



Hope Church  
Wampanoag Trail  
East Providence- Rhode Island

**Hope Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
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## Hope Congregational UCC

Order of Worship 11-12-2023, 10:30 AM

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Stewardship  
Sunday

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

- *Where you see this, please stand as you are  
able.*

**Gathering Music: “Everything I Have Is Yours”  
(by Burton Lane and Harold Adamson)  
Elliott Talley & Music Team**

**Welcome & Announcements (back of bulletin)  
Deacon Cora Rose**

- **Call to Worship (Inspired by Wisdom of  
Solomon 6: 12-16)**

**Deacon Cora Rose**

One: Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is  
easily discerned by those who love her and  
is found by those who seek her.

**Many: We hear your Still Speaking voice. We  
come to you, Wisdom, seeking  
knowledge and understanding.**

One: Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her.

**Many: We remember your marvelous acts and faithful instruction. We come to you, Wisdom, as you have been near to us!**

One: Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her.

**ALL: We trust in your guidance and place our hope in you through feast and famine. We come to you, Wisdom, to worship and to serve.**

- **Opening Hymn: “What Does the Lord Require”** **No. 686**

## **PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION &**

## **RECONCILIATION**

**Deacon Cora Rose**

**One:** Wisdom, your presence illuminates our path. Shine your light into dim spaces so that we do not stray from your teaching. Help us discern what you are calling us, your church, to do and be in this moment in time. Give us urgency to be good news in the world and for

our neighbors. Let your glory reign among us and your Spirit lead us into truth, justice, and love.

**All: Wise God, we often seek counsel from so many sources while ignoring your guidance. Help us to navigate the tough choices we must make and to discern the circumstances of our world and our lives through your perspective. Your way is life and embodies care, compassion, and concern for all creation. May we follow your model for the flourishing of our human siblings and our home, the Earth. Amen.**

## **Assurance of God's Grace**

One: Let us pray...

Beloved, God gives good instruction and the grace to begin anew. You are empowered by God to choose the path of life everlasting and nudged by God when your journey strays. Know that every movement toward God is received with gladness and the full and welcoming embrace of the Holy One.

**All: Give us your heart for serving our neighbor. Assure us of your abiding presence and wisdom. May your kingdom come with power and gentleness in your name.**

- **Gloria Patri**

*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.*

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

**Susan Brown**

**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!**

**Scripture: The Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16  
(NRSVUE) Deacon Cora Rose**

<sup>12</sup> Wisdom is radiant and unfading,  
and she is easily discerned by those who  
love her

and is found by those who seek her.

<sup>13</sup> She hastens to make herself known to  
those who desire her.

<sup>14</sup> One who rises early to seek her will have  
no difficulty,

for she will be found sitting at the gate.

<sup>15</sup> To fix one's thought on her is perfect  
understanding,

and one who is vigilant on her account will  
soon be free from care,

<sup>16</sup> because she goes about seeking those  
worthy of her,

and she graciously appears to them in their  
paths

and meets them in every thought.

**Sermon: The Stewardship of Wisdom Rev Bob**

- **Hymn: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"  
No. 721**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

# PASTORAL PRAYER (INCLUDING PRAYER CONCERNS)

## TIME OF SILENT PRAYER

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

Prayer Response: Let the Church Say Amen All

*Let the church say amen, Let the church say amen,  
Altogether, let the church say amen.*

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY Rev. Bob

**Offertory Music: "His Eye is on the Sparrow"  
(Charles & Civilla Gabriel) Elliott Talley &  
Music Team**

- **Doxology: "Give Thanks"**

*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 DEDICATION

All

Discerning God, receive our offerings and gifts for your kindom. Let them be a blessing to those in need of encouragement, material goods, and evidence of your presence among us. Magnify them beyond our imagining and grant us insight into the possibilities before us for ministry and witness. We are grateful to give. Amen.

- Closing Hymn: “I Surrender All” No. 474

Benediction

Rev. Bob

***Benediction Response (sung): “God Be with You” (from Chalice Hymnal)***

*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.*

Postlude:

Elliott Talley



## ***Calendar & Announcements***

- **Today – Nov 12 – Stewardship Sunday.**  
***Please memorialize your commitment to our faith community. Your participation & donations enable us to spread Jesus' message of love to all!!!***
- Rev. Bob will be in the office this week.
  - Tuesday and Thursday at Hope Church
  - Wednesday at Riverside Church.If you wish to visit, contact Rev. Bob directly by phone, (401) 339-6134 or email, [nolan062400@gmail.com](mailto:nolan062400@gmail.com) to arrange your visit.
- The **3M's monthly meeting** is on November 14th at 12:30. They are meeting at Twin Oaks. If you would like to attend, please contact Sarah Tonole at 401-392-1978. All are welcome.
- **Property & Finance Committee** meets Tuesday, Nov 14, at 6:00 PM
- The "**Get Crafty**" group will meet this Thursday evening at 6:30 PM.  
***Prayer squares, a pocket-sized version of a prayer shawls is available to take with you and for someone you might know!***

- ***“Our American Story”*: An Evening with Rev. Cleo Graham**

Join our potluck at First U on Nov. 17! Please bring a main dish, salad/side dish, or dessert, and help us out with setup, serving, or cleanup if you can. A bucket of chicken or other store-bought dish works! Tell us what you're bringing below.

**WHAT:** Special guest Rev. Cleo Graham will discuss our shared and often silenced American history. How does the history of slavery affect all of us today? How can learning this history help us create positive change? And what can churches do to bridge the racial divide?

Rev. Graham is pastor at Faith Congregational Church in Hartford, one of the oldest UCC churches of color in the U.S. As First U's history committee prepares to release its history of the church's ties to the slave trade, Rev. Graham will speak on her church's amazing abolitionist history, her personal research into her enslaved ancestors, and her experience connecting black and white congregations in Providence.

**WHEN:** Potluck at 5:30 (please bring food then or earlier), presentation at 7 PM. We

invite a voluntary donation of \$2/person, \$5/family, to help offset incidental costs.

**WHERE:** First Unitarian Church is at the corner of Benefit and Benevolent streets in Providence, RI.

- **Community food pantry @ Riverside Church Lighthouse Pantry** Wednesdays 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Thursdays 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM, Fridays 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- **Community thrift shop @ Riverside Church Cobweb Shop** Wednesday-Thursday 9-12 & Second Saturdays of the month 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.
- The RI Food Bank is asking for donations for Thanksgiving baskets. All donated food needs to be at the church by Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. These are the items they are asking for:
  - stuffing
  - cranberry sauce
  - gravy packets
  - canned pumpkin or sweet potato
  - olives
  - pasta side dishes
  - any canned pie filling
  - instant potatoes
  - tea and coffee

- cookies/crackers
- sugar
- flour (small bags)
- raisins
- pudding mix
- cake mix
- frosting
- Jiffy corn bread
- Jiffy pie crust mix
- aluminum foil or plastic wrap
- disposable turkey pans
- And don't forget your used clothing for the St. Pauly shed!