



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 18, 2024 10:30 a.m.



OPEN AND AFFIRMING RENEWAL SUNDAY

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 Names" Arr. Diane Bish

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)

paraphrase of Psalm 111

One: Praise God!

All: We give thanks to God with all our hearts.

One: God does great things; we delight in all God's works.

All: God acts with honor, with greatest dignity and justice that endures forever.

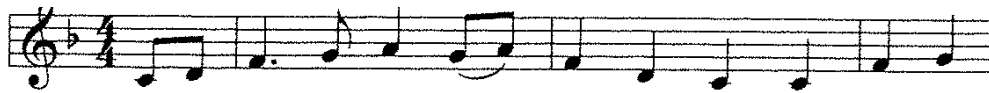
One: God is praised for all wonderful deeds, of mercy and graciousness.

All: God remembers the covenant, provides, nurtures, shelters.

One: God is faithful, just, and trustworthy.

All: God's way of love endures forever!

*GATHERING HYMN "Let Us Build a House" #301 *Glory to God Hymnal vv.1-4 only*



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
 2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and



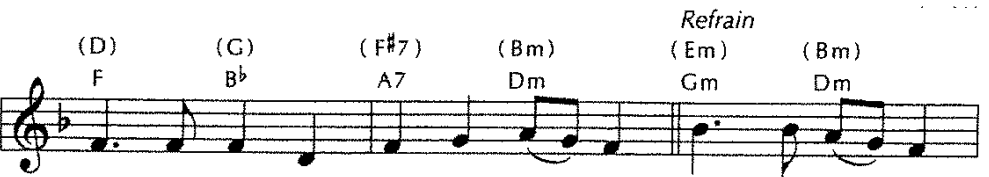
safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
 strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
 wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
 wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
 vi - sions heard and loved and trea-sured, taught and claimed



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)**

God, sometimes we are not careful in the way we live; we act without wisdom and are thoughtless in word and deed.

We are sorry for our foolishness.

God, sometimes we fill ourselves with anything but your Spirit, filling ourselves with anger or pride, greed or fear.

We are sorry for our self-indulgence.

God, sometimes we forget your ways; we neglect those most in need of your love.

We are sorry for our mistakes, and grateful for your unending grace that enables us to start anew. *(silent confession)*

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Hear the Good News! God's spirit will fill you anew, and wisdom will show you the way. So, let your hearts sing your praises to our God; for the song endures, and God forgives.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Let Us Build a House" v.5**

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

Pew Bible pp.265-267

A Word of God that is still speaking,

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF REFLECTION “There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy” #23 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.
There’s no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God’s heaven;
There’s no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment given.**

**For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s word;
And our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.**

RESPONDING

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

*AFFIRMATION OF OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME AND MISSION

Adopted by Hope UCC Congregation August 29, 2010

- Left side:* **No matter where you are on life’s journey, you are invited to enter the big red doors of Hope United Church of Christ.**
- Right side:* **We are an open and affirming congregation.**
- Left side:* **We believe that every person is a child of God and all are welcome, regardless of race, economic background, marital status,**
- Right side:* **gender, gender identity(ies) / expression(s), sexual orientation, age,**
- Left side:* **physical or mental ability, nationality or faith history.**
- Right Side:* **It is our mission, inspired by God’s Holy Spirit, to engage persons in living out the gospel of Jesus Christ.**
- All:* **Please come, for all things are ready.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM: RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

INVITATION

The church is a community of people with varieties of gifts,
united by the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ.

It is the spirit of caring for one another, of forgiving, of helping each other, of love revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This church is a people of God, with a diversity of needs, ideas, and visions, inspired by the Spirit present at the baptism of Jesus and renewed through the words and deeds of Jesus. May that same Spirit rest upon us all.

By our baptisms, we find our common ground within the covenant community. When one family member suffers, all suffer together. When one family member rejoices, all rejoice together.

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confession our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God? **I believe in God.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ? **I believe in Jesus Christ.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? **I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

WELCOME AND RECEPTION

Let us, the members and friends of Hope United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ:

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's love and be witnesses of our risen savior.

GREETINGS AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

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 "Greet the Rising Sun" Chinese Tune: Le P'ing"

Setting by David Christiansen

(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: "Help Us Accept Each Other" #388 *New Century Hymnal*

**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 Lord, 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 "Menuet Gothique" from "Suite Gothique" Leon Boellmann

SENDING

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

Worship Endnotes

(1) Adapted from Iona Abbey Worship Book, Iona Community, 2001

Music reprinted by permission OneLicense A-722326

Worship Leaders August 18, 2024

Pastor: Sarah Fredriksen McCann

Organist: Jim Threlkeld

Liturgist: Diane Muehlenbeck

Ushers: Members of Pastoral and Staff Relations Ministry

YouTube: Andy Karcher

Tech team: Jim Richmann, Ron Geisel,

Kristine Wentzien, Kathleen Mees

Donate from your smart phone



Thanks for your contribution to the ministries of Hope UCC!