



Hope UCC Weekly Update: March 8, 2026

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.

Order Easter Lilies and Flowering Bulb Plants

Order Easter Lilies and Flowering Bulb Plants in memory or in honor of a loved one for Easter morning. All orders are due to church office by Monday, March 23rd. Please fill out the information below and return with your payment. Please note 'Easter Flowers' either on the memo of your check or on the envelope. All plants are \$15 each and you are welcome to take your plant home with you following the Easter Service on April 5th. Thank you!

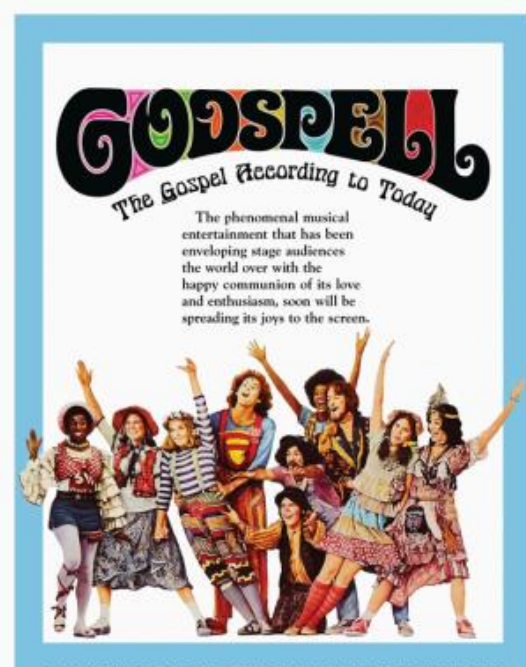


Easter Lily and Flowering Plant Order Form
Order your Easter Lily and Flowering Plants
in memory of and/or in honor of a loved one.
All orders are due by Monday, March 23rd.

Quantity (\$15 each) _____

Your Name _____

In honor of/in memory of (please circle one):



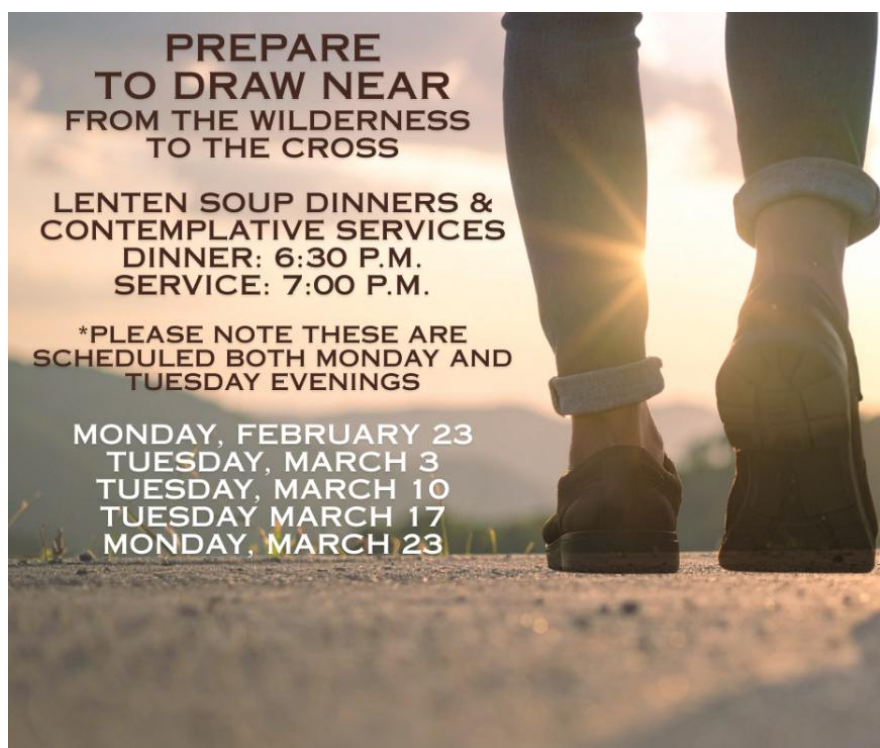
Reel Theology March 13: Godspell

Dust off your favorite pair of bell bottoms and join us to watch, sing along with, and discuss the CLASSIC musical film, Godspell. This musical from 1973 is a modern-day (hurray for the 70's!) retelling of the Gospel of Matthew and features some of the best sing along numbers for us all to sing together. And guess what? Godspell is rated G!! All ages are welcome to join the viewing, singing, and discussion. If you would like to eat together before the film, please bring your own dinner at 5:30. The film will begin at 6:00 with the discussion and dessert to follow.

