

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Please take note: There will be no congregational singing during the service. All music will be provided by the Music Director and soloists.

INTROIT “All Are Welcome” *Sangho Nam*

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We have been called by God.

All: In our strength and weakness, in our triumph and tragedy.

One: We have been gathered by God.

All: Gathered to form the Church, the visible community of God.

One: We have been empowered by God.

All: Empowered to bring the Light and Hope of the Creator into a hurting world. Let us come and worship!

*HYMN “O God, In Whom All Life Begins” *Andrew Foster*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, we confess that in spite of your extravagant welcome, we often refuse. In spite of your call to reconciliation and community, we far too often stick to old pathways of sin and suffering.

Help us, Merciful Creator, to welcome your healing grace into our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

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

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: People of God, hear the Good News! You are loved and welcomed by your Creator. God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All: Live in the eternal light of that love. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

Sung by soloist

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 18:9-14, 19:1-10

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

SERMON “A Tale of Two Tax Collectors”

*HYMN “Lord, You Teach Us to Be Humble”
Sangho Nam, Andrew Foster

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 "Loving and Forgiving" *Kim Kuda*

DELIGHTING IN GIVING

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

Invitation to Present Our Offerings

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

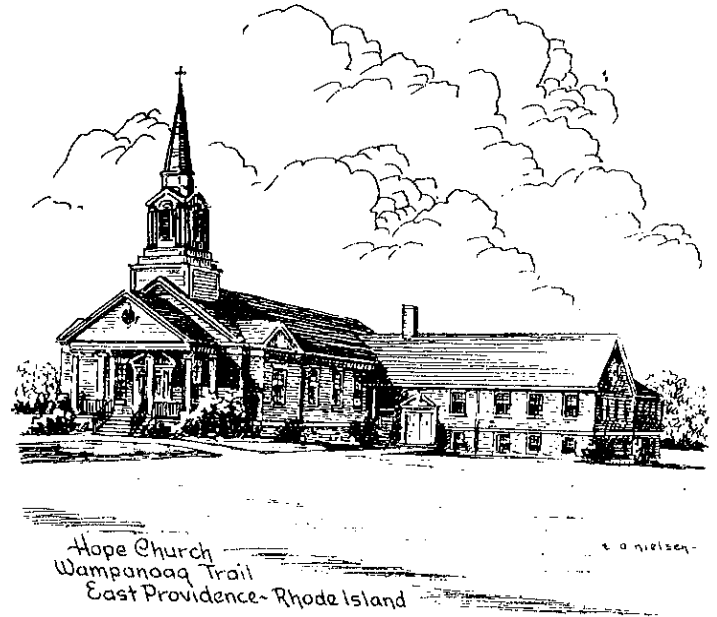
Merciful God, all that we have comes from you. And so we return a portion of these gifts so that your reign of light and love may be made manifest in this broken world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "O God, We Yearn for Safety"
Andrew Foster, Sangho Nam, Kim Kuda

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

GUEST PASTOR - Rev. Jonathan Ryder
MUSIC DIRECTOR - Kim Kuda
DEACON & LAY READER - Lori Russell
SOLOISTS - Andrew Foster, Sangho Nam, Kim Kuda



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NEWS AND NOTES

1. 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 worship.

Those who are fully vaccinated are not required to wear masks during Sunday worship. All others are still required to wear masks except for children under the age of two. Everyone will 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. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Andrew Foster of the Digital Ministry Task Force at afoster@brown.edu or (401) 743-8584. The link to our services and bulletin is available at: hopecongre.org/?page_id=90

2. There will be **NO IN-PERSON WORSHIP on Sunday, September 5** but an online service will be available.

3. **Sunday, September 12 - Holy Communion**