



Hope UCC Weekly Update: November 20, 2022

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.

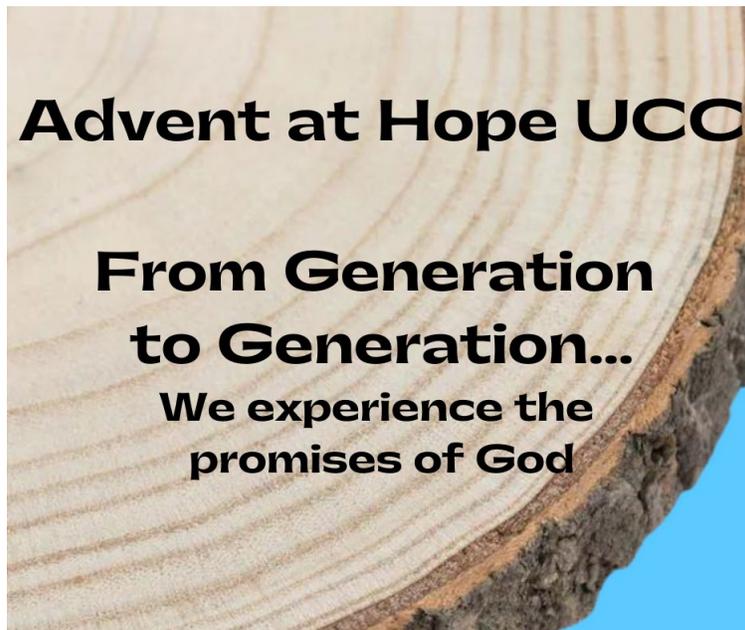
Stewardship 2023: A Statement of Our Faith

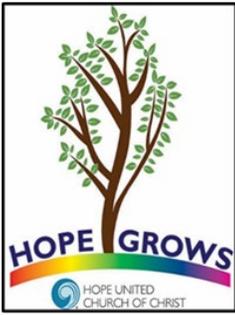
Thank you for your responses to Hope UCC's 2023 Stewardship Campaign. If you have not returned your pledge yet, don't worry – there is time! ☑ Stewardship Sunday is November 20 – this is our target date for receiving the information regarding congregational support for Hope UCC's mission, but of course, pledges are welcome on any date. Having the new financial information prior to the end of the year allows us to make any necessary adjustments to our budget for the new year in order to present a balanced budget to our congregation for our Annual Meeting in January. If you have any questions about Hope UCC's Mission Plan, budget, or financial procedures, please see Pastor Santina or our Treasurer Bob Tallitsch or our President Kathy Lemaster or Vice President Julie Bustard. Thank you for your continued support of Hope UCC's Mission.

Blessing Box Donations

Thank you for your ongoing support with donations. Please keep it coming. This week's needs include: peanut butter, canned chili, individual packets cheese/crackers, dental floss, deodorant, snack/energy bars, mittens & hats. Diapers size 4,5,6 are welcome, too.

Advent Begins November 27



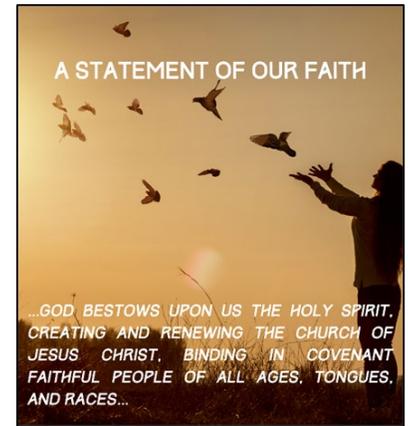


**Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin November 20, 2022
Reign of Christ**

*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!*

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



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Bless God, all people of faith and hope. God has looked on us with great favor.

Many: **God is our refuge and strength in times of trouble. God is our guide and inspiration when things go well.**

One: God gives light to those who live in the shadows. God offers stillness amid the turbulence of our times.

Many: **We live in covenant with God, who give us the best. We are eager to give our best to God in return.**

One: By the tender mercy of our God, we meet for worship. God has brought the dawn of a new day for our use.

Many: **Praise God for signs and wonders all around us. Praise God for peace and reconciliation.**

*OPENING HYMN #422 *Come, O Thankful People, Come* (see end of bulletin)

*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

We worship you with gladness, O God our shepherd, for you have gathered us as your beloved flock. You have sent a mighty Savior, who has demonstrated among us the power of love. Send your Spirit now to remind us of your gifts and to strengthen us for our tasks. May we show our loyalty to Christ by the way we live every day. Amen.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Many times, you have rescued us, O God. Yet we continue to wander away from your vision for us. We claim to be followers of Jesus, but we do not speak up when he is mocked. We do not respond when he summons us from the perilous byways we have chosen. Our words and deeds deny the faith we proclaim. God of all nations, deliver us from misplaced loyalties and unacknowledged sin. Forgive our foolish ways. 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.

