



Hope Church
Wampanoag Trail
East Providence - Rhode Island

**Hope Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
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East Providence, Rhode Island 02915**

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**Rev. Robert W. Nolan, Pastor
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**Margaret McKiernan, Deacon of the Month
Austin Burns Music Director**

Hope Congregational Church, UCC
Order of Worship 05-12-2024, 10:30 AM

Ascension Sunday

**“No matter who you are or where you are on
life’s journey, you are welcome here!”**

***Gathering Music: “The Lord’s Prayer” by
Albert Hay Malotte***

**The flowers today are in honor of
all the mothers, past and present.**

Welcome & Announcements

Deacon Margaret

- **Call to Worship**

One: Jesus prayed for his disciples, giving them
into God’s eternal care.

**All: Jesus prays for us, giving us into God’s
care.**

One: Know that you have been blessed with the
love of the Savior.

**All: We live in that love and seek to serve
God.**

One: Open your hearts and spirits now to hear
God’s word.

All: May our lives be open to God's Spirit and reflect God's love.

One: Come, quench your thirst in the love of God.

All: Hallelujah! AMEN.

- *Opening Hymn: "Sweet Hour of Prayer"*
No. 478

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION &
RECONCILIATION Deacon Margaret**

One: Lord, we are impatient! We want everything right now, instantly! We don't want to wait for anything. We rush our holidays, our celebrations, our very lives and then wonder why our spirits are exhausted and depressed. Slow us down, Lord. Help us to enjoy the process of waiting for the wondrous things you offer us. Let us feel the power and beauty of praising you and singing your praises.

Many: Clear away our "high gear" mentality and place us on paths of peace and hope. Forgive our arrogance and impatience. Help us to overcome those traits which pull us away from you and

from appreciating all that you have done for us.

Assurance of God's Grace

One: God loves and forgives us. We are no longer numbered with the wicked, but rather are placed with those whom God has blessed. Be a blessing to all whom you meet, in God's name.

Many: As we listen to the scriptures this day in which the disciples witnessed Jesus' ascension to you, let our hearts be at peace knowing that you have taught us what we need to know to serve God joyfully in this world. Inspire us and give us delight for what is to come.

- **Gloria Patri**

No. 734

*Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Spirit One;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen. Amen.*

PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Bob: God calls us to create a community
which welcomes all:
To care and love unconditionally,
To free us and create a welcome for
all.

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also, with you!

Rev. Bob: Let share that welcome with each
other, that Love!

**Scripture: Acts 1: 1-11 (NRSVUE)
Deacon Margaret**

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with

water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

**Sermon/Reflection: “Ascending witness,
Descending faith” Rev. Bob**

- **Hymn: “He is Exalted” No. 122**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
Prayer Requests & Pastoral Prayer**

Lord's Prayer: (using "debts" and "debtors")
All

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 Deacon Margaret

Special Music "Thine is the Glory" (No. 310)
Austin & Music Team

- **Doxology "Give Thanks No. 359**

*Give Thanks, with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his
Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give
thanks!*

- **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING &
DEDICATION All**

**We give you thanks, O Lord. For all anywhere
who love you and praise your holy name, who**

are willing to be the Resurrection Church, we are grateful. AMEN.

- **Closing Hymn: “Crown Him with Many Crowns” No. 317**

Benediction:

Rev. Bob

- ***Benediction Response (sung): “God Be with You”***

*God be with you,
God be with you,
God be with you ‘till we meet again.
O---God be with you,
God be with you,
God be with you ‘till we meet again.*

***Closing Music: “Be Thou My Vision”
Austin & Music Team***

Calendar and Announcements

- There will not be a coffee hour after church today because of Mother’s Day.
- Rev. Bob will be
 - at Hope on Tuesday and Thursday.
 - at Riverside on Wednesday.

- Please contact Rev. Bob directly by phone, (401) 339-6134 or email, nolan062400@gmail.com if you would like to visit him during his office hours or at an alternative time.
- The “**Get Crafty**” group meets at Hope Church on Thursday evenings at 6:30 PM. All are welcome.
- The **Deacons** will meet via Zoom on May 15th at 6:00 p.m.
- ***Cobweb Community thrift shop @ Riverside Church Cobweb Shop***
Wednesday-Thursdays 9-12 & Second Saturdays of the month 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.
- ***Lighthouse Community food rescue mission @ Riverside Church*** Wednesdays - Fridays 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- And don't forget your used clothing for the Saint Pauly Shed.

May Birthdays

Marie Nadrowski	May 1
Leslie Laughlin	May 14
Carol Salisbury	May 17

If we missed your birthday, please contact the Church office and we will add it to our list. Thank you!