



Community UCC

We're worth our words

Welcoming Progressive Community

Vibrant Messengers of Hope



Champaign, Illinois

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

June 7, 2026

Thoughts before worship: "The signal for sadness is loss. Period. The question we must ask ourselves is what important parts of my world feel like they are being lost?" – Rev. Cody J. Sanders

Prelude

Brady Hughes

*Call to Worship

We come to worship this morning to affirm this.

Hope must be formed like faith that gets scattered like seeds and tended like love that grows up wild and free.

Even when we are sad, we cannot have hope as some sort of mood or good luck charm. Hope is a thing we DO together.

Together, In community with our Creator, let us scatter, cultivate, and practice hope that turns us towards one another.

*Invocation

Let us pray,

Holy one, we have gathered in your name, as your people, as your church. Move among us this morning and anoint us with your spirit that we might leave this place with good news on our lips, love in our hearts, and hope in the spaces between one another. In the name of the Way-Maker we pray, Amen.

*Opening Hymn

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

NCH 403

*My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' love and righ-teous-ness;
I dare not trust this earth-ly frame, but whol-ly lean on Je-sus' name.*

Refrain:

*On Christ, the sol-id Rock, I stand;
all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.*

*When shad-ows veil my Sav-ior's face, I rest up-on un-chang-ing grace;
In ev-ery high and storm-y gale, my an-chor holds with-in the veil. Refrain:*

*Christ's oath and cov-e-nant and blood sup-port me in the ris-ing flood;
When all a-round my soul gives way, Christ then is all my hope and stay. Refrain:*

*When Christ shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in Love be found,
Dressed in God's righ-teous-ness a-lone, fault-less to stand be-fore the throne. Refrain:*

We welcome you to our service this morning. Celebrating the diversity of creation, Community United Church welcomes persons of any age, ability, race, gender identity, sexual orientation or life condition. May the Divine Presence become real to you through this time of worship. We hope you come back!

Note: *Our worship services are live streamed. If you prefer not to have the back of your head seen on the live stream worship please do not sit in the first seven pews on the left side (organ/piano) of the sanctuary.*

Note 2: *The congregation responds to the liturgy parts in **BOLD***

*Everyone is invited to stand in body or in spirit.

Welcome, a Word About Worship, and an Opportunity to Check-In

Introit

Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free

*Come, O Lord, and Set us Free
Give your people hope*

*Come, O Lord, and Set us Free
Give your people peace*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray,

God, we are often sad. We see the news or experience unsettling things and become sorrowful. We feel like the important parts of our world are being lost or damaged. Sadness morphs into numbness, loss of meaning, incredible fatigue and despair that turns us inward. When we are tired and feeling cut off, we lean on the worst in us: greed, callousness, violence, exclusivity, and other ways of being not in the Way of Jesus. We pause now to confess how sadness has warped our way of being in full communion with you and your children. (pause for silent reflection). Forgive us we humbly pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

*Passing the Peace

Children's Moment

Call to Prayer

Later in the service, we will offer up our joys and concerns. Your prayer requests will be offered aloud. Whether you are sitting here in the sanctuary, or worshipping with us remotely, you are invited to add your joys and concerns to the prayer list: go to community-ucc.org/pray (a Google Form), or scan the QR code found here or there are prayer cards on the table at the back of the Sanctuary that you may fill out and hand to the usher.



Prelude to Scripture

Whether we take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth, or story, let us listen now for the meaning it might hold for us on this day.

Sacred Reading from the Gospels

Matthe2:13-23

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹ Then Jo-

seph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

Postlude to Scripture

Together, let us say:

May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder as we ponder the meaning of these words for our lives.

*Hymn

Be Still, My Soul

NCH 488

*Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient-ly the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to or-der and pro-vide; in ev-ery change God faith-ful will re-main.
Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal friend through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.*

*Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in fu-ture days as in the past.
Your hope, your con-fi-dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-rious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know how Je-sus' pow-er ruled them long a-go.*

*Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall be with God whom we a-dore,
with dis-ap-point-ment gone, no grief nor fear, sor-row re-placed with joy for-ev-er-more.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.*

Message

Apocalyptic Emotions: Sadness

Silent Meditation

Community Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Music for Reflection

Call to Offering

We look around the world and see such brokenness. And yet, God calls us into community, to be the Church, One Body, to serve. Together, we DO hope and we MAKE hope a way of life in the world, even in the midst of sad times. You may give in person or you may give by going online to community-ucc.org/ and clicking "Donate." Offerings placed in the plates supports the ministry of CUCC. Offerings placed in the Globes supports the UCC Strengthen the Church Fund. The ushers will now come forward to receive our morning offering.



