



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026 10:30 a.m.



Week One: Compassion

GATHERING

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

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE

() Indicates that all are invited to stand*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The world is changing. We see it everywhere.

All: The world is changing.

One: The world needs to change. Children are hungry. Systems are unjust. People are afraid.

All: The world needs to change.

One: It is God's desire that the world would change into a realm of peace where everyone has what they need.

All: And we are the changemakers.

One: We are called to work alongside the Holy Spirit.
We are called to follow the way of Jesus.

All: May we be changed by this time of worship!

***GATHERING HYMN “Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good” #6 vv.1-3**

(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

Sing praise to God, our highest good, profound respect expressing.

God gives us health, life, livelihood, with every needed blessing.

To God, who wondrous works performs, creating life and calling storms,

To God give praise and glory!

Creation thank you, Holy One: you made us and renew us.

Delighted at what you have done, you show your greatness through us.

So may all living things proclaim the wonders of their Maker’s name:

To God give praise and glory!

What God has made, God will preserve, with righteousness unfailing.

Regardless what we may deserve, we see this good prevailing.

To God who governs evermore with justice serving rich and poor,

To God give praise and glory!

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy One, you are the beginning of all things. You are older than time itself.

But we confess we often are afraid of changing. And so we get in the way when you are trying to do a new thing.

Forgive us for when we resist your holy transformation.

Open our hearts to all that you would have us change in this world, and in ourselves.

(silent confession)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Hear this assurance of Good News: Jesus has compassion for us, for all that holds us back, for all that frightens us, for all that we have failed to do. Through this holy compassion, we have everything we need to begin anew.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good” v.5**

Forever with us, God is here, nor ever will desert us.

So dearly loved, we shall not fear: there’s nothing that can hurt us.

We place our trust in God’s command, who leads us with a mother’s hand:

To God give praise and glory!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

Song: We can be a changemaker, change the world.

Make a better place for everyone! Changemaker!

Just one small change can make a difference every day

make a difference every day!

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 10:25-37 Pew Bible p.844
A Word of God that is still speaking, **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Sarah Fredriksen McCann

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION “They Asked, ‘Who’s My Neighbor?’” #541 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**They asked “who’s my neighbor and whom should I love;
For whom should I do a good deed?”
Then Jesus related a story and said,
“It’s anyone who has a need, yes, anyone who has a need.”**

**There once was a traveler set on by thieves who beat him and left him to die;
A priest and a Levite each saw him in pain;
But they turned away and walked, yes, they turned away and walked by.**

**A certain Samaritan then came along to bind up his wounds and give aid;
He took him to stay at an inn until well,
And for all the service he paid, yes, for all the service he paid.**

**I know who’s my neighbor and whom I should love, for whom I should do a good deed.
For Jesus made clear in the story he told,
It’s anyone who has a need, yes, anyone who has a need.**

RESPONDING

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

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER: “Let Us Be Makers” (tune from “Blessed Assurance”)
**Let us be makers, makers of change, born of our passions, with limitless range.
We pray for guidance, we seek your grace; be with us now, God, in this place.**

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.

MISSION STATEMENT: Isaiah 58 Ministries

OFFERTORY

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (tune from "Blessed Assurance")

Praise to the Maker, the One who gives breath.

Praise to Christ Jesus, who reigns over death.

Praise to the Spirit, our strength and our friend.

Three-in-One present, world without end.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*COMMISSIONING HYMN: Help Us Accept Each Other #388 *New Century Hymnal*

(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;

Teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.

Be present, God, among us, and bring us to believe

We are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O God, your lessons, as in our daily life

We struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.

Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,

To love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved

In living situations to do the truth in love;

To practice your acceptance, until we know by heart

The table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

God, for today's encounters with all who are in need,

Who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread.

Bring us new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;

Renew us with your Spirit; God! Free us, make us one!

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SENDING

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

Worship Endnotes: prayers adapted from www.worshipdesignstudio.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!

Changemaker Blessing by Lindsey Bell-Kerr

Blessed are the changemakers.

Blessed are you who are not asleep
to the world's pain and suffering.

Blessed are you who lament for the way things are.

Blessed are you who know, to the depth of your bones,
that this is not how things are meant to be.

Blessed are you for not believing the lie that
this is how they will always remain.

Blessed are you who know that things can change,
who long for things to change.

Blessed are you whose life's ambition is to bring the change
that is justice and mercy for all.

Blessed are you who know that God has always employed the faithful acts
of ordinary people to heal and change this world.

Blessed are you who know that change begins today,
change begins with us,

and that we are blessed to be the changemakers.

Amen!