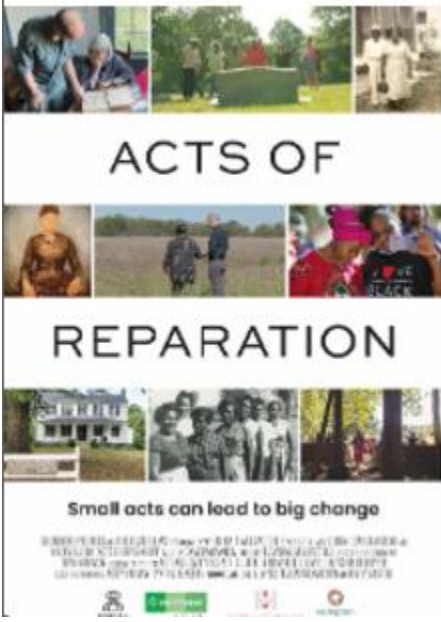




## Hope UCC Weekly Update: March 9, 2025

*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.*



### Film Screening at Hope UCC March 14: Acts of Reparation

Join us to view and discuss this important documentary that follows two friends – one who is Black and one who is white – who travel South to their ancestral lands to explore what reparations mean to them. From kitchen tables to porches, lost cemeteries to discovered diaries, their journeys lead to unexpected opportunities that transform their friendship, families and communities. Together they reclaim and reckon with their roots and find that small acts can lead to big change.

We will meet for a potluck dinner at 5:00 p.m. and the film will begin at 6:00 with discussion to follow. Invite a friend to join this screening- we are the only location in this region to host a screening of this film that illustrates so beautifully our Lenten theme of repent and return. Any questions, please contact Pastor Santana.

### Tuesday Night Soup Dinners and Contemplative Worship Services Tuesdays, March 11, 18, 25, April 1, 8, 15 Soup Dinner at 5:30 P.M.

Service begins at 6:00 P.M. Join us for a weekly time together to spend time in fellowship and quiet contemplative prayer and worship. If you would like to come early for a light soup dinner together, be here at 5:30. We will then transition to the sanctuary for contemplative style service, engaging our senses through prayer, music, meditation, scripture, and movement. Join us and share this time in community and deepening of our commitment to a Lenten spiritual practice.

### Special Offering for World Relief Quad Cities: March 1 – 23

If you feel called to financially support the ongoing resettlement efforts of World Relief Quad Cities during this challenging time, we will be receiving that offering through March 23rd. Please indicate “WRQC” on the memo line of your check or on your envelope if it is a cash offering. Thank you for your thoughtful support of our neighbors in the Quad Cities.

### Singles and Doubles Game Night March 15

Singles and Doubles will be having their annual game night on Saturday, March 15th at 5:00 p.m. All adults are welcome. We will be having an assortment of snacks. Please see me to sign up. Also let me know what goodies you plan to bring so we will have a nice variety to eat. Bring your favorite games and your own drinks. See Barb Hawotte for more information.

### Ruth Circle: March 17

Please join us for our monthly meeting at Hope UCC. Bring a friend for a time of fellowship, planning, and good energy together.

### Hope UCC Book Club: March 31, 2:30pm at Hope UCC

Join us for our discussion of *Before the Coffee Gets Cold*, a Heartwarming Novel of Time Travel, Magical Realism and the Power of Healing by Toshikazu Kawaguchi. This is always a wonderful gathering filled with laughter, good discussions, and great insights. See you there and please contact Dorothy Burdick if you have any questions.



Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL  
 Worship Bulletin March 9, 2025  
 First Sunday in Lent  
 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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTER INTO WORSHIP

MEDITATIVE HYMN Hands and Feet

*Please join in singing the chorus. We will sing it two times.*

**So, here we are.**

**Words can only go so far.**

**Draw us closer to your heart.**

**Bring us back to you,**

**Bring us back to you.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Disasters strike. Where can we go?

**Many: God is always there.**

One: Enemies surround us. Whom can we trust?

**Many: God is always there.**

One: Life can be hard.