ANTHEM

Medley for Thanksgiving arr. By Sondra Tucker

Hope UCC Handbell Choir

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 46

1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, 3 though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. 6 The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice; the earth melts. 7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah 8 Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. 10 "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth." 11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Colossians 1:11-20

11 May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

*GOSPEL

Luke 23:33-43

33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[34 Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. 35 And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine 37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" 38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." 39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." 43 He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

SERMON "Shaped by the Cross"

SERMON HYMN #420 *We Praise You, O God* (see end of bulletin)

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Kathy Hobson

INVITATION TO OFFERING

The knowledge of salvation is meant to be shared, and we are a people called to extend this good news in every way we can. When we give our money, we give a part of ourselves, for we have traded our labor, our time, and our talent for what we now give away. All we possess belongs to God, to whose purposes we now dedicate our gifts and ourselves.

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

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

For the saving faithfulness of Jesus Christ, we give thanks. For the church that seeks to extend Christ's ministry, we are humbly grateful. All things we have are gifts from you, O God, so we dedicate more than our money. We reinvest ourselves in patient, joyful response to your promises. Hear our prayers and empower our ministry. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #419 *Now Thank We All Our God* (see end of bulletin)

BENEDICTION

One: Step out into the light that God will provide. Receive the strength of Christ's glorious power.

Many: **God is our refuge and strength, our help in trouble. Christ is our Savior, who welcomes us to God's realm.**

One: Rejoice in the tender mercy of our God. Give thanks for the one who demonstrated God's love.

Many: **God has looked favorably on us and redeemed us. Christ has prepared the way for us to go.**

One: Be still and know that God is God. Let the good shepherd lead you day by day.

Many: **We will not fear or be dismayed. We are being recreated in the church of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

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422

Come, O Thankful People, Come

Exod. 23:16

St. 1, Henry Alford, 1844; alt.
 St. 2, Anna Laetitia Aiken Barbauld, 1772; alt.
 St. 3, composite of Alford and Barbauld; alt.

Descant

3 These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;

1 Come, O thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;
 2 All the bless-ings of the field, all the stores the gar-dens yield,
 3 These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;

This hymn represents the joining of two Thanksgiving hymns by
 nineteenth-century poet Henry Alford and eighteenth-century
 poet Anna Laetitia Aiken Barbauld. The creator of this

Tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR 7.7.7.D.
 George J. Elvey, 1858
 Descant: H. A. Chambers, 1931

and for these our songs we raise, grate-ful vows and sol-enn praise.

all is safe-ly gath-ered in as the win-ter storms be-gin;
 all the fruits in full sup-ply, rip-ened 'neath the sum-mer sky,
 and for these our songs we raise, grate-ful vows and sol-enn praise.

Come, then, thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;

God our Mak-er does pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied;
 All that spring with boun-teous hand scat-ters o'er the smil-ing land,
 Come, then, thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;

come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.

come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
 all that lib-eral au-tumn pours from its rich o'er-flow-ing stores,
 come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.

We Praise You, O God

420

Julia C. Cory, 1902; alt.

1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our moth - ers and fa - thers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer,

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through life's storm and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our song of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you, we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you nev - er will for - sake us,
 Our sins now con - fess - ing, we pray for your bless - ing;

we bless your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O God, in life's strug - gles we win.
 to you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Julia Bulkley Cady Cory wrote this hymn for Thanksgiving in 1902 at the invitation of the organist of New York's Brick Presbyterian Church who felt that the familiar words to Kremser contained too much militaristic imagery.

Tune: KREMSER 12.11.12.11.
 Valerius, Nederlandsch Gedencklanck, 1626

419

Nun danket alle Gott

(Now Thank We All Our God)

Sir. 50:20-24; 39:35; Ps. 67

Martin Rinkart, 1647; transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.

1 Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit Herz - en, Mund und Händ - en,
 1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God our Mak - er now be giv - en,

der gro - sse Ding - e tut an uns und al - len End - en;
 Who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es,
 With ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 To Christ, and Spir - it, too, our help in high - est heav - en,

der uns von Mut - ter - leib und Kind - es - bein - en an
 Who, from our par - ents' arms, has blessed us on our way
 And keep us still in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 The one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heaven a - dore,

un - zäh - lig viel zu gut bis hier-her hat ge - tan.
 With count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 For thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

For much of his life, German Lutheran pastor and musician Martin Rinkart ministered to the walled city of Eisleben amidst the horrors of the Thirty Years' War. This hymn has become one of the most widely used hymns of the church.

Tune: NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.
 Johann Crüger, 1647
 Harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840