleship in wholehearted obedience and self-giving service. God expects no less than all we have and all we are.

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

Amid our doubts and the temptation to grab life's blessings for our own personal use, we come to dedicate our time, talent, and treasure to realize your reign on earth, majestic God. As we enjoy your bounty, we give that all our sisters and brothers might also come to appreciate the amazing gifts you entrust it us. Thank you for life and all its wonders. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Please use whatever elements you have available for the bread and the cup)

Welcome

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your 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.

Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and for your abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We thank you for creating us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care. We rejoice in Jesus Christ, who shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it. We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, as your church, we anticipate Christ's return. We take courage from your Holy Spirit and we offer you our praise for our sisters, brothers, and siblings of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. Together with all the company of heaven, we glorify you:

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

Remember

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.

Consecration

Let us pray: Gracious God, by your Holy Spirit, bless these gifts of bread and cup – each unique in their composition and location, and yet common through the Spirit that anoints these gifts. Bless us as we receive the bread and cup, that we will offer you our faith and praise, and that we will be united with Christ and with one another. Through this table of fellowship, make us the Body of Christ and may your Spirit strengthen us when we feel weak, warm us when we are cold-hearted, bend us when we are stubborn, move us when we are uncaring, guide us in the way of love. May we continue to be faithful in all things. As we eat and drink, may the elements be symbols that remind us who we are and whose we are. We ask all this in the name of the one who extends the invitation to us, your Son, Christ Jesus. Amen

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ.

Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

Invitation & Sharing Holy Communion

This is the table, not of the church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. All are welcome. Come to the table because it is Jesus Christ who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here. Please join this feast in the spirit of joy and gratitude. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

Take and eat, Christ's body given for you.

Take and drink, the cup of blessing.

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

CLOSING HYMN *Colorful Creator*

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BENEDICTION

One: Go out to tell the world that God cares. Celebrate the gift of life and all its possibilities.

Many: We are awed by God's vast creation. We are amazed at how God honors us.

One: God has given us stewardship over creation. We are given the care of every living thing.

Many: Land, sea, and air are ours to enjoy. All are entrusted to our careful watch.

One: Generations before us have passed on God's gifts. Generations to follow depend on our faithfulness. Go forth and pray for insight and generosity to save this legacy. Go forth and seek to live in peace and love with everyone. In the name of God our Creator, Jesus Christ our redeemer and the Holy Spirit our empowerer, go in peace & may you be blessed as you are a blessing to others. Amen

Announcements



Congregational sympathy is extended to Carole Keenan and Kim Powell upon the death of their mother and grandmother, Darlene Keenan who died peacefully at home on May 31.

Welcome Ben Holmes, Our New Interim Accompanist

Ben is a lifelong resident of the Quad Cities and has been working in Church music for the past 11 years. Most recently, serving as the accompanist and Director of the Ascension Ringers at Augustana College in Campus Ministries. Before his time at Augustana, Ben served as the Director of Music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moline. Outside of his work in church music, Ben is the Director of Choirs at Wilson Middle School. Ben is also an active musician within the community, performing with the Augustana Choral Artists and previously with the Nova Singers out of Galesburg. Ben currently lives in Rock Island with his wife Maureen, daughter Genevieve and two dogs Watson and Guinness.

All Things Bright and Beautiful

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Cecil F. Alexander, 1848; alt.

*Unison
Refrain*

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

Last time, end

All things wise and won - der - ful, our dear God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum - mer sun,

to Refrain

God made their glow-ing col - ors, and made their ti - ny wings.
The sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky.
The ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.

This hymn for children is based on the first article of the Apostles' Creed: "Maker of heaven and earth." The English hymnwriter Cecil Frances Alexander was married to William Alexander, who became bishop of Ireland.

Tune: ROYAL OAK 7.6.7.6. with refrain
English melody
Adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915

GOD

30

Colorful Creator

Ruth Duck, 1992

Unison

1 Col-or - ful Cre - a - tor, God of mys - ter - y,
 2 Har-mo-ny of a - ges, God of lis - tening ear,
 3 Au-thor of our jour - ney, God of near and far,
 4 God of truth and beau - ty, Po - et of the Word,

thank you for the art - ist teach - ing us to see glimps - es of the
 thank you for com - pos - ers tun - ing us to hear ech - oes of the
 praise for tale and dra - ma tell - ing who we are, strip - ping to the
 may we be cre - a - tors by the Spir - it stirred, o - pen to your

mean - ing of the com - mon - place, vi - sions of the
 Gos - pel in the songs we sing, sounds of love and
 es - sence strug - gles of our day, times of change and
 pres - ence in our joy and strife, ves - sels of the

ho - ly in each hu - man face.
 long - ing from the deep - est spring.
 con - flict when we choose our way.
 ho - ly cours - ing through our life.

This hymn was written for the 1992 installation of Linda Clark as Houghton Scholar of Sacred Music at Boston University, where Ruth Duck earned her Th.D. degree. It praises the Artist who inspires our creativity.

Tune: HOUGHTON 11.11.11.11.
 Carlton R. Young, 1992