

Hope UCC Weekly Update: April 27, 2025

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.

Save the Dates:

May 25: Confirmation Class Fundraiser: Artists for the Lost Paws Taco Lunch and Art Sale 12:00 at Church of Peace. Watch for more information.

May 30-31 Hope UCC Annual Yard Sale: Start saving all the things you are ready to move on that will soon become someone else's treasures!

Hope UCC Book Club: April 28, 2:30pm at Hope UCC

Join the Book Club to discuss this month's selection **June Bug** by **Chris Fabry**. We meet on April 28th at 2:30 P.M. at Hope UCC and all are welcome. See you there!



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL Worship Bulletin April 27, 2025 Second Sunday of Easter Rev. Carol Martin, Pastor



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 By the Mark

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*COMING TOGETHER AS A WORSHIP COMMUNITY

One: God is our strength and our salvation;

let everything that breathes praise our God!

Many: This is the day that God has made;

we will rejoice and be glad in it!

One Praise God for mighty deeds and extravagant love.

Praise God for loving care and answered prayer.

Many: We will give thanks this day, for God is good.

The steadfast love of God endures forever.

One: Grace to you and peace from the one who is

and who was and who is to come.

Many: We are witnesses to the God who acts.

We are here to offer our worship and praise.

*OPENING HYMN NCH #255 Jesus, Sovereign, Savior

*INVITING GOD INTO OUR MIDST

God of all our beginnings, may this day and every day begin with our praise to you. Let every breath become a witness to your Spirit, dwelling within and among us. Open our hearts to receive your saving gifts. Loosen our tongues to proclaim your unsurpassed greatness. May the noise of our celebration help your people to sense your powerful presence and to claim the joy of serving you, in Christ's name. Amen.

*OFFERING OUR CONFESSION AND RECEIVING THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God of our ancestors, how easily we have made you a relic of the past. We act as if you were unreal, or at least irrelevant. By our inattention, we have rejected you and the one whom you sent to teach us. We are ruled by fears more than faith, by hostility more than peace, by a sense of failure more than feelings of accomplishment and victory. Forgive our misuse of the precious days you have entrusted to us. Help us to see the signs of your presence and to witness with joy to our Leader and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

LEARNING FROM OUR CHILDREN

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

One: 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.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 5:27-32

²⁷ When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 150

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty firmament![a]

² Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

³ Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

⁵ Praise him with clanging cymbals;

praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

⁶ Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

*GOSPEL LESSONS

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name..

SERMON Christ is Risen! Now What?

SERMON HYMN NCH #254 These Things Did Thomas Count

SHARING OUR GIFTS

As the apostles filled Jerusalem with their teaching about Jesus, we are called to bring good news to the world. Our witness is in word and deed, in time and treasure. Give thanks in all things, for God is good. With our gifts we express thanks for God's steadfast love which endures forever.

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.

BLESSING OUR GIFTS

For the breath of life, for eyes to see, for insight to believe, for courage to witness, we give thanks, gracious God. The signs of your presence are everywhere. Your glory and dominion are forever and ever. May this offering witness to your grace and peace. Grant your Spirit as a transforming power among us that inspires and enables our service. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN NCH #253 Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!

*BENEDICTION

One: Go out in the strength God Provides.

Praise God's mighty deeds by the way you live.

Many: In loving obedience, we will witness to our faith.

We will give thanks each day for God's goodness.

One: The steadfast love of God goes with us everywhere.

The Holy Spirit empowers our worship and service.

Many: God is our strength and our might.

God answers our prayers with salvation.

One: Grace to you and peace from the one who is

and who was and who is to come.

Many: This day is a precious gift from God.

We will rejoice and be glad in it. Amen.

POSTLUDE Lord of the Dance Shaker melody arr. Hayes

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Serving in Worship Today

Reverend Carol Martin, Pastor Hope UCC

Liturgist: Marilyn Rada

Ministers of Music: Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

Accompanist: Mary Tallitsch

Greeter: Linda Brown

Slide Ministry: Lindsey Svetlick

Fellowship Hour: Julie Bustard, Ken Curtis, Bob Morales

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

Bob Poor, Bek Svetlick

EASTER SEASON

255

Jesus, Sovereign, Savior



Patrick M. Kirkland ministered to a Presbyterian church in Cheshire, England, for forty years. Named for a village near Bristol, King's Weston is one of several fine hymn tunes written by the English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925

These Things Did Thomas Count

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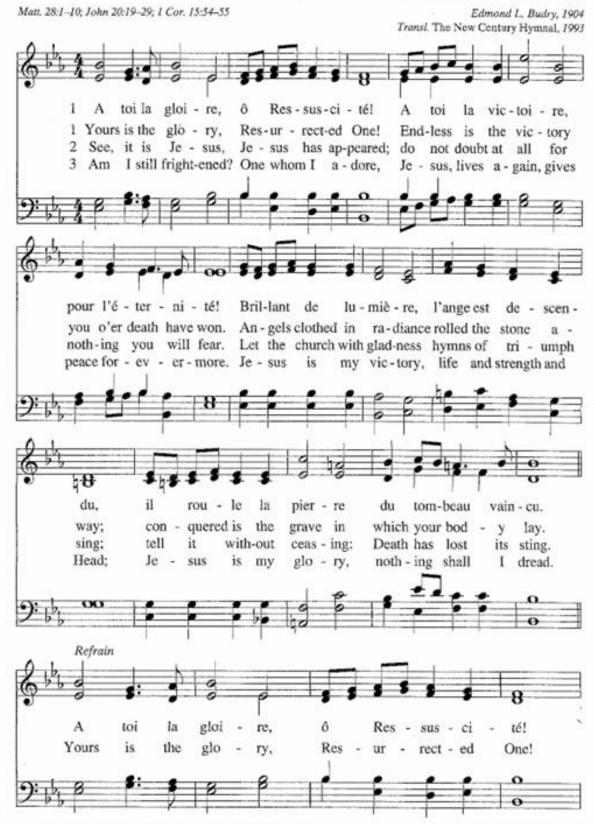
The author cites his "reading of twentieth-century theology and its coming to terms with the limits of the enlightenment and rational cognition" as the foundational thought for this text.

Tune: DISTRESS L.M. The Sacred Harp, 1844 Arr. Jonathan McNair, 1993

EASTER SEASON

253

A toi la gloire, ô Ressuscité! (Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!)



Swiss pastor Edmond L. Budry may have drawn his inspiration for this hymn from a German Advent poem set to Handel's triumphant music. The tune Judas Maccabeus is adapted from a chorus in Handel's oratorio of the same name.

Tune: JUDAS MACCABEUS 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5. with refrain G. F. Handel, 1751

EASTER SEASON

