



## Harvest Home/Reign of Christ Sunday

November 24, 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 "All Things Bright and Beautiful" English Melody; Arr. Bill Ingram  
Chancel Ringers and Lily Mulhall, Violin

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (1)

One: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

**All: We recognize God as the source of all goodness.**

One: All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

**All: love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, and gentleness.**

One: We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

**All: We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.**

\*GATHERING HYMN "Come, O Thankful People, Come" #422 *New Century Hymnal vv.1-2*  
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Come, O thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;**

**All is safely gathered in as the winter storms begin;**

**God our Maker does provide for our wants to be supplied;**

**Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,**

**All the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky,**

**All that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land,**

**All that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'er-flowing stores.**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)

O God, we know that we sometimes forget about you,

**we forget to love you, we forget to help our neighbors, we forget to thank you.**

Forgive us, and grant us clear minds to know you, new hearts to love you,  
and strong hands to serve you

**Help us live this day, this week, and always so that our whole life is a thanksgiving to you.**

*(Silent confession)*

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God is a gracious giver. God is gracious in forgiveness.

God calls us to new patterns and new life.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Come, O Thankful People, Come" v.3

**These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;**

**And for these our songs we raise, grateful vows and solemn praise.**

**Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;**

**Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

HANDBELL CHOIR ANTHEM "For the Beauty of the Earth" Douglas E. Wagner

**LISTENING**

*God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING John 18:33-37

Pew Bible pp. 881

A Word of God that is still speaking,

**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Sarah Fredriksen McCann

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF BAPTISM “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.**

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

### WELCOME

They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,  
**Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God.  
Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.**

And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

### ADDRESS

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ’s church, the sign and seal of their participation in God’s forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.**

### QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS AND SPONSORS

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the ones about to be baptized, as they live and grow in Christ?

**We promise our love, support, and care.**

## PRAYER OF BAPTISM

## ACT OF BAPTISM

## PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

### RESPONDING

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

## MOMENT OF THANKSGIVING: One Body Ministry

## 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                      Prelude on the tune "Kremser"                      Flor Peeters

*(Offer to God and then use this time for prayer. 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 “We Gather Together” #421 New Century Hymnal  
(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

**We gather together to ask for God’s blessing, to live in community, seeking God’s will.  
We come now, as sisters and brothers, confessing,  
the sins that divide and the wrong in us still.**

**Beside us, forgiving, enabling, sustaining, you call us, O Savior, to life that is new.  
You draw us away from self-centered complaining.  
You lead us and guide us in ways that are true.**

**All praise to the Spirit, provider, defender. You offer us freedom, to follow or stray.  
Empowering all by the hope you engender. Grant wisdom and courage to follow your way.**

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE      "Glory to God, We Give You Thanks"      J. Wayne Kerr

### **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.re-worship.blogspot.com](http://www.re-worship.blogspot.com)

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### ***Worship Leaders November 24, 2024***

Pastor: Sarah McCann

Organist: Jim Threlkeld

Liturgist: DeeDee Yanczer

Ushers: Members of the Youth and Children’s Ministry Team

YouTube: Andy Karcher

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

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*Thanks for your  
contribution to the  
ministries of Hope UCC!*



## SEASON OF SHARING - 2024

### **Mitten Tree - November 24 - December 8**

Mittens, hats and scarves are all welcome for both adults and very little ones – between the ages of one and five. Please place them on the tree or bring them to the church office from 9 a.m. to noon Monday – Thursday. The adult items will go to the Emmaus Home and items for children will go to the Caroline Mission.

### **Lydia's House Holiday Gift Card Ministry - November 24 - December 8**

The Outreach Ministry has made it even easier for Hope UCC to support *Lydia's House*—a refuge for moms and kids in abusive family relationships. Please consider donating a gift card from **Walmart, Aldi, Schnucks, Target, Old Navy or Amazon.**

Please place your donations in the offering plates.

### **Lydia's House Pins - December 1 - December 22**

Colorful and festive pins will be sold for \$20.00 each following both worship services. Proceeds benefit Lydia's House, a residential organization for abused women and their children.

### **Heifer International - December 1 - December 22**

As an alternative to more “stuff,” give the gift that truly keeps giving! Heifer International provides a variety of animals to families in the USA and across the world, to help them establish a source of income. Donation cards can be given to friends or families indicating you “bought” a flock of chickens, honeybees or even a water buffalo in their honor! Please stop by the table in the narthex before or after the 10:30 service to get your Heifer donation cards.

### **Christmas Fund - December 22**

Formerly known as the ‘Veterans of the Cross.’ This fund helps provide supplemental monies for pension and health insurance premiums to low-income retirees. Envelopes for this annual United Church of Christ offering will be in your bulletins on December 22nd.

