

**NOVEMBER 28, 2021**  
**“Making Room (Hope)”**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**UM STUDENT DAY SPECIAL OFFERING**  
Worship Leaders: Rev. Effie McAvoy & Donna Gaumont

**Greetings**

The pandemic has laid bare, and widened, economic disparity locally and globally. As we enter the Advent season, how can our church become a house where the Holy will be born anew—offering respite, sustenance and care, opening the doors ever wider to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life? No one church can do it all, but each can do something. As we study the biblical prophets that call us to care for our neighbors and “make room in the inn,” the lonely and frightened spaces within us are filled with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**                      Delbert Collins

**OPENING PRAYER**

In this moment we open the doors of our hearts to honesty before God. In this moment we open the doors of our lives to the call of the Spirit, inviting us to become more than we can ask or imagine. In this moment we open the doors of this church, filling it with the compassion of Christ. May the Advent of Compassion be born in us, reside within us, move outward from us, to meet the needs of the world, making a house for the Holy that is each and every child of God. AMEN

By: Worship Design Studio

**MUSIC**                      “Hope Waits for us at Advent”  
   Delbert Collins

## **ADVENT LIGHTING**

Today we offer the Light of Hope to illumine the Door of Welcome. May this light shine in our hearts, in our lives, and in our church. May Hope awaken us to possibilities and lead us to greater hospitality. There IS room in this Inn, a House for the Holy. Hope waits for us at Advent, Hope waits for us to trust. Hope waits for our commitment to a land that's kind and just. In this time of preparation for the work of co-creation, for the birthing of a world that heals the ones in pain. Hope is born in us again!

**MUSIC**            "Unsettled World" FWS# 2283  
                          (Choir)

## **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**   Children's Sign Language & Adult Choir

## **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.