**Many: Who will ease the load? God is always there.**

OPENING HYMN NCH #211 *Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days* (see end of bulletin)

OPENING PRAYER

**Merciful God, though the devil may only leave us until an opportune time, your light shines in our darkness and your ways lead to life. Help us embrace your enduring word and your faithful promises, rather than turning to shallow comforts that do not endure. May we lead live lives worthy of our calling, that we might aid others who have lost their way. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF YEARNING AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**Calm, comforting God, heal our anxiety and soothe our troubled minds. Fix our eyes on you, that we may rest in your refuge and escape the chaos and confusion that cloud our judgment. Help us accept that the trials and hardships of this world await an opportune time to visit us once more. And breathe your loving Spirit within us, as we pause to share the things on our hearts. Thank you for being our quiet center and our calming presence during life's storms. In loving gratitude, we pray. 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.**

## HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

<sup>1</sup> "When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, <sup>2</sup> you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' <sup>4</sup> When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, <sup>5</sup> you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. <sup>6</sup> When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, <sup>7</sup> we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. <sup>8</sup> The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup> and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup> Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Psalm 91:1-4, 11-16

## Psalm 91

*Antiphon: David Hurd, 1994*

Response  
Unison

My ref - uge and my for - tress, my God in whom I trust.

℞

<sup>1</sup>You who live in the shelter of  
the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of  
the Almighty, <sup>2</sup>will say to God,

“My refuge and my fortress;  
my God, in whom I trust.”

<sup>3</sup>For God will deliver you from  
the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence;

<sup>4</sup>God will cover you with God’s  
pinions, and under God’s wings  
you will find refuge;  
God’s faithfulness is a shield  
and buckler. ℞

<sup>11</sup>For God will command God’s angels  
concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.

<sup>12</sup>On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot  
against a stone.

<sup>13</sup>You will tread on the lion  
and the adder,  
the young lion and the serpent  
you will trample under foot.

<sup>14</sup>Those who love me, I will deliver;  
I will protect those who know  
my name.

<sup>15</sup>When they call to me,  
I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble,  
I will rescue them and honor them.

<sup>16</sup>With long life I will satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation. ℞

\*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 4:1-13

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.' "

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,'

<sup>11</sup> and

'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

SERMON

*Power of Love*

SERMON HYMN:

NCH #439 *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* (see end of bulletin)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

We come to Christ today, thankful for God's many blessings. We know that even when everything is going well, trial and hardship wait for an opportune time to strike. May the offering we share this day be a source of help for those in need.

*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

**Mighty God, in times of trial and testing, you protect us with the wings of your love. You lift us to soar again when we would be huddled on the ground without you. With comfort in our weariness, and with signs and wonders, you lead us out of the wilderness and into lands flowing with milk and honey. May these gifts bring your saving help, your protective love, and your joyous abundance where they are needed most. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

NCH #488 *Be Still, My Soul* (see end of bulletin)

BENEDICTION

One: May God, who drives us into the wilderness, send angels to attend us.

**Many: May Christ, who comforts and protects us, call us home in troubled times.**

One: May the Spirit, who brings hope and love to the world, be with us when trials find an opportune time to strike.

**Many: May the gift of repentance bless our lives and help us return to God in troubled times. Amen.**



## EXTINGUISHING THE LENT CANDLE

One: As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the darkness and pain of injustice in the world.

Let us pray:

**Many: Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, give us strength and courage to make the changes that are needed in our lives. Open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence as we repent and return to you. Amen.**

POSTLUDE Hands and Feet

*We will sing this together*

**For all the strides we've made, for all our blessings,  
We've fallen far away from truth.**

**Turning our face away from this hurting race,  
We turned our face away from You.**

**We want to be Your hands, Your feet.**

**Without words we'll let our actions speak.**

**Here we are**

**Words can only go so far**

**Draw us closer to Your heart**

**Bring us back to You, bring us back to You.**

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## **Serving in Worship Today**