Offertory

Brady Hughes

Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray:

God of Hope who knows our deepest sorrows, bless and multiply all that we offer so that our community of faith may continue to DO hope together and BE hope for others. May these gifts make it possible for us to grow as a church and practice hope in this moment in history in profound, life-giving way. In the name of the Way-Maker we pray, Amen.

Commissioning of the Community

*Why should I feel dis-cour-aged, why should the shad-ows come,
Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and home,
When God is ev-er my por-tion? My con-stant friend will be:
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.*

*I sing because I'm hap-py, I sing be-cause I'm free,
God's eye is on the spar-row, and I know God watch-es me.*

*"Let not your heart be trou-bled," Christ's ten-der word I hear,
And rest-ing on God's good-ness, I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path God leads me but one step I may see:
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.*

*I sing because I'm hap-py, I sing be-cause I'm free,
God's eye is on the spar-row, and I know God watch-es me.*

*When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,
When song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me dies,
I then draw close to my Sav-ior, from care I am set free:
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.*

*I sing because I'm hap-py, I sing be-cause I'm free,
God's eye is on the spar-row, and I know God watch-es me.*

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Postlude

Brady Hughes

Please join us in the Parlor for the after party.

Acknowledgements

Call to Worship adapted from Rev. Cody Sanders

Invocation written by Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

Introit, "Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free," by John Bell

Prayer of Confession written by Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

Sacred Reading, *New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition*. Copyright © 2021 National Council of

Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. <https://support.biblegateway.com/hc/en-us>

Call to Offering written by Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

Worship Licenses

Reprinted with permission under One License #A-73445, All Rights Reserved

Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #3154689, All Rights Reserved

Reprinted with permission under Convergence Music Project Annual Subscription Membership

Video Clips Shown with permission under CVLI License #5505492922, All Rights Reserved

Streamed with permission under CCLI Steaming License #20117321, All Rights Reserved

Serving Today

Ministers: The Community of Community UCC
Preacher and Presider: Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser
Accompanist: Brady Hughes
Audio/Video: John Osborne, Susan Pawlicki, Roger Wade

Community United Church of Christ Staff

Pastor: Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser leah@community-ucc.org	Faith Community Nurse Johnalene Radek johnalene.radek@carle.com
Director of Youth Ministries: Izzy Collazo lizzy@ucccampusministry.org	Minister Emeritus: Rev. Connie Bandy connie@community-ucc.org
Childcare Provider: Joji Chia	Director of Music Ministries: Kathy Lee music@community-ucc.org
Commissioned Minister of Congregational Health and Wellness Emeritus: Linda Morgan lindamorgan@sbcglobal.net	Accompanist: Andrey Ivanov
	Office Manager: Carla Rush info@community-ucc.org

Your Ministry Team Leaders

Moderator: Beth Hogan* Past Moderator: Susan Pawlicki* Incoming Moderator: Bill Gropp* Clerk: Jeff Radek* Pastoral Relations Committee: Cara Finnegan Personnel Committee: Stephen Kolderup Community Building: Peg Wade* <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Care Team: (Coordinator Open)- Prayer Shawls: Elena Kasper- Meal Train: Jennifer Robbennolt- Driver's Ministry: Mary Bunyard- Visitor & Healing Music Ministry: Marilou Hinrichs- Card Ministry: Peg Wade <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Health and Wellness Team: Chase Skye, Kelly Tull- Hospitality Team: Rocio (Ro) Arroyave Jamison and Dennis Jamison	Children & Family: Alison Anders*, Jennifer Johnson Finance: Roger Wade* (treasurer), David Willcox (financial secretary) Identity: Keri Evans* (open) Mission: Jeanne Ward* and Patty Gropp Sound & Ethical Practices (SEP): Sue Fristoe*, Shane Brownfield <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Buildings & Grounds: Tom Ward, Marla Elmore- Contracts & Insurance: Andrew McClure UCC Campus Ministry Liaison: Ilsa Kantola* Worship: Mara Smith*, Sebastian Major <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sound Coordinator: Roger Wade
---	--

*denotes Church Life Board Member

United Church Foundation (UCC Campus Ministry)

Director of Campus Ministry: Izzy Collazo | lizzy@ucccampusministry.org
www.community-ucc.org/campus-ministry email: info@ucccampusministry.org

Community United Church of Christ

805 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, Illinois, 61820
Phone: (217) 344-5091 | Website: www.community-ucc.org | Email: info@community-ucc.org