

Hope United Church of Christ - Worship Order
May 3, 2026 - Holy Communion

Prelude: Fanfare on "Nicaea" - - - Nancy Hill Cobb

Welcome Pastor Meg

Offering and Offering Prayer

Opening Song: No. 73 Enter Rejoice and Come In

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Can you hear the voice of God?

All: We hear God calling us by name.

One: Are you troubled or distressed?

All: We gather to find a place to refresh our souls.

One: Come and find our Guide who knows the way.

**All: We come to praise our Shepherding God,
whose pathways and doors lead to life.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us pray

All: Shepherding God, be with us in our need.

We are like sheep who have gone astray.

We have not listened for your voice.

Too often we want to do it ourselves.

**Forgive us for rejecting your care and guidance. Lead us
back to the path of life. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Special Music: Behold the Lamb (The Communion Hymn)

words & music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend arr. by Lloyd Larson

Children's Message

THE ALLELUIA

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Prayer before Scripture

Scripture Reading: John 10:1-10 CEB

Sermon: Our Shepherd *Rev. Meg Wilson*

Song of Response: "Sanctuary"

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,

Pure and holy, tried and true;

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for You. x2

Prayers of the People: *Shepherding God... Hear Our Prayer*

Lord's Prayer

Song of Preparation: No. 417 This is a Day of New Beginnings verse 5

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcomed to share in this meal.

Pastor: The Lord is with you!

All: And also, with you!

Pastor: Lift up your voices to speak of this great love!

All: We lift them up in joyful acclamation!

Pastor: It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, Living God, time after time, you draw us here to inspire us, feed us, and save us. Especially when our love fails, you are here, steadfast and true. You created this world and called it good. You created us to proclaim your good to all. And so we raise our voices in praise:

All: Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High.

Pastor: We remember the life and ministry of Jesus: how he healed the sick, fed the hungry, ate with sinners, and preached forgiveness and peace. It was at this table that he issued the invitation:

All: to gather together, to share together, to remember together, and to go and do likewise in the world.

Pastor: For the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, also, he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, on this day of resurrection, we raise our voices to proclaim this timeless truth:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, your people, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make us lovers and tellers of your word. Make us ones who heal and share your grace. And make us one body in Jesus Christ. All glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and for all time! Amen.

Sharing of the Elements

Pastor: Let us together receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

All: We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

Pastor: Let us together receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

All: We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

Unison Prayer After Communion:

Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. We are now called to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Closing Song: No. 347 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Benediction:

Blessing: "Go in Peace"

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

Postlude: Trumpet Tune - - - Gordon Young