Reverend Santana Poor, Pastor Hope UCC

**Liturgist:** Julie Bustard

**Ministers of Music:** Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

**Accompanist:** Bob Poor

**Greeter:** Judy Collins

**Slide Ministry:** Lindsey Svetlick

**Fellowship Hour:** Kathy Lewis, Ken Curtis, Bob Morales

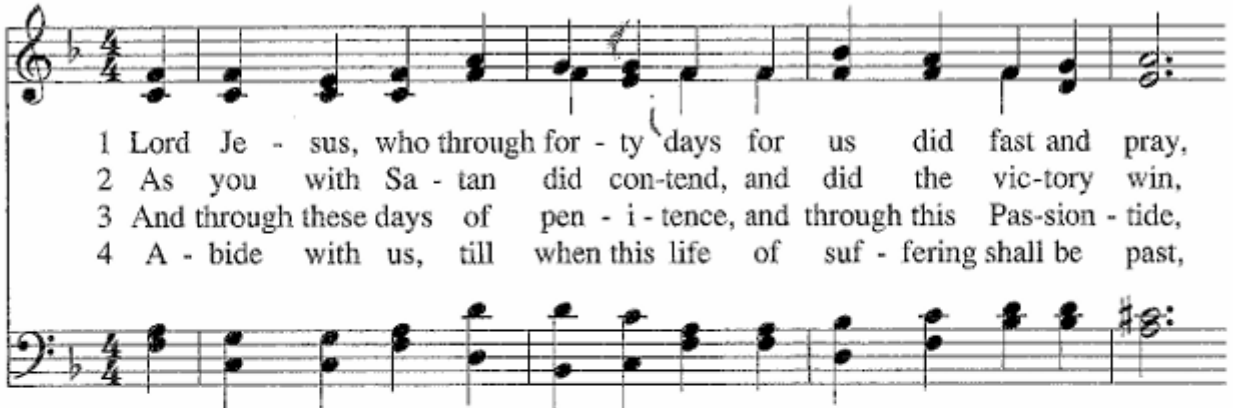
**Audio-Visual Ministry:** Jenny Hookey, Donna Werner, Bob Tallitsch, Kathy Hobson,  
Bob Poor, Bek Svetlick

# Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days

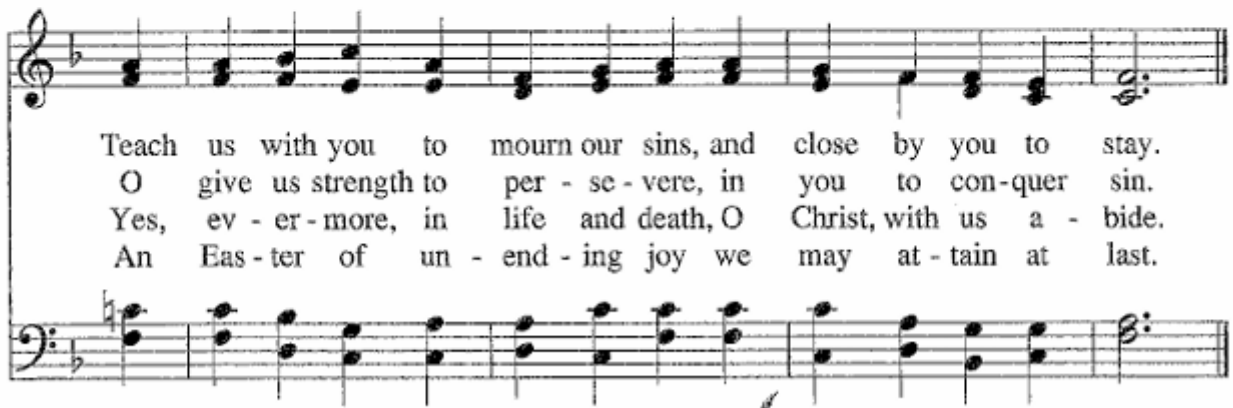
211

*Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873; alt.*

*Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13*



1 Lord Je - sus, who through for - ty days for us did fast and pray,  
 2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend, and did the vic-tory win,  
 3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion - tide,  
 4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be past,



