



**Second Sunday after Epiphany**  
January 14, 2024 10:30 AM

### **GATHERING**

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

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Lord of All Hopefulness" Clay Christiansen

*(\* Indicates that all are invited to stand)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)**

One: The one who calls you together this day yearns for each of you to hear and be blessed.

**All: Speak, God, for your servants are listening!**

One: Blessed is the One who comes bringing words of faith for the sake of the world.

**All: Speak, God for your servants are listening!**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN "God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak" #531 vv.1-3**

*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.**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (2)**

Gracious God, sometimes we are convinced we are not worthy of your claim upon us.

**Remind us of your forgiving love, when we stubbornly refuse to believe your claim on our lives.**

Open our eyes and spirits to see the gifts with which you have blessed us, and to commit those gifts to serving you by serving others.

**Give us courage and strength to accomplish any task that you set before us.**

Give us hearts of grateful love to acknowledge your presence in our lives and live that presence with gratitude and joy. *(silent confession)*

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE (2)**

Friends, hear the good news! Do not fear the task God sets before you. Rejoice, for God is with you every moment and God's gracious love washes over you always.

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "God, Speak to Me" v.4**

**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.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN**

CHORAL ANTHEM "Grace" Carolyn Hamlin

**LISTENING**

*God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.*

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Samuel 3:1-10 Pew Bible p.215

**SERMON**

**SILENT REFLECTION**

HYMN OF REFLECTION “Be Now My Vision” #451 *New Century Hymnal*  
**Be now my vision, O God of my heart; nothing surpasses the love you impart—  
You my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, your presence my light.**

**Be now my wisdom, and be my true word; ever within me, my soul is assured;  
Mother and Father, you are both to me, now and forever your child I will be.**

**Riches I need not, nor life’s empty praise, you, my inheritance, now and always;  
You and you only are first in my heart, great God my treasure, may we never part.**

**Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

### **RESPONDING**

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

### **AFFIRMATION OF MINISTRY: INSTALLATION OF NEW COUNCIL AND MINISTRY TEAM MEMBERS**

Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

**There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.**

There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

**The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.**

Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

**It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.**

If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it;

**if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.**

All of us are Christ’s body, and each one is a part of it!

### **COVENANT QUESTIONS**

#### **CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT**

Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our siblings in Christ who have answered God’s call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them.

**We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

PRAYER AND DISMISSAL

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 "The Summons" John L. Bell; Setting by Jeremy J. Bankson  
*Offer to God and then use this time for prayer. A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving).*

\*DOXOLOGY #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**SENDING**

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

\* COMMISSIONING HYMN "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" #69 *Glory to God Hymnal*

G Am D G C G D  
*Leader or All*

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain*  
*All* G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Arr. Diane Bish

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*Thanks to God, we at Hope United Church of Christ have good news to share.  
And we should feel compelled to share it, because there are people in St. Louis  
who are looking for a progressive and loving faith community.  
When we share Hope, we make it easier for them to find us!*

Worship Endnotes

- (1) Adapted from Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year B
- (2) <https://www.ministrymatters.com/>

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***January 14, 2024 Worship Leaders***

Pastor: Sarah Fredriksen McCann

Organist: Jim Threlkeld

Liturgist: Alice Galt

Soloist: Annalise McCann

Ushers: Representatives from Hope UCC Council

YouTube: Andy Karcher

Tech team: Jim Richmann, Jack Jennings, Ron Geisel, Kristine  
Wentzien, Kathleen Mees

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the ministries of Hope UCC!*