



**HOPE**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
*Windows of Hope Series*  
July 14, 2024 10:30 a.m.

**GATHERING**

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

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "Prelude and Fugue in E Minor" J. S. Bach  
(\* *Indicates that all are invited to stand*)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (2)

One: Give thanks to God with all your hearts!

**All: We will hold nothing back from our God.**

One: Sing praises to our God!

**All: We will join in the chorus of thanksgiving for God's abiding love.**

One: Glorify God and that Word we know as Jesus Christ!

**All: We will worship our God with wonder and joy.**

\*GATHERING HYMN      “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” #400 *New Century Hymnal*  
vv. 1-2

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

**Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,  
Chosen of our God and precious, binding all the Church in one;  
Holy Zion’s help forever, and our confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call you, come, O God of Hosts, today!  
With your constant, loving kindness hear your people as they pray.  
Give your fullest benediction: grace to follow Christ the Way.**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)

Gracious God, we lay our souls bare before you today.

Let us see your love abound in all things.

**Show us the love that hates evil and holds on to what is good,  
turning us from the hate that breaks your world apart.**

Let us see the joy of giving to others, unbinding our fear of never having enough.

**Show us the power of your blessings to the world, moving us beyond a focus only on  
ourselves. *(silent confession)***

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE (2)

An altar, a pew, a seat on the bus, a kitchen table: all become holy places when we confess before God. Today, in this holy place, God meets us, hears us and forgives us. In this holy place, God empowers us with genuine love to share with a hurting world.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” v.3

**Here renew your servants’ vision, that by faith they may attain  
Peace and hope, renewed compassion, strength to comfort those in pain,  
Tears and grief transformed to gladness in your everlasting reign.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

### LISTENING

*God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16:13-20

Pew Bible p.708

Luke 23:39-43

Pew Bible p.860

A Word of God that is still speaking,

**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Just As I Am" #207 *New Century Hymnal*  
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Just as I am, without one plea but that your blood was shed for me,  
And that you called inviting me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**Just as I am, you will receive, will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**Just as I am, your love unknown has broken every barrier down;  
Now to be yours, and yours alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

### 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 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" John A. Behnke  
(A QR code at the end of the bulletin is available for online giving.)

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Amen, We Praise Your Name" #598 *Glory to God Hymnal*  
**Amen, we praise your name, O God!**  
**Amen, we praise your name, O God!**  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen! Amen, we praise your name, O God!**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\*COMMISSIONING HYMN: "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" #403 *New Century Hymnal***  
*(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)*

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;**

**I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

***Refrain: On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.***

**When shadows veil my Savior's face, I rest upon unchanging grace;**

**In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain***

**Christ's oath and covenant and blood support me in the rising flood;**

**When all around my soul gives way, Christ then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain***

**When Christ shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Love be found,**

**Dressed in God's righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. *Refrain***

**\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

**Arr. Diane Bish**

### **SENDING**

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

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Worship Endnotes

(1) Adapted from [www.ministrymatters.com](http://www.ministrymatters.com).

(2) Adapted from [www.umcdiscipleship.org](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org)

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***Worship Leaders July 14, 2024***

Pastor: Sarah Fredriksen McCann

Organist: Jim Threlkeld

Liturgist: Alice Galt

Ushers: Members of Hope UCC choirs

YouTube: Andy Karcher

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

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ministries of Hope UCC!*