

# HOPE

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

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

*A Caring Community with a Progressive Tradition*



**Hope Church UCC**  
**March 15, 2026 @ 10:30 AM**

# HOPE



*Hope Church  
Purveyors of Awe: Delight  
Lent 4 Worship Service*

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 1

*"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"*

John B Dykes

## PRELUDE 2

*"I Need Thee Every Hour"*

Robert Lowry

## \*WELCOME & GREETING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OVER THE THRESHOLD

### Introduction Part 1

### Opening Refrain #1 (VU 371)

*Open my eyes that I may see  
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unclasp and set me free.*

*Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.*

*Open my eyes, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!*

### Introduction Part II

### Opening Refrain #2

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart,  
I want to see you  
I want to see you*

## Introduction Part III

### \*Opening Prayer

Awe-inspiring God,  
we come together this day because we need to be reminded  
to see through the lens of delight.

Too often, we forget that we are made  
to delight in the diversity and abundance of your gifts.

Open us to perceive anew.

Inspire us to receive our surroundings with awe.

Forgive us when we get complacent, when we choose routine  
over opportunities for new experiences.

Be with us on this journey  
as we seek again to marvel at your works.

### \*Excerpt Refrain #1

*Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see.*

*Open my eyes, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!*

### \*OPENING HYMN

“God’s Eye Is on the Sparrow,” V 1-3 (See pages 4 & 5)

### FIRST READING

Excerpt from *Awe: The New Science of Everyday Wonder and How It Can Transform Your Life*, Dacher Keltner

Our tears register our awareness of vast things that unite us with others. Our goose bumps accompany notions of joining with others and facing mysteries and unknowns together. Today we may sense these laws of bodily awe when moved by a favorite musical group, or in calling out in protest with others in the streets, or in bowing our heads together in contemplation. And in such rushes of tears and chills... we may glean a sense of what our souls might be.

~Dacher Keltner: *Awe: The New Science of Everyday Wonder and How It Can Transform Your Life*. New York: Penguin Random House, 2023.

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## God's Eye Is on the Sparrow

Matt. 10:26-30; Luke 12:4-7

Civilla D. Martin, c. 1905; alt.

Stanzas, in unison

1 Why should I feel dis-cour-aged, why should the shad-ows come,  
 2 "Let not your heart be trou-bled," Christ's ten-der word I hear,  
 3 When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,

Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and  
 And rest-ing on God's good-ness, I lose my doubts and  
 When song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me

home, When God is ev-er my por-tion? My  
 fears; Though by the path . . . God leads me but  
 dies, I then draw close to my Sav-ior, from

con-stant friend will be: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 one step I may see: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 care I am set free: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I

*Civilla Martin, a native of Nova Scotia, assisted her husband in his evangelistic campaigns. Charles Gabriel was editor for Rodeheaver Publishing Company, Chicago, and one of the most popular gospel songwriters of the early 1900s.*

Tune: SPARROW *lrr.*  
 Charles H. Gabriel, 1905

know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I

*Refrain, in harmony*

know God watch-es me.  
 know God watch-es me. I sing be-cause I'm  
 know God watch-es me.

hap-py, I'm hap-py, I sing be-cause I'm free, God's  
 I'm hap-py, I'm free,

eye is on the spar-row, and I know God watch-es me.

## **SECOND READING**

Excerpt from Psalm 36 (The Inclusive Bible)

How precious is your love!  
Whether creatures of heaven or children of earth,  
    we all find refuge in the shadow of your wings.  
We feast on the bounty of your estate,  
    and drink from the stream of your delights.  
In you is the wellspring of Life,  
    and in your light we become enlightened.

## **IN AWE OF MUSIC: CHORAL ANTHEM**

*"Send Me Rains"*  
Daniel Kantor  
Nanette Anschutz, Flute

## **IN AWE OF CHILDREN: CHILDREN'S TIME**

*"Delight Wheeeeeee!"*

## **BLESSING THE CHILDREN**

*Go now in peace, Go now in peace.  
May the Spirit of Love surround you  
Everywhere, you may go...you may go*

## **IN AWE OF THE WORD: THE MESSAGE**

## **APPROACHING AN AWESOME GOD**

### **JOYS & CONCERNS**

### **SILENT PRAYER**

### **VISIO DIVINA (Video)/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## **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.