Teach us with you to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.  
 O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.  
 Yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Christ, with us a - bide.  
 An Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

*Unflagging in her zeal for religious education of children, Claudia F. I. Hernaman wrote some 150 hymns. This one appeared in her Child's Book of Praise (1873).*

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN C.M.  
*Day's The Whole Booke of Psalms, 1562*

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

439

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Ps. 46

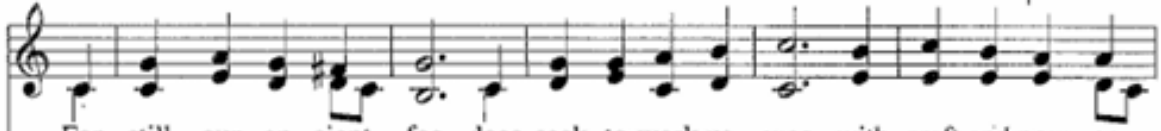
Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981



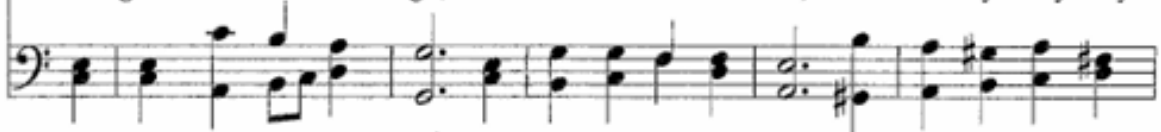
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing,  
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,  
 3 And though this world with dev - ils filled should threat - en to un - do us,  
 4 That word be - yond all earth - ly powers for - ev - er is a - bid - ing;



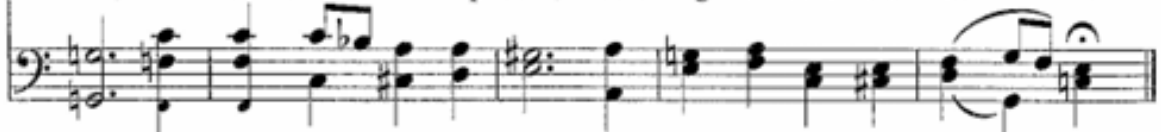
Our pres - ent help a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.  
 But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choos - ing.  
 We will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri - umph through us.  
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us sid - ing.



For still our an - cient foe does seek to work us woe with craft and pow - er  
 You ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus sets us free! With might - y power to  
 The powers of e - vil grim, we trem - ble not for them; their rage we can en -  
 Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may



great, and armed with cru - el hate, on earth with - out an e - qual.  
 save, vic - to - rious o'er the grave, Christ will pre - vail tri - um - phant.  
 dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit - tle word shall fell them.  
 kill; God's truth shall tri - umph still; God's reign en - dures for - ev - er.



*There is speculation that this psalm paraphrase was written in 1527 when Martin Luther's friend was burned at the stake, or in 1529, when Lutheran German princes protested the revocation of their liberties. It has been translated into more than fifty languages.*

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7.

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Harm. The New Hymnal for American Youth, 1930; alt.

For another version, see 440



488

## Be Still, My Soul

*Ps. 37:7; Ps. 46:10; 1 Tim. 4:10**Katharina von Schlegel, 1752  
Transl. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855; alt.*

1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient-  
2 Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in  
3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall

ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to  
fu-ture days as in the past. Your hope, your con-fi-  
be with God whom we a-dore, with dis-ap-point-ment

or-der and pro-vide; in ev-ery change God  
dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-rious  
gone, no grief nor fear, sor-row re-placed with

faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal  
shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still  
joy for-ev-er-more. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

*Little is known about Katharina von Schlegel, the author of twenty-six hymns, except that she seems to have been a member of the duke's court at Cöthen, Germany. The tune is adapted from an orchestral work by Finland's great composer Jean Sibelius.*

Tune: FINLANDIA 10.10.10.10.10.  
Jean Sibelius, 1899  
Arr. The Hymnal, 1933