



Shepherd of the Valley Methodist Church

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Hope, Rhode Island 02831

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WORSHIP SERVICE MARCH 13, 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT SO MUCH IS OUT OF OUR CONTROL

Worship Leaders: Rev. Effie McAvoy, Mary Hunter & Kristin Hayes-Leite

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Delbert Collins

OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, Our Light and Salvation, we call out to you, sometimes afraid of the adversaries in life. Shelter us in days of trouble, lead us on level paths. Open us this day to your grace and peace, transform our frustrations into simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen..BY:Worship Design Studio

Please stand in body or in spirit

MUSIC "Take Time To Be Holy"

United Methodist Hymnal #395

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MUSIC "Good Enough"

REFLECTION

Leader: Even Jesus got dang frustrated when folks didn't behave as he would have liked. We probably aren't receiving death threats from Herod as Jesus was, but our wellbeing could be threatened by the idea that if we just try hard enough, are nice enough, say just the right thing, life will always go our way. We run around in so many directions, trying to herd the chicks into some imagined semblance of perfect formation (have you ever tried to herd chicks?). What if we could let go of needing all things and all people to be "just so" and instead learn to dance with the unfolding of that which is not ours to control? Let us take a moment of silent reflection...

Silent Reflection

Leader: Hear this compassionate word from the Psalmist: “I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!” Know that already, God is offering us freedom from feeling alone in fixing what feels oh so wrong with this world, inviting us to let go of the need to be God, so that we might recognize that God is with us, offering courage in difficulty. And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

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**

DOXOLOGY Sign Language & Adult Choirs

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.

CHOIR REPONSE “Lay Down My Burdens”

SCRIPTURE READINGS

PHILIPPIANS 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