

**WORSHIP SERVICE MAY 16, 2021  
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (ASCENSION SUNDAY)**

Worship Leaders: Rev. Effie McAvoy, Minister Sandy Knapp,  
Meg Davis & Mary Hunter Music Leaders: Sue Dyl & Shyla Mollo

**PRELUDE** “ Lord Speak To Me That I May Speak”

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Ready yourselves for new life.

**ALL: We lift up our heads to meet the day.**

Leader: Get ready to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world.

**ALL: We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.**

Leader: Even when rain sets in, open those umbrellas of gratitude and set out anyway.

**ALL: For we are called to dance again!**

By: Worship Design Studio

**MUSIC** “Open the Eyes of My Heart” W&S 3008

**OPENING PRAYER**

Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation – Help us to put on our dancing shoes so that we can be the hands and feet of Jesus. Come and dance with us, engage with us, as we seek you – so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ. Be with us now, we pray. Amen.

**YOUNG AT HEART MOMENT**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory now and forever. Amen.**

**PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS**

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH  
604 SEVEN MILE ROAD HOPE, RI. 02831  
401-821-8217  
[www.sovumc.org/give-now](http://www.sovumc.org/give-now)

**DOXOLOGY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Lord, these gifts are 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.

**PRAYER RESPONSE** "I Hope You Dance"

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **Psalm 47: 1-6**

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth. He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. *Selah* God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

#### **Acts 8:26-39**

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

**THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD - THANKS BE TO GOD**

**SERMON** "Stop Looking. Start Doing."  
Rev. Effie McAvoy

**MUSIC** "Ask Ye What Great Things I Know" UMH #163 vs1,3, 4

**CLOSING PRAYER**