

# WORSHIP SERVICE OCTOBER 24,2021

## “Returning Home”

Worship Leaders: Rev. Effie McAvoy, and Mary Hunter

### WELCOME

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** “ Give Us This Day”  
Delbert Collins

### OPENING PRAYER

Sojourning God, your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path, inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each other. May we see that our home paths are the unfamiliar paths for someone else. With renewed compassion, open our hearts for hospitality, so that in our welcoming, we will grow together in peace, expand our chances for love, and deepen understanding right where we are. Nudge and guide us, we pray. Amen.

By: Worship Design Studio

### CHILDREN’S MOMENT

DISMISSAL FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN

**MUSIC** “WELCOME”

### Confession and Assurance

Leader: The shore of the Sea of Galilee was the place where Jesus called the disciples away from their familiar lives and roles into an adventure, a journey, that would change their lives and our world forever. After his crucifixion, the disciples returned there to the water—to what they knew. But can you imagine? It would never be the same again. And it was there that the resurrected Jesus met them again. He offered them comfort through hospitality—a meal of fish on the shoreline. He meets us even now, at these waters. Let us pray:

**ALL: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves, through what we have done and left undone.**

**Forgive us when we return to the familiar in fear rather than promise. Forgive us when we turn inward rather than become the hosts you call us to be. Guide us as we seek to turn around toward greater love. Lead us to travel in your ways. Amen.**

Leader: Know this: Jesus' welcome is always there. He stokes the flames of love and invites us to gather 'round, filling our emptiness, calming our fear, making home for all. He is our constant companion, inviting us to reach out in care to one another, traveling together toward the Kin-dom of Love.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen!**

## **PEACE**

Leader: The peace of the risen Christ is with you!

**ALL: And also with you!**

## **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**

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**604 SEVEN MILE ROAD HOPE, RI. 02831**

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## **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** “Make Me A Channel of Your Peace”  
(choir)

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Psalm 36: 5-9**

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord. How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

### **John 15: 1-17**

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. “This is my

commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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

**SERMON** "Home is Where the Love is"  
Rev. Effie McAvoy

**MUSIC** "We are Marching in the Light of God" FWS# 2235b  
(choir)

**CLOSING PRAYER**