



*Hope Congregational Church
United Church of Christ*

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SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:11-32

Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is ours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

SERMON

“M_SI_”

*HYMN

“As Water to the Thirsty”

No. 432

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 “Come to the River”

*Doxology “Give Thanks”

No. 359

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

O God, from your abundant stores you have showered blessings upon us. To you we return a portion of those blessings as a sign and symbol of our covenant with you. Accept these gifts, and use them to continue the work of your church in this world. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN “O Come to Me, the Master Said”

No. 346

*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

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

10:00 a.m.

NEWS AND NOTES

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

INTROIT “Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Everyone who thirsts:

All: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return that you may live.

One: All who are hungry for righteousness:

All: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return that you may live.

One: All who need the help of God:

All: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return that you may live.

*HYMN “Lord God, Your Love Has Called Us Here” Insert

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God, we confess that we have gone complacent in our response to you. You set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world, but we indulge in our own desires. Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts are not your thoughts.

Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be. We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God’s love is sure and steadfast, always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God.

All: Through the waters of baptism, we have died with Christ and are raised with Christ. With gratitude, in faith, we will walk the way of Christ.

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.** Please bring your own crafts to work on as we enjoy fellowship with one another. 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 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.