



*We are grateful for the artistic gifts of the late Judy Huff, dedicated Hope UCC member who created the graphic designs of each stained-glass window used in this series*

Hope United Church of Christ

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

***Windows of Hope Series***

August 11, 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 "Voluntary in A" William Selby

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

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

One: See, the former things have come to pass,

**All: And new things God now declares;**

One: Before they spring forth,

**All: God speaks to us, now.**

One: This is the Good News:

**All: Jesus joins us in the tumultuous waters of our lives.**

One: You are God's beloved children.

**All: May we worship and love our Lord Jesus Christ.**

\*GATHERING HYMN "Christ Be Beside Me" #702 *Glory to God Hymnal*



1 Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me; Christ be be -  
2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -  
3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me; Christ be on



hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me; Christ be be -  
round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my  
all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that



low me; Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.  
sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.  
see me; in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)

Living Water, we know that you have entered our humanity by joining us in the waters of baptism, yet we often deny humanity to others.

**We have our fill while others lack food and clean water and shelter.**

We draw boundaries on maps and determine who receives aid while others go without.

**Call us into your ways, O God, to remember that we are made by You, and that You call us into the waters of birth and rebirth. (silent confession)**

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: God loves us all! Go forth sharing in the work of reconciliation, knowing that God loves you and calls you beloved.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #236 *New Century Hymnal (repeat once)*

**Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

## LISTENING

*God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.*

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 3:13-17 Pew Bible p.784  
A Word of God that is still speaking, **Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

### SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION “I was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”#351 *New Century Hymnal*  
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**I was there to hear your borning cry, I’ll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
I’ll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.**

**When you found the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.  
Should you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.**

**In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,  
I’ll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I’ve begun.  
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,  
I’ll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your borning cry, I’ll be there when you are old,  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.**

## 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 "All Praise to Thee, My God" Paul Manz  
(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: "Crashing Waters at Creation" #326 *New Century Hymnal*  
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)  
**Crashing waters at creation ordered by the Spirit's breath,  
First to witness day's beginning from the brightness of night's death.**

**Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through,  
Washing off the chains of bondage—channel to a life made new.**

**Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the One foretold,  
Opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.**

**Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul.  
Well-spring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.**

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Fugue in C" Dietrich Buxtehude

### 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.rev-o-lution.org/worship-resources](http://www.rev-o-lution.org/worship-resources)

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***Worship Leaders August 11, 2024***

Pastor: Sarah Fredriksen McCann

Organist: Jim Threlkeld

Liturgist: Alice Galt

Ushers: Members of Pastoral and Staff Relations Ministry

YouTube: Andy Karcher

Tech team: Jim Richmann, Ron Geisel,

Kristine Wentzien, Kathleen Mees

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ministries of Hope UCC!*