



**May 21, 2023 * Spirit of Hope United Methodist Church
Seventh Sunday after Easter**

GATHERING MUSIC

Jerry Rubino

CALL TO WORSHIP

Though we have known hardship and pain, though life has not always turned out as we had hoped, we will stand here and say:

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Though life becomes more complex, the deepest questions remain unanswered, and the mystery of faith deepens, we will say:

God's steadfast love endures forever!

And though the pain of the world often seems more than we can bear or address, we will stand firm in our faith and say:

God's steadfast love endures forever!

TIME OF SINGING

As We Gather

As we gather may Your Spirit work within us.
As we gather may we glorify Your name.
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship,
We'll be blessed because we came.
We'll be blessed because we came.

I Will Call Upon the Lord

I will call upon the Lord. Who is worthy to be praised. So shall I be saved from my enemies. I will call upon the Lord.

Chorus

The Lord liveth and blessed be my Rock. Let the God of my salvation be exalted!
The Lord liveth and blessed be my Rock. Let the God of my salvation be exalted!

O magnify the Lord! For He is worthy to be praised. O magnify the Lord! For He is worthy to be praised.

Chorus

Hosanna! Blessed be the Rock! And may the God of my salvation be exalted!
Hosanna! Blessed be the Rock! And may the God of my salvation be exalted!

Love You So Much

Hear these praises from a grateful heart. Each time I think of You the praises start.
Love You so much Jesus, love You so much.

Lord I love You my soul sings. In Your presence carried on Your wings.
Love You so much Jesus, love You so much.

Chorus

How my soul longs for You, longs to worship You forever,
In Your power and majesty, lift my hands lift my heart, lift my voice,
Towards the heavens, for You are my sun and shield.

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING LITANY

Merciful God, We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have made idols of our desires, our perceived righteousness, and even our fears.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have failed to embrace one another as equally valued members of one body, of which Christ alone is the head.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law.

We have been lured into legalism and the confines of church polity, favoring human security over divine, radical grace.

We have rebelled against your love,

believing that your favor is earned by faithfulness, rather than freely given to us and every sibling in Christ.

We have not loved our neighbors, when we valued certain voices, perspectives, and bodies above others....

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Even when we fail to seek forgiveness, and have not yet forgiven one another,

forgive us, we pray.

Entrusted to bear this unimaginable love to the world.

Through Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

My Life Flows On

See Insert

*GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:16-21

The word of God for the children of God. **Thanks be to God Amen.**

Children desiring Sunday School may join their teacher at this time.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Children of the Heavenly Father

Swedish/arr. Kallman

SERMON

*CLOSING HYMN

My Hope Is Built

See Insert

PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

UM Hymnal pg. 95

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Luke Nelson

CLOSING MUSIC

Jerry Rubino

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

Join us for some coffee and fellowship

Spirit of Hope Statements

Statement of Call: We are called by God to be radically inclusive, caring community of faith offering personal and social transformation through Jesus Christ.

Reconciling Statement: We are a reconciling congregation welcoming persons of all sexual orientations and genders.

Climate Statement: As Christians and Stewards of the Earth, we are called to adopt practices and support public policies to combat the climate change crisis. Spirit of Hope UMC pledges to consider climate impact in its practices and policies

Land Acknowledgement Statement: Spirit of Hope UMC sits on ancestral and traditional lands of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, and political significance. We recognize and honor the Dakota people, ancestors, and descendants, as well as the land itself, and all the sovereign Native Nations in Minnesota and beyond.