



Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Beautiful Savior" Valerie W. Stephenson
Chancel Ringers

*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)

One: Rejoice! God is continually creating something new.

All: We are part of that creation, renewed, redeemed, beloved.

One: Through all this change, God is with us.

All: Though we struggle and doubt, yet God is faithful.

One: Praise be to God who continually blesses us.

All: Let our hearts, our voices, and our spirits sing God's praises!

*GATHERING HYMN "Praise to the Living God" #8 *New Century Hymnal* vv.1-3
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Praise to the living God, the God of love and light,
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight;
Whose infinite design, which we but dimly see,
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.**

**Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive,
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
Who caused them to evolve, unwitting, toward God's goal,
Till humankind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls.**

**Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain,
Who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane.
God toils where'er we toil, in home and mart and mill;
And deep within the human heart God leads us forward still.**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)

Merciful God, we come before you this day as those who are often afraid to confess the ways we sometimes disappoint you.

You have given us continual opportunities to serve and love others, but we often withdraw into lives of isolation.

Your voice calls to us to come home, to come to you unafraid, to receive forgiveness and healing.

Open our hearts this day to receive these magnificent blessings.

Help us understand the many ways in which you love us,

and help us share that love with all those whom we meet. *(Silent confession)*

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Even though we turn away from God, yet God is faithful to us.

We are beloved of God and recipients of God's love and blessings.

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE: "Praise to the Living God" v.4

Praise to the living God, around, within, above,

Beyond the grasp of human mind, but whom we know as love.

In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,

May we bear witness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHANCEL RINGERS ANTHEM "Be Thou My Vision" Tunes *Slane/Thaxted*
Arr. Julie Turner

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:5-19

Pew Bible p. 856

A Word of God that is still speaking,

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Sarah Fredriksen McCann

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF REFLECTION “God, Speak to Me” #531 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**God, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone;
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.**

**O lead me, God, that I may lead some wanderers along life’s way;
O feed me so that I may feed your hungry ones without delay.**

**O fill me with your fullness, God, your overflowing love to know;
In glowing word and kindling thought, your love to tell, your praise to show.**

**O use me, God, use even me just as you will, and when, and where,
Until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

RESPONDING

We respond to God’s Word through our prayers and our gifts.

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY "Meditation in E" George Oldroyd

(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”
(tune: “Jesus Shall Reign”)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above the heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*COMMISSIONING HYMN "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" #82 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever,
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.**

**Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you, here with tender comfort stilled you;
Go, my children fed and nourished, joyful and free.**

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Meneuet Gothique" from "Suite Gothique" Leon Boellmann

SENDING

With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world.

Worship Endnotes:

1. Adapted from www.ministrymatters.com

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Hope United Church of Christ Statement of Welcome and Mission

No matter where you are on life's journey, you are invited to enter the big red doors of Hope United Church of Christ. We are an open congregation. We believe that every person is a child of God and all are welcome, regardless of race, economic background, marital status, gender, gender identity(ies) / expression(s), sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, nationality or faith history. It is our mission, inspired by God's Holy Spirit, to engage persons in living out the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Please come, for all things are ready.

Adopted by Hope UCC Congregation August 29, 2010

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*Thanks for your contribution
to the ministries of Hope UCC!*