



*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
[Facebook.com/HopeChurchRI](https://www.facebook.com/HopeChurchRI)

WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 23, 2022

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

INTROIT “We Gather Together” (verse 1) No. 81

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: It is a time of good rain, early and abundant, that renews and does not flood.

All: We are the gatherers of all that nourishes body and soul, for we work among a harvest of possibility.

One: It is a time of good trouble, bringing justice without violence, a time of unexpected spirit bringing new words, understandings.

All: We are the Everyone who receives God’s spirit, the Everyone who shares God’s spirit, in spoken word and sign, in song, text, braille, code, hand-reaching.

One: You are gatherers, who are not washed away, the troublemakers of a trouble called love, the Anyone, dangerously open.

*HYMN “Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive” Insert

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Loving God, reveal to me the ways in which I have judged and still judge others. Show me the many ways I have seen someone being different as a reason to fail to simply love and serve all of your children. Help me to see how I have allowed gender, politics, race and a thousand other differences to excuse boundaries of my own making that have kept me resistant to caring for your unique kids. Definitions of the world’s making have created divisions preventing the possibility of a new day, a new season, a new life. By Your mercy form me for a life of acceptance, inclusion and compassion. Grant a lightness of spirit forgiving me and freeing me to embrace the diversity of creation. Amen.

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

NEWS AND NOTES

1. Our **Mini-Bazaar will be on Saturday, November 5., 9-2.** Take-out Corn Chowder will be available 11-1. Help is needed on Thursday evening and Friday, as well as Saturday. If you can help or for more information contact Sylvia Janes, Paula Perkins or Sarah Tonole. Don’t forget your tickets for the drawing for the bike, gift card for \$100 for Twin Oaks, many other gift cards, etc. Please sell them to family and friends. More tickets are available in the foyer.
2. Our long-time devoted member of Hope Church, **Barbara Anderson** will be celebrating her **100th birthday on November 6.** There will be a special tribute for her in worship that day. Please also send Barbara a card at Waterview Villa, 1275 So. Broadway, East Providence, RI 02914.
3. 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!
4. 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!
5. Don’t forget your used clothing for the **St. Pauly shed.**
6. **In light of the contagions with the emerging strains of Covid, 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: hopecongri.org/?page_id=90. You can click on the "plus" mark for that week.

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 “By Grace, We Are Blest”

*Doxology “Give Thanks” No. 359

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Holy One, in Jesus Christ you have shown what your heart is like - merciful and abounding in steadfast love. Form that same spirit in us that our lives may become continual prayers of thanksgiving. Let no cry of your creation go unheard. Form us as agents of practical praise, molding us with mercy for a world crying out for healing. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN “Rain Down” No. 444

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION - We invite you to sing with us:

*Now may the God of love fill you with joy and peace in believing.
May you abound in all joy, may you abound in all hope.
By the power of the spirit, the spirit of God,
The spirit of God be with you.*

GUEST PASTOR - Rev. Korte Yeo

MUSIC DIRECTOR - Kim Kuda

DEACON & LAY READER - Robin Smith

MUSIC TEAM - Andrew Foster, Dale Magnuson,
Sangho Nam, Kim Kuda

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Hear the good news! Through openings of trust, however small they might be, God is ever offering new avenues of healing, hope and opportunities for service. No burden of your past is strong enough to block these roads to freedom from becoming apparent. Now may our lives become songs of thanksgiving and praise that others too may discover the amazing power of God to make all things new!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

No. 734

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like the other people - robbers, evildoers, adulterers - or even like the tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

SERMON

***HYMN**

“May We, Your Church, Be Humble”

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.