

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

*Second Sunday After Christmas
Holy Communion*

January 2, 2022

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

INTROIT “Angels from the Realms of Glory” (verses 1 & 2) No. 189

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the form of an infant, God has broken into time.

All: Behold, God’s marvelous grace has come.

One: And He grew in wisdom, stature, in favor with God and with all those He encountered.

All: May God bring us wisdom, growth and favor.

One: God came to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.

All: And we have beheld the glory, the only Son of the Most High. Joy to the world, let earth receive her King!

*HYMN “Joy to the World” No. 179

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God, who made all things new, we are at times a people easily given to despair. When we look to the future, we often see endings and not beginnings. We confess that we get tangled in the problems of this world and have trouble seeing hope for the future. Forgive our lack of faith. Restore in us a trust in your power to create new beginnings where we are not yet able to imagine them. Make us joyful and just in this new year, we pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In Christ we are forgiven and are new.

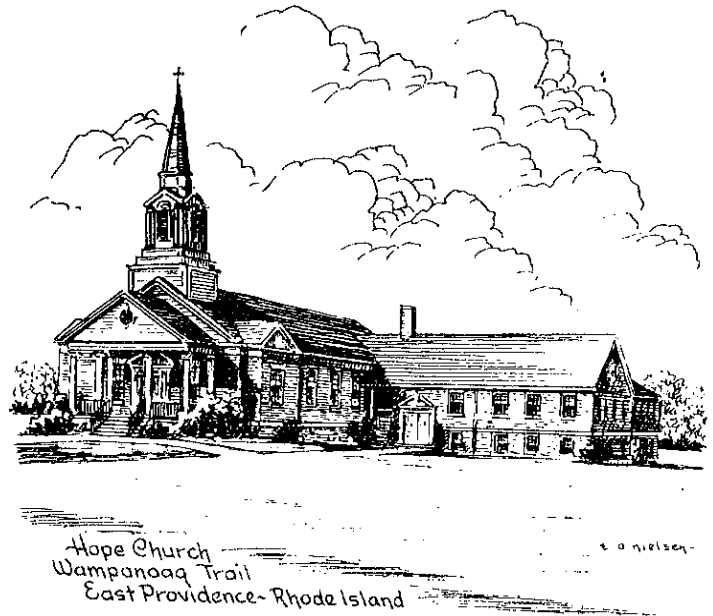
All: Let us place our trust in God’s promise of new and abundant life. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 734

NEWS AND NOTES

1. A very special welcome and thanks to our guest pastor for January and February, **Rev. David Mehl**. An ordained minister in the United Church of Christ since 1978, Rev. Mehl retired to Rhode Island in November 2019 after serving congregations in New England and St. Louis for more than three decades. Before finishing his career, he served as the Executive Director of Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis - one of the oldest interfaith organizations in the country. Please take the time to personally meet and welcome Rev. Mehl to Hope Church.
2. **2021 Annual Reports are due to the office by January 7th.** Please email them to the church office if possible.
3. **Annual Meeting - Sunday, January 23, 2022** after worship
4. The “**Get Crafty**” group meets every **Thursday from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** You can bring your own crafts to work on or others will be provided. Leave your stress at home! Everyone is welcome!
5. Hope Church is open and ready to welcome any members of the community who are in search of a warm and friendly place to worship. **Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us.**
In light of the emerging contagions with the Omicron strain of the virus, we are asking/encouraging people to wear masks, even if vaccinated, during worship. Everyone will also be expected to sign in on our contact list.
If you are unable to attend the regular worship service of Hope Church in person on any given Sunday, the following is the information needed to livestream the service on YouTube or any time after and to get the Sunday bulletin to follow along with the service. A link to this week's livestream service and bulletin as well as those from past weeks is available at: hopecongrgri.org/?page_id=90. You can click on the "plus" mark for that week.

**If you are able to do so comfortably, please stand.*



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SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

SERMON

“Joy?!”

Rev. David Mehl

*HYMN

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

No. 243

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastoral Prayer (including prayer concerns)

Time of Silent Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response “Let the Church Say Amen”

Let the church say amen, Let the church say amen

Altogether, let the church say amen.

DELIGHTING IN GIVING

(The offering plates are at the back of the sanctuary.)

Invitation to Present Our Offerings

Offertory

“Star Child”

Andrew Foster

*Doxology

“Give Thanks”

No. 359

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

O God of joyful newness, we have beheld your glory in Jesus, the Word made flesh. Accept these offerings as signs of our commitment to your new world that is breaking in, through Christ we pray, Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table
UCC Statement of Faith
Act of Thanksgiving

Insert

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks for God's glory.

All: We give thanks; we rejoice in the glory of all creation.

One: All glory be to you, O God, who sent Jesus Christ into the world to live, born of a woman's womb, to die for us on a cross we made.

All: He came for us. Help us to accept his coming.

One: He stood among us, a human being, in our world, the place of conflict, and commanded us to remember his death, his life-giving death, until he comes again in glory.

All: We remember his death; we wait for his coming.

Words of Institution

One: The night he was arrested, the Lord Jesus took bread; he gave thanks; he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat, this is my body. Do this in remembrance of me." He also took the cup; he gave thanks; and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

One: Therefore, remembering his death, believing his rising from the grave, yearning to recognize his presence; in this place, now, we obey his command; we offer bread and wine; we offer ourselves to be used.

All: Accept our offerings, Almighty God. Send the Spirit of life and power, glory and love, upon us and our gifts. May this bread and this wine be to us the body and the blood of Jesus, now and always. Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in you. Amen.

Offering of the Bread and Cup

Communion Hymn "Surely the Presence"

Dale Magnuson, Andrew Foster, Kim Kuda

Thanksgiving and Dedication After the Meal (Unison)

O God, who has so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us, we thank you for this supper shared in the spirit with your son, Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts in Him. Grant us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our works, a continual offering to you: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"As With Gladness"

No. 236

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

GUEST PASTOR - Rev. David Mehl
MUSIC DIRECTOR - Kim Kuda
DEACON & LAY READER - Margaret McKiernan
MUSIC TEAM - Andrew Foster, Dale Magnuson,
Sangho Nam, Kim Kuda

