

# HOPE



141 S 12<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
920-743-2701

*A Caring Community with a Progressive Tradition*

A collection of various keys, including house keys and car keys, scattered on a dark surface. The keys are of different shapes and sizes, some with circular heads and others with more complex designs. The lighting is warm, highlighting the metallic texture of the keys.

*Resurrection Stories: Found*

**April 26, 2026**  
**10:30 AM**

We are grateful that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting, we extend an extra warm welcome to you and hope you will relax and enjoy worship! Come forward at any time during the service to light a prayer [votive] candle on the communion table. **Joys & Concerns are broadcast online so please use discretion when sharing prayer concerns.** Everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall for coffee hour following worship today!

## PRELUDE

*“Shine On Us”*

Michael W. Smith and Debbie Smith  
Arranged by: Lloyd Larson

## \*WELCOME & GREETING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE COLLECTIVE STORY OF RESURRECTION

### Introduction

### Refrain

**Rise up in us and we will rise  
From death into a newfound life:  
From bondage freed, from harm released,  
From illness healed, as one in peace.  
When all is lost our hearts are warmed,  
Our hope restored, our lives transformed.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Leader: Jesus appeared among the disciples again.  
He stood among them and said: “Peace be with you.”  
Yet, the disciples were terrified.  
They thought they were seeing a ghost.*

*Reader/s: Centering our hearts and minds in peace is a way to feel calm  
within.  
We learn to still ourselves to be open to unimaginable  
possibilities.*

Leader: Jesus asked: "Why are you frightened and why do doubts arise in your hearts?"

Reader/s: Doubts play an important role in our faith journey.  
Facing our uncertainties allows room for our hearts and minds to be filled with healing narratives.

Leader: "Touch me and see," Jesus invited, as he offered his pierced hands and feet.  
Yet, the disciples — even in the midst of their joy — felt disbelief.

Reader/s: Sometimes we are presented with signs of hope long before we realize we are not abandoned.  
Our hearts rejoice, yet our minds still wonder at what we have seen.

Leader: Jesus asked if they had anything to eat, and the disciples shared a piece of fish, which Jesus ate while in their presence.

**\*All: Jesus frequently shows us how to create community in the midst of feeling lost.  
We can form communities of sustenance and belonging.  
We are not alone – we are found – when we share Christ's call to peace.**

Leader: This is a Word of Hope for the people who long for it.  
Thanks be to the Living Word. – based on Luke 24:36-43

### **\*OPENING HYMN**

VU 664 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," V 1-3

### **THE KEY TO PEACE**

#### **READING**

Notes on Home: Psalm 84 (NRSVUE)

How lovely is your dwelling place,  
O Lord of hosts!

My soul longs, indeed it faints,  
for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh sing for joy  
to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home  
and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may lay her young,

at your altars, O Lord of hosts,  
my King and my God.  
Happy are those who live in your house,  
ever singing your praise.  
Happy are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.  
As they go through the valley of Baca,  
they make it a place of springs;  
the early rain also covers it with pools.  
They go from strength to strength;  
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.  
O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
give ear, O God of Jacob!  
Behold our shield, O God;  
look on the face of your anointed.  
For a day in your courts is better  
than a thousand elsewhere.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than live in the tents of wickedness.  
For the Lord God is a sun and shield;  
he bestows favor and honor.  
No good thing does the Lord withhold  
from those who walk uprightly.  
O Lord of hosts,  
happy is everyone who trusts in you.

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

*"Look at the World"*  
John Rutter

### **READING**

A Story of Home: John 14:18-28 (NRSVUE, slightly revised)

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in God, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by Abba God, and I will love them and reveal myself to them." Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?" Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and Abba God will love them, and

we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from Abba God who sent me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom Abba God will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to Abba God, for Abba is greater than I.”

### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

*“New Life Happens”*

### **ALLELUIA PRAYER**

**Oh, yeah!**

**Woo hoo!**

**Alright!**

**Right on!**

**Way to go!**

**Thank you, God!**

**Woop woop!**

**Yeah!**

### **BLESSING THE CHILDREN**

***Halle, halle, halle-luya!***

***Halle, halle, halle-luya!***

***Halle, halle, halle-luya!***

***Halle-luya, halle-luya!***

### **THE MESSAGE**

### **JOYS & CONCERNS**

### **SILENT PRAYER**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*You're invited to pray in the spirit of the Lord's Prayer, and in your own language, as appropriate.*

**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.

## PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERINGS

### Invitation to Generosity

#### Offertory

*"Be Still and Know"*  
Steven Curtis Chapman  
Arranged by: Lloyd Larson

#### \*Praise Response

*Praise God whose dawn transfigures night,  
Whose daystar shines for us on high.  
Whose Spirit brings into our sight  
The hope, which to our world draws nigh.*

#### \*Unison Prayer of Dedication

God of love,  
you abide with us;  
you provide for all our needs  
and guide us in your ways.  
Out of gratitude for your care,  
we bring our gifts before you.  
Use them for your work of caring,  
that all may feast at the table of abundance,  
walk without fear,  
and drink deeply  
from the cup of compassion.  
Amen.

~Mary Petrina Boyd: <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>.

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

VU 808 "On Eagle's Wings, " V 1-4

**\*ALLELUIA RESPONSE**

*Let us join hearts, hands, and voices to sing an 8-fold Alleluia*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*"Great is Thy Faithfulness"*  
William M. Runyan  
Arranged by: Lloyd Larson

**To this week's worship helpers:**

- Mark Nelson - Liturgist
- Roy Ames - Trustee
- Mary Ames and Tom Foster – Deacons
- Claire Minihan - Nursery
- Eric and Patsy Vollrath - Coffee Hour/Pizza Party
- Slide Presenter

**We truly appreciate all of you!**



**Weekly Words of Encouragement**  
**From the Mental Health Committee**  
**April 24, 2026 – Week 17**

***Guarding Your Mind:***

***What we dwell on shapes our hearts.***

***Protect your peace by focusing on what is true, noble, right,  
pure, lovely, and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8).***



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Our worship services are shared live on Vimeo and are available for viewing on the Internet. If you do not want your image shown, sit at the rear of the sanctuary or immediately beneath the camera. If you want to view what is shown, <https://vimeo.com/event/4958968>

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This sanctuary is equipped with Hearing Loop technology. If your hearing aid has the T-coil feature, activate the T-coil and your hearing aid becomes a personal receiver, part of the sound system of the church. If you have trouble hearing our speakers, but don't have hearing aids or they're being repaired, you may hear better with Loop headphones. Ask a deacon about them or find them in the basket by the Loop sign.



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Resources are available to help occupy young children attending Sunday services. Children's books and jigsaw puzzles are available on the small bookcase at the far north wall of the sanctuary. Books, crayons, and coloring sheets are in the "Hope for Kids" busy bags on the stand in the narthex. Our Hope nursery is available for children aged five and under. The screening process for attendants includes a background check and Safe Conduct training.

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Pastor: Rev. Carol Reynolds  
Moderator: Eric Vollrath  
Choir Director: Mary Hall  
Organist/Accompanist: Cheryl Pfister  
AV Manager: Beth Mitchell  
Office Manager: Brenda Curtis



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Hope United Church of Christ

## **Hope Church Mission Statement**

*People come together at Hope Church for the following purposes:*

- To worship God.
- To promote personal and spiritual growth.
- To develop a religious community which encourages tolerance and openness of thought and accepts diversity of thought and action.
- To search for meaning in life, and for understanding of ourselves through the teachings of Jesus and other great teachers.
- To understand how all things are related to each other, and to learn how we may best serve our local community and our world community.
- To celebrate with joy, the richness of ourselves and our religious community.

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## **Hope United Church of Christ (UCC) Relational Covenant Created 1-30-2021**

We, of Hope United Church of Christ, make an intentional choice to embrace this covenant as an essential part of our faith journey. The following are ways in which we will work together to reach our highest potential as individuals and as a community.

