



Hope UCC Weekly Update: March 31st, 2024

There is always something happening at Hope UCC! This Weekly Update will provide you with announcements, information, and updates on all that is going on in our community – at church and beyond.

Friday March 29

In honor of Charley Poor, son of Pastor Santina and Bob Poor, Hope UCC's office will be closed on Friday, March 29th.

Sunday March 31 Easter Sunday!

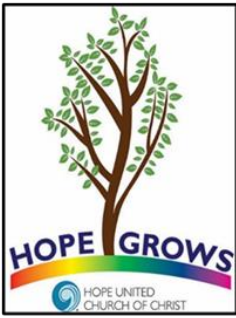
10:00 A.M. Worship

Men's Fellowship

We will be starting up the Men's Fellowship group again. We will be meeting on April 6th, 8am at Deerfield Family Restaurant in Silvis. Please contact Josh Powell to RSVP or if you have any further questions.

April Newsletter

There will not be a Newsletter in April, but we will be publishing a Newsletter in May. Please submit any announcements or articles of interest to Hope UCC's office no later than Monday, April 22nd. Also, if you have announcements for the weekly Bulletin they must be received by Tuesday prior to the Sunday Bulletin.



**Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin March 31st, 2024**

Easter Sunday

Thank you for joining us for worship today.

We are glad you are here!

*Because you are who you are,
you are welcome here!*

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



PRELUDE

WELCOME

One: Christ is risen!

Many: He is Risen indeed!

CANDLE LIGHTING MEDITATION

MANY: ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN; CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: This is a great and joyous festival day. Come and celebrate amazing good news.

MANY: We gather for worship in awe and wonder. The tomb is empty! Death is not the last word!

ONE: Sing songs of praise, for God is good. God's steadfast love endures forever.

MANY: God has answered our prayers with salvation. Jesus Christ is alive and we, too, shall live.

ONE: Open your hearts and minds to the risen Christ. You are greeted by name and welcomed here.

MANY: This is the day that Our God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*OPENING HYMN NCH #240 *JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY*

*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

We greet the dawning brightness of this special day with hopes renewed. We have known grief and sorrow, loss and tears, fear and failure. Meet us here, living Christ, for we need this time of resurrection. We need your healing presence. We need your word of greeting that welcomes us into the community of faith in spite of our doubts and faithlessness. You are the Great Teacher. We have come to learn from you. We want to be your disciples. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

The apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth: 'I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins...' In the mystery of that atoning sacrifice, we come to this time of prayer, bringing our sins to the door of the empty tomb

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We cannot truly worship you, Loving God, until we recognize how unloving we have been. We cannot truly live until we admit the many ways we have been dwelling in death. We cannot know forgiveness until we honestly face the wrong we have done and the good we have neglected. We admit before you now the anger and spite we have carried in our hearts, the doubts and fears we have allowed to paralyze us, the misplaced priorities that have led us away from your will and way. Help us break down the barriers we have erected so we can experience new life today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*WORDS OF GRACE

God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears God and does what is right finds forgiveness and acceptance. The One who came to embody love among people is ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. In Jesus' name, our sins are forgiven, and we are being saved. The grace of God is extended to each of us on this day of resurrection. Praise God!

THE SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

Let us offer one another the gift of peace. May the Lord's peace be with you! If you are participating in the live stream worship, please type in your peace greeting.

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 participating in the live stream worship, please type in your peace greeting.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM Bell Choir *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* Joel Raney

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 the Holy Spirit offers, we join in the prayer Jesus taught us, saying together: 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.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look^[a] into the tomb, ¹²and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew,^[l] "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

SERMON

Peter and Mary: A Dialogue

SERMON HYMN

NCH #238

Now the Green Blade Rises

INVITATION TO OFFERING

When we have seen the Christ, that makes all the difference in our view of life. When we have encountered life, we can no longer pursue the ways of death. When we realize how much we have received from a loving God, our gratitude pours forth in eagerness to share good news with the world.

Hope UCC thanks you for the gifts you share with this congregation. Your offering helps us to live into our mission. Offering plates are located near Sanctuary doors.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We consecrate all that we have brought to share, that the message of today may spread through the streets and across the lands, beginning within these walls and bursting out for all the world to hear and observe. May the glad songs motivate practical ministries. As forgiven and forgiving people, we take new life into the marketplace, into our jobs and schools, into our social life and leisure hours. May all we offer express true thankfulness. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

ONE: We give you thanks, 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

ONE: We remember....

... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

MANY: Christ's death, O God, we proclaim. Christ's resurrection we declare. Christ's coming we await. Glory be to you, O God.

CONSECRATION

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING THE CUP

SHARING HOLY COMMUNION

The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated through an open table at Hope UCC. All are invited to share this holy meal.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have renewed us at your Table by granting us the Your presence. Continue, Author of Salvation, to strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and propel us into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord and Savior.

CLOSING HYMN

NCH #245

The Day of Resurrection

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

ONE: In Christ, we have been rescued from death. At the cross, we see the cost of true love.

MANY: IN JESUS, WE HAVE OBSERVED COURAGE AND FAITHFULNESS. AT THE EMPTY TOMB, WE HAVE MET THE POWER OF LOVE.

ONE: Continue to sing the glad songs of victory. Dare to live the welcoming message of God's grace.

MANY: CHRIST HAS APPEARED TO US IN THE JOY OF THIS DAY. WE HAVE BEEN EMPOWERED TO REACH OUT TO OTHERS.

ONE: The One who was rejected holds the key to life. The key of unconditional love is passed on to us.

MANY: WE HAVE SEEN THE RISEN CHRIST, AND WE ARE CHANGED. WE HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS WITNESSES TO RESURRECTION.

ONE: Amen.

MANY: AMEN!

POSTLUDE

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Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist: Stacy Demarest

Greeter: Debbie Rottman

Fellowship Hour: Caridad Ramos & Julie Bustard

Communion Server: Lindsey Svetlick

Audio-Visual Ministry: Jenny Hookey, Donna Werner, Bob Tallitsch, Kathy Hobson,
Bob Poor, MJ Poor



Easter Lilies gracing the sanctuary this morning have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory by the following members and friends:

Donated by:

Dorothy Burdick

Stacy & Betsy Demarest

Stacy & Betsy Demarest

Barb & Dan Hawotte

Kathy Lewis

Carol & Dana Martin

Marsha Peterson

Bob Morales

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rada

Caridad Ramos

Bob & Mary Tallitsch

In Memory of :

Love Ones

Bud & Freda Newton
Laurie Newton
Pill & Ethel Schroeder
Kathy Burgston
Connie Demarest
Ken & Polly Haas
Bud & Betty Demarest

Christine Clark
Mike Haas

Margaret & Bill Dodd
Bill Hawotte

Rev. Parker Lewis

Charles Poor

Roy & Lorene Lyons
Jim Peterson

Richard Head

Mr. & Mrs. Don Rada
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Dodd

(in honor of) Bene Ramos
Juan Ramos

Earl & Helen Hall
John & Eleanor Tallitsch
Chuck & Penny Hall