## **WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022 10:00 a.m.

**PRELUDE** 

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

INTROIT "Everyone is Welcomed Freely" Insert

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The Psalmist sings, "One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after;"

All: "to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,"
One: "to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in God's temple."

All: "Sisters and Brothers, God is good, and in love and mercy gathers us here."

One: Let us gather in the service of our Creator.

All: Though we are many, we come as one body. Let us worship on this holy day.

\*HYMN "We Are Called" Insert

# \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, you have made us citizens of Heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. We have let our craving for public status prevent our honesty about hidden sins.

Yet, you know the desires of our heart and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for our world. Amen.



# Hope Congregational Church United Church of Christ

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#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God, our light and our salvation, does not forsake us or leave us with our sin. In Christ, we are forgiven and offered the gift of healing repentance.

All: Thanks be to God!

\*GLORIA PATRI No. 734

#### SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 55:1-13

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

## **SERMON** "The Trees of the Field Shall Clap Their Hands"

\*HYMN "The Gifts of God are Free" 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 "This Alone"

\*Doxology "Give Thanks" No. 359

\*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

O God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands, and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

\*CLOSING HYMN "You Shall Go Out with Joy" Insert

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

GUEST PASTOR - Jonathan Ryder MUSIC DIRECTOR - Kim Kuda DEACON & LAY READER - Robin Smith MUSIC TEAM - Andrew Foster, Dale Magnuson, Sangho Nam, Kim Kuda

#### **NEWS AND NOTES**

- 1. Save the Date Saturday, April 23rd All-Church Yard Sale
- 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 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 infomation 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: <a href="https://person.org/?page\_id=90">https://person.org/?page\_id=90</a>. You can click on the "plus" mark for that week.