



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 11-26-2023, 10:30 AM

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Reign of Christ  
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: “It’s You I Like” (by Fred  
Rogers) Austin & Music Team**

**Welcome & Announcements Deacon Cora Rose**

- **Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 100)  
Deacon Cora Rose**

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Worship  
with gladness and singing!

**Many: God is Creator, Sustainer, Keeper, and  
Shepherd. Bless God’s name.**

One: Enjoy the presence of God! Give thanks  
and praise!

**Many: God is Sovereign and Holy. Bless God’s  
name.**

One: Know that God reigns! God's kingdom comes!  
**ALL: God is Healer, Redeemer, Restorer, and Friend. Bless God's name!**

- **Opening Hymn: "Just as I Am" No. 354**

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION &  
RECONCILIATION                      Deacon Cora Rose**

**One:** God who cares. We flourish in your compassion. You search for us and find us. You, Holy One, surround us with the power of your abundant love and utmost care.

**All: Be present among us as we praise your name, bring our burdens, and give thanks for all that you are and all that you do. Amen.**

**Assurance of God's Grace                      Rev. Ryder**

One: Let us pray...

**All: Sovereign God, transform us in your image. Your reign is just and righteous. We go our own way and live according to our own will. Make us ambassadors of your**

kindom. Let us represent you through words and actions. May we release our need for anything that creates a barrier to loving you and our neighbor. May we know and bear witness that we are all neighbors. Amen.

- **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.*

## **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: Matthew 25:31-46 (NRSVUE)**  
**Volunteer**

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ 40 And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ 41 Then he will say

to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

**Sermon: "An Extra Bed"**

**Rev Ryder**

- **Hymn:  
Jesus"**

**"Oh, How I Love  
No. 109**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**PASTORAL PRAYER (INCLUDING PRAYER  
CONCERNS)**

**Rev Ryder**

**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. Ryder**

**Offertory Music: “He is Lord” (No. 305)  
Austin & 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**

**Gracious God, thank you for the gifts we  
have and the blessing of sharing. Use our  
gifts for your glory and to meet the needs  
and hopes of your kindom. Amen.**

- **Closing Hymn: “Jesus Loves Me” No. 437**

Benediction

Rev. Ryder

Postlude:

Austin Burns

### **Calendar & Announcements**

- ***Today – Congregational / Church Council meeting immediately following the service.***
- ***Stewardship Reminder: 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 out of the office this week. 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 “**Get Crafty**” group will not meet this Thursday evening. Meetings will resume on November 30th 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!***
- **Hanging of the greens – gathering on Saturday, Dec 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Your help is appreciated!**



- ***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 @ 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
- If anyone knows of a family who may need help with gift giving this Christmas, please contact Cora Rose. We hope to have “Giving Stars” available soon. All gifts need to be in the church by December 17<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more details.
- **Deacon’s Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets** – We are grateful to all who have contributed to the Thanksgiving baskets donation to the RI Food Bank. We delivered the collection on Thursday, November 16!
- **Advent Book Read** – We will be reading the book, ***Holy Moments*** by Matthew Kelly. See Rev. Bob or Chris Jaworski for a copy. Stay tuned for dates and times!
- And don’t forget your used clothing for the St. Pauly shed!