- We aspire to be open, affirming and to encourage everyone to travel their own spiritual path. We are committed to building trust, advocating for justice, and celebrating diversity.
- We treat ourselves and each other with patience and love by listening with compassion and speaking with authenticity.
- We affirm all emotions, take responsibility for our own words and actions, and trust the good intentions of others.
- We affirm that every voice has equal value. In our verbal, written and online communication (email, texting, Facebook, etc.), we speak directly to any individual with whom we have a concern in caring, clear, honest, and respectful ways. Substantive issues that require discussion may be better handled in-person. We refrain from gossip and honor confidentiality.
- We uphold our faith community by participating actively and responsibly in the decision-making process and work of the church, as we are able. We reach out to meet the needs of each other and the wider community. We are accountable to each other.
- We create a safe environment for self-disclosure and healthy relationships. When harm is experienced, we acknowledge it, promptly take responsibility, and work to make amends. We practice forgiveness and kindness.

Endorsed by Hope UCC Council on February 23, 2021

This is a living document. It is our intention to revisit and refine this covenant.

Updated by Hope UCC Council on 11-6-25

# Events Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Activity/Meeting
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 26</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Worship and Faith Formation</b>
Tuesday	April 28	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	April 29	4:30 PM 6-8 PM 7:00 PM	Mental Health Committee Confirmation via Zoom Choir Practice
Thursday	April 30	8:30 AM	Romeos
Friday	May 01	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	May 02	2-3 PM	Coffee/Carol @ 5&J
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 03</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Communion Sunday Worship and Faith Formation</b>
Tuesday	May 05	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	May 06	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Thursday	May 07	8:30 AM 6:00 PM	Romeos Council Meeting
Friday	May 08	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	May 09	2-3 PM	Coffee/Carol @ 5&J
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 10</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Worship and Faith Formation (Mother's Day)</b>
Tuesday	May 12	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	May 13	4:00 PM	Pastoral Support
Thursday	May 14	8:30 AM 3:30 PM	Romeos Deacons
Friday	May 15	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	May 16	12-4 PM	Repair Café / <b>No coffee w/Carol</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 17</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Mental Health Sunday Worship and Faith Formation</b>

*Please contact the church office to report calendar corrections, additions, or changes Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM*

For PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES, please call or text Pastor Carol at 508-282-9511 or to schedule an appointment. Her office hours are Wed. – Thu, 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

# Prayer List

Jana Mitchell	Yvonne Siira & Family	Anna
The Bender Family	Brenda Veldboom	Char Shinktgen
Jim & Karen Ebbeson	Anna Herdina	Adrian "Ade" Webber
Janice McMahon	George Weis	Vivian G
Peter	Dave L	June S
Lael C	Debbie C	Kim H
Darlene P	Sarah W (Sister of Allison)	Shawn M
Chris (Friend of June K)	Amelia B	Adam H
Maetta C	Gavin L	Dolly M
Dolly M	Tom B (Husband of Penny)	Eric (Son of Sharon M)
Cynthia R (DIL of Imelda)	Sarah J (Friend of Ricki)	Nancy S
Lynn K (Friend of Ricki)	Scott B	John H
Dave R (Friend of Ricki)		

## Everyone in our world who is frightened, losing benefits, and/or grieving

Incarcerated and Detained persons  
LGBTQ+ youth & adults everywhere  
Victims and survivors of gun violence  
L.E.A.F. Families

People who are missing or in harm's way  
The people of and from the Ukraine, the Caribbean, Gaza,  
Venezuela, Minnesota, the Middle East, Ecuador, and Cuba.

## ...And especially the family and friends of

Thomas Foster (Father of Tom)	Sasha H
Beth Anne W (Daughter of Olive S)	Phil Sweet
Hope B	Jendean and Dan Olson (Parents of Angela)
Eugene H	Tim S (Brother of Nancy F)
Kathy M	Henry G
David B	Bernie V (Friend of Nancy F)
Guy (Brother of Geri Lynn)	

**Please make a note on a yellow pew card or contact the church office to update the prayer list.**