## RESPONDING WITH AWE: PRESENTATION OF GIFTS & OFFERINGS

### Invitation to Generosity

#### Offertory Music

*"My Jesus, I Love Thee"*  
Adoniram J. Gordon

#### \*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.*

#### \*Responsive Prayer of Dedication

Into a world desperate for signs of hope,  
**let these gifts arrive as beacons.**  
Into communities working for signs of freedom,  
**let these gifts unlock shackles.**  
Into hearts searching for signs of compassion,  
**let these gifts offer tenderness.**  
Into each breath yearning for signs of new life,  
**let these gifts come as possibility.**  
**Amen.**

~Dr. Sharon R. Fennema, founding member of the Liberating Lineages Collective and a free-range facilitator, ritualist, activist, teacher, and writer whose work lives at the intersections of race, gender, sexuality and embodied spiritual practices.

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

VU 216 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above," V 1-4

#### \*ALLELUIA RESPONSE

*We join our hearts/hands/voices to sing an 8-fold alleluia*

#### \*WE GO FORTH WITH AWE/BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

*"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*  
William Croft

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

- Suzanne Holvenstot - Liturgist
  - Greg Bauman - Trustee
  - Deb Sherwood and Don Tighe - Deacons
  - Ann Jenkins - Nursery Attendant
  - Juliets - Coffee Hour
  - Kathy White - Slide Presenter
  - Flute – Nanette Anschutz
- We truly appreciate all of you!**



**Weekly Words of Encouragement  
From the Mental Health Committee  
March 13, 2026 – Week 11**

***Remember that hope is an anchor for the soul (Hebrews 6:19).  
Hold onto hope in hard times.***



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>

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.



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 six and under. The screening process for attendants includes a background check and Safe Conduct training.

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

# Events Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Activity/Meeting
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 15</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Worship and Faith Formation One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering</b>
Tuesday	March 17	7:30 AM 5:00 PM	Rotary Breakfast Trustees
Wednesday	March 18	3:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Deacons Meeting Jesus & John Wayne Book Study on Zoom Choir Practice
Thursday	March 19	8:30 AM 12:30 PM 5:00 PM	Romeo's Breakfast Grief Support Mission & Action
Friday	March 20	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	March 21	8:30 – 11:30 AM Noon to 4 PM	Peninsula Singers Rehearsal Repair Café (No Coffee w/Carol)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 22</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday Worship and Faith Formation</b>
		12:30-2 PM	Forum: Immigration: Fact vs Fiction
Monday	March 23	10:30 AM	Write On Door County
Tuesday	March 24	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	March 25	3:00 PM 6-8 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Safety Committee Meeting Confirmation via Zoom Jesus & John Wayne Book Study on Zoom Choir Practice
Thursday	March 26	8:30 AM 7:00 PM	Romeo's Breakfast Board of Ed via Zoom
Friday	March 27	10:30 AM 11:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary Juliets Lunch @ Pinecrest
Saturday	March 28	2-3 PM	Coffee/Carol @ 5&J
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 29</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Worship and Faith Formation</b>
Tuesday	March 31	7:30 AM	Rotary Breakfast
Wednesday	April 1	2:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Aging Discussion Group Jesus & John Wayne Book Study on Zoom Choir Practice
Thursday	April 2	8:30 AM 5:30 PM	Romeos Maundy Thursday/Tenebrae Service
Friday	April 3	10:30 AM	Meditation in the Sanctuary
Saturday	April 4	2-3 PM	Coffee/Carol @ 5&J
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 5</b>	<b>10:30 AM 11:30 AM</b>	<b>Easter Sunday Worship with Communion Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt</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	Baby William
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	Guy (Brother of Geri Lynn)	Nikki P (Friend of Ricki)
Maetta C	Ann G (Niece of June K)	Kathy B and Greg B
Gavin L	Dolly M	Dolly M
Tom B (Husband of Penny)	Mark (Nephew of June)	Eric (Son of Sharon M)
Cynthia R (DIL of Imelda)	Sarah J (Friend of Ricki)	
Carol M	Nancy S	
Lynn K (Friend of Ricki)	Scott B	

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

Incarcerated 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, and Ecuador

### ...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	Phyllis T (Friend of Ricki)
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.**

# **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.

## **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



***Save the date for the Easter Brunch.***

***Sign up sheet is in the entry way.***

***April 5 after 10:30 Worship Service***