Lent Weekly Soup Dinners and Contemplative Service

Join us to spend time in fellowship and quiet contemplative prayer and worship together during Lent. We begin with a soup dinner at 6:30 P.M. and then transition to the sanctuary contemplative style service, engaging our senses through prayer, music, meditation, scripture, and movement. The service begins at 7:00 P.M. If you choose to skip the dinner, you are welcome to join the service at that time.

Please join us and share this time in community and deepening of our commitment to a Lenten spiritual practice. Here is the schedule for these gatherings *Please note: there are 2 weeks that our gatherings are on Monday and 3 weeks we will meet on Tuesdays.

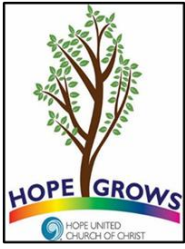


Ruth Circle: March 16 at 1pm

Ruth Circle will be meeting Monday, March 16 at 1pm in Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited to come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship.

Hope UCC Book Club: March 30, 2:30pm at Hope UCC

Join the Book Club to discuss this month's selection **Apples Never Fall** by Liane Moriarty. We meet on March 30th at 2:30 P.M. at Hope UCC and all are welcome. See you there!



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL
Worship Bulletin March 8, 2026

Prepare to Draw Near
Meeting God at the Well

Rev. Santina Poor, 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

God Of Wonders

Melody Bober; Robyn piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THRESHOLD HYMN *O Lord Hear My Prayer*

O Lord Hear My Prayer
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer;
when I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer;
come and listen to me.



***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, let us sing a new song to our God.
Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Many: Let us enter God's presence with thanksgiving.
Make a joyful noise with songs of praise!

One: God is a great ruler, above all other gods.
The depths of the earth are in God's hands.

Many: The highest mountains belong to God.
The farthest reaches of the universe are God's own.

One: O come, let us worship and bow down.
Let us kneel before God our Maker.

Many: We are the people of God's pasture.
Today we will listen to God with open hearts.



OPENING HYMN

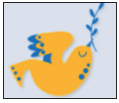
Give Thanks for the Measure of Our Days

NCH #297



***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

We come to you, God, because we are thirsty. Our spirits need the refreshing water of your word, just as our bodies need the refreshment of a cool drink. We worship you with joy, for we can already feel the gift of your presence all around us. Now open our ears that we may hear all that you expect of us. Open our lives to your truth and prepare us to follow Jesus in accepting the unacceptable, challenging the conventional, and joining together in a harvest for your realm. Amen.



*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

What will you do with us, God? We are never satisfied with our lot. We rebel and complain when things don't go our way. Our hearts chase after things that become gods to us and consume our time, energy, and attention. We spend little time in communion with you and then begin to doubt your presence. You seem far away and unavailable. We create barriers among ourselves that separate us from one another and from you. Send your living water to cleanse us, O God. Empower us to worship in spirit and in truth. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE



PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

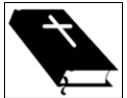
One: The Lord be with you.

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.



*GOSPEL LESSON

John 4:1-42

¹ Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John" ² (although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized), ³ he left Judea and started back to Galilee. ⁴ But he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is

coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

SERMON

Getting to Know the Samaritan Woman

SERMON HYMN

Shall We Gather at the River

NCH #597

Please scan this QR Code for a link to Hope UCC’s donations page.




INVITATION TO OFFERING

When we stop to consider the amazing riches God has provided on this planet, how thankful we should be. Good soil and water give us food in abundance. Gifts of the Spirit grant life with eternity in it. Let us express our wonder and gratitude through our offering of tithes and lives.

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

 **Thank you, God, for all the ways we have benefited from the labor of others. We here offer our best for the sake of brothers and sisters who need the love and encouragement you are eager to share through us. Keep us from being ungrateful as we continue to receive so much more than we stop to realize. When life is difficult, help us to endure and to hope because your love is sure and certain, ours to receive and to give, in Christ’s name. Amen.**



*CLOSING HYMN

Living Water

***BENEDICTION**

One: The peace of God goes with us and dwells with us.
By God's grace, we share in the hope of glory.

**Many: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
Through this love, we are reconciled to God.**

One: Go, therefore, to tell your friends and neighbors.
God has done great things for us.

**Many: God is to be worshiped in spirit and truth.
Every moment of every day is a time for praise.**

One: We scatter, singing songs of thanksgiving.
We will make a joyful noise, in praise to God.

**Many: We will also listen for messages God sends.
God is among us and goes with us every day. Amen.**



*POSTLUDE As we transition into the postlude of our service, please feel free to remain seated, or if you prefer, you are welcome to exit or head into the Fellowship Hall at this time. Blessings to you as we go forward into the world sharing God's love.

In Christ Alone

arr. by Michael Lawrence; Grace & Christina Rider Flute; Robyn piano

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Serving in Worship Today: Reverend Santina Poor, Pastor Hope UCC

Liturgist: Nanc Kinley

Ministers of Music: Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

Accompanist: Robyn Carter

Song Leader: Julie Bustard

Greeter: Carole Keenan

Fellowship Hour: Youth Group

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

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Give Thanks for Life

1 Thess. 5:18; Rom. 16:1-16; Eph. 1:15-16

Shirley Erena Murray, 1986

1 Give thanks for life, the mea - sure of our days,
 2 Give thanks for those who made their life a light
 3 And for our own, our liv - ing and our dead,
 4 Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain

mor - tal, we pass through beau - ty that de - cays,
 caught from the Christ-flame, burst - ing through the night,
 thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
 that lies in dark - ness does its life re - tain

Yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,
 Who touched the truth, who burned for what was right,
 A love not changed by time or death or dread,
 In res - ur - rec - tion to grow green a - gain,

Shirley Erena Murray wrote this text "as a celebration for someone who has lived a full life." The tune by Nancy M. René was originally composed as a setting for her own version of "For All the Saints," and was dedicated to her mother and grandmother.

Tune: ROBINSON 10.10.10. with alleluias
 Nancy M. René, 1994

Shall We Gather at the River

597

Robert Lowry, 1864; alt.

Rev. 22:1-5

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
 3 As we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er,

Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Written during a time when an epidemic was claiming many lives in New York, Robert Lowry's hymn raised the question "Shall we meet again?" Lowry was pastor at Hanson Place Baptist Church in Brooklyn from 1861 to 1869, and collaborated on numerous hymn collections with William H. Doane.

Tune: HANSON PLACE 8.7.8.7. with refrain
 Robert Lowry, 1864

Living Waters

Words and Music by
Kristyn Getty and Ed Cash

INTRO

♩ = 84 C5 Cmaj7 C5 Cmaj7



VERSE

♩ C5 C5/D



1. Are you thirst - y? Are you emp - ty?
2. Christ is call - ing, find re - fresh - ing
3. Spir it mov - ing, mer - cy wash - ing;
4. Are you thirst - y? Are you emp - ty?

C5/F C5/G C5 Cmaj7 C5 C5/D



Come and drink these liv - ing wat - ers.
at the cross of liv - ing wat - ers.
Heal - ing in these liv - ing wat - ers.
Come and drink these liv - ing wat - ers.

Tired and bro - ken, peace un - spo - ken,
Lay your life down, all the old gone,
Lead your chil - dren to the shore - line,
Love, for - give - ness, vast and bound - less,



rest be - side these liv - ing wat - ers.
rise up in these liv - ing
life is in these liv - ing
Christ, He is our liv - ing

wat - ers. There's a
wat - ers.
wat - ers.

CHORUS

Am F C Am F Gsus G



riv - er that flows with mer - cy and love, bring - ing joy to the cit - y of our God; There our

CCLI Song # 7063743

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TURNAROUND

C G C/E F Dm7 G C5 Cmaj7 C5 Cmaj7

17 *Last time to Coda* 



hope is se - cure, do not fear an - y - more, praise the Lord of liv - ing wat - ers.

BRIDGE

22 Dm7 G C5 F/A G/B C/E F



praise the Lord of liv - ing wat - ers.

Ooh.

Ooh.

27 Am G/B C F/A G/B C/E F Am G/B C *D.S. al Coda*



Ooh.

Ooh.

Ooh.

Ooh.

ENDING

33 *Coda*  Dm7 G C5 C G C/E



praise the Lord of liv - ing wat - ers. There our hope is se - cure, do not fear an - y -

37 F Dm7 G C



more,

praise the Lord of liv - ing wat - ers.