

# WORSHIP CELEBRATION

*Third Sunday after Epiphany*

**January 23, 2022**

**10:00 a.m.**

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

INTROIT            “Christ, Be Our Light” (verse 1)            Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Barbara Brown Taylor)

One: The Word of God is not chained. It breaks all bonds, escapes all prisons.

**All: God’s Word sprouts wings; it flies off the page.**

One: It creates the world, the church, the human being, as often as any of us need creating.

**All: The Word of God is not chained. Let us worship God whose Word comes in Jesus Christ who equips us for joyful living.**

\*HYMN            “Praise to the Living God”            Insert

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Forgive us, God, when our worship is hollow, when our days have lost their meaning, when our thoughts are not on your will but instead on our own desires.

**All: Forgive us, God, when we think that paying you lip service will make up for the times we forget you. Call us back. Give us another chance to serve you;**

One: to do good,

**All: to seek justice,**

One: to plead for those who have no voice.

**All: Make us whole and new again, in Jesus’ name.**

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

## NEWS AND NOTES

1. The **Annual Meeting** will follow worship today. All members are asked to remain with us. Copies of the **Annual Report** are available in the foyer.
2. 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!
3. Don't forget that **“SCRIP” gift cards** are still available to use instead of cash or credit card at your favorite retailer. Some gift cards are readily available or you can place an order for others. Please see Rick Bushnell or contact Shirley in the office for more details or to place an order. This is a great way to financially help the church!
4. 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](http://hopecongrgri.org/?page_id=90). You can click on the "plus" mark for that week.



## *Hope Congregational Church United Church of Christ*

120 Wampanoag Trail  
East Providence, Rhode Island 02915  
Tel. (401) 434-2415 FAX (401) 434-2041

E-mail: [hopechurchep@verizon.net](mailto:hopechurchep@verizon.net)  
[Facebook.com/HopeChurchRI](https://www.facebook.com/HopeChurchRI)

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Know that God's forgiving word is wildly beyond our perception and understanding but is keen as a two-edged sword, and real as the air we breathe.

**All: We are forgiven and loved into a new creation. Thanks be to God!**

**\*HYMN**

“Song of Praise”

Insert

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

**SERMON**

**“Word-makers, World-makers”**

*Rev. David Mehl*

**\*HYMN**

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

Insert

**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                      “Spirit of God”

\*Doxology                      “Give Thanks”                      No. 359

\*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**Thank you, gracious God, for more blessings than we can count,  
more abundance of love than we can measure. Accept these  
offerings as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to you  
and to your word-making and world-making love, in Christ’s  
name. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN      “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”      No. 712

\*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