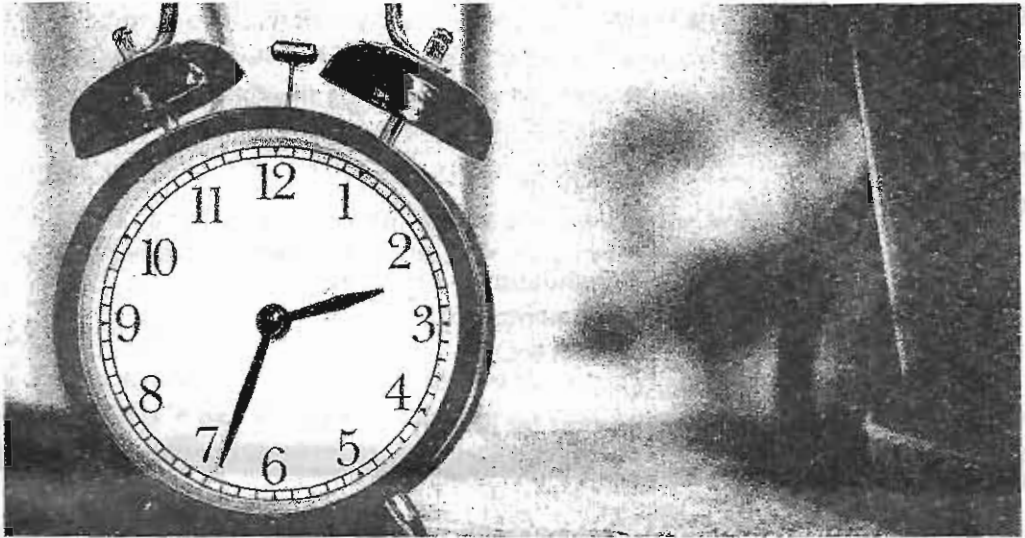


# SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

604 Seven Mile Road Hope, Rhode Island 02831



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Website: [www.sovumc.org](http://www.sovumc.org)

Rev. Katherine Mitchell, Pastor  
Steve Haunschild, Music Director  
Linda Gay, Liturgist

Meg Davis & Jay O'Connor, Lay Leaders

Worship and Sunday School at 9:30 AM

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

## VISION STATEMENT

**We are a multi-generational Christ community  
seeking to sing God's spirit into the world  
by inviting all, serving all, loving all.**

January 12, 2020  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

**GATHERING TOGETHER IN THE SPIRIT**

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH and WELCOME

SUNDAY SCHOOL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

**All: Lord God, in a world  
where truth seems so relative,  
your Word is a solid foundation;  
where love is but a flickering, momentary flame,  
your passion is a constant ember;  
where power is widely abused,  
your quiet strength works for justice;  
where law is enforced from the outside in,  
your rule is from the inside out;  
where peace is misunderstood as an absence of conflict,  
your reconciliation is a voice of calm amid the storm;  
where joy depends upon outer circumstance,  
your happiness is an ever-flowing spring from within.  
As we sing your praise, Awesome God,  
we open ourselves to you, that we may receive your promised Spirit.  
Abide in us. Help us to abide in you.  
Gathered in the name of your Son, Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

© Peter L. Haynes, 1990-2001

\*SINGING

*Hymn of Promise*

No. 707

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES TO GOD**

PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

*\*All who are able, please stand.*

**All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: Lord, this money is not payment for services rendered. These aren't our dues necessary for us to belong to this church. We know you made us with a purpose, and so now we give ... on purpose, freely offering to you the best of who we are. Continue to work out your purpose in us. Make us your hands, outstretched, on purpose. Amen.**

PREPARING TO PRAY

*On Eagle's Wings*

No. 143

**All: And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

CHOIR RESPONSE

**OPENING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS**

SCRIPTURE READING

James 5:7-10

NT Pg. 231

MESSAGE

Patience and Suffering

Katherine Mitchell

\*SINGING

*Faith is Patience in the Night*

FWS No. 2211

*During the hymn communion will be offered by intinction to all those who wish to participate. Please follow the Worship Team leaders.*

\* THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES INTO THE WORLD

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

## *We Live by Hope*

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Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

—James 5.7-8

Hope is not wishing: no, not that tentative.

Hope is not wanting: no, not that self-centered.

Hope is trust in grace unseen,  
already there, already unfolding,  
the seed beneath, the child within.

Hope is surrender to a greater movement,  
acceptance that I am the thread  
and the tapestry is vast.

Hope is confidence in spring as winter approaches.

Hope is belief in the fullness of time.

Hope is knowing in death and suffering  
there is a healing presence.

Hope is patience, letting grace take its time.

Hope is planting ourselves in a future  
that exists only in our acting:  
raising children, loving enemies, planting trees.

Hope is awaiting the One Who is Here.

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Breath prayer:

Hope ... here.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes, [unfoldinglight.net](http://unfoldinglight.net)

**CONTACTING PASTOR KATHERINE:** Is there something that Pastor Katherine needs to know? Please write it down in *Pastor Katherine's Reminder Book* on the credenza in the hallway so that it will not get forgotten in the rush and confusion of Sunday morning!

Pastor Katherine can always be reached by e-mail ([pastorkatherinem@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkatherinem@gmail.com))  
or on her cell phone (401.683.8445).