Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

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

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" Arr. Diane Bish

*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)
One: We enter worship once again this day choosing to serve God and no other.
All: With waiting hearts, we come to worship!
One: We enter as seekers, eager to grow into the Body of Christ.
All: With waiting hearts, we come to worship!
One: We enter dependent on the Spirit to be with us in our words and deeds.
All: With waiting hearts, we come to worship!

*GATHERING HYMN "O God Our Help in Ages Past" #25
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)
O God, our help in ages, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)
Gracious God, sometimes you seem absent when we struggle with suffering, and we forget you are there with your strength:
God, forgive us.
Often we forget you in the cares of everyday life,
and we forget you are there with your love:
God, forgive us.
At times we neglect to care for those who need us most,
and we forget you want us to serve you by serving each other:
God, forgive us. *(Silent confession)*

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE
Friends, hear the good news! God's grace is abundant and everlasting.
Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "O God Our Help in Ages Past" *v.6*
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while troubles last, and our eternal home!

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25: 1-13 Pew Bible pp. 806-807
A Word of God that is still speaking,
Thanks be to God!

SERMON Sarah Fredriksen McCann

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Let There Be Light, O God of Hosts" #589
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)
Let there be light, O God of hosts! Let there be wisdom on the earth!
Let broad humanity have birth! Let there be deeds, instead of boasts.

Within our passioned hearts instill the calm that ends all strain and strife;
Make us your ministers of life; purge us from lusts that curse and kill.

Give us the peace of senses clear, to know our neighbors' good our own;
Make us your ministers of life; bonded in love that conquers fear!

Let woe and waste of warfare cease, that useful labor yet may build
Its homes with love and laughter filled! God, give your wayward children peace!

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 "What Offering Shall I Bring?" Robert Elmore

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #778 *New Century Hymnal*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*COMMISSIONING HYMN "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" #42
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)
O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories ever echoing the triumphs of God's grace!

My gracious Savior and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

Jesus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease
Is music in the sinner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!

Glory to God, and love and praise be ever, ever given
By all the saints in ever age, the church in earth and heaven.

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

SENDING

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

Worship Endnotes

1. Adapted from www.umcdiscipleship.org
   Music reprinted by permission OneLicense A-722326

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

Donate from your smart phone

Thanks for your contribution to the ministries of Hope UCC!