

Service for the Lord's Day

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 2026

Gathering Music

Welcome

Prelude

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Grosser Gott

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

When the seas roar and the nations rage, do not be afraid:

God is making a way.

When hopes seems lost and fear seems wise, stand firm:

God is making a way.

When the impossible is all you can see, take courage:

God is making a way. Let us worship God!

*Hymn 41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

Lyons

Call to Prayer

Prayer for Forgiveness (Unison)

You promise to open the way before us, O God, and we confess we are afraid. All we see are obstacles, we feel closed in on every side, and we wonder if what you ask of us is impossible. And yet your word of life calls us on.

Forgive us when we are held captive by fear and so cannot imagine another way. Forgive us when we are bound by the world we know and so cannot look to your infinity beyond us. Forgive us when we would rather go back than face the unknown, even with you. Liberate our imaginations and our spirits so that we may follow you into your future with hope...

(Silent time for your reflection and personal confessions)

Assurance of God's Grace

Scripture Lesson

Exodus 14:5-14, 19-29

OT, p. 60, 65

Sermon

Between a Rock and a Hard Place

Rev. Traci Loveman

*Hymn 44

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

Austin

***Affirmation of Faith** (Responsive)

from The Iona Community

With the whole church, we affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit. With people everywhere, we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong. With all creation, we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and this world. Amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

May the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...*(prayer continues)*

As we pray together the prayer Christ taught us:

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.

The Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM Rhondda

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Now Thank We All Our God

J. Crüger

*You are invited to stand in body or spirit as you are comfortable doing so.

What's Happening at Hope?

Church Office Closed: The church office will be closed this week, and Pastor Christie will be out of the office through next Sunday. If you need assistance, please contact the Elder on Call (Angie Wester: 256-684-7691) or another member of Session.

Fall Workday: Saturday, October 24, from 9:00 a.m. until noon, we will be having a church "work day" along with the Playschool to help get our building and grounds in good condition. There will be tasks accessible to all ages and abilities. Breakfast goodies and snacks will be provided. Please plan to join us as we care for the physical resources we have been given to accomplish our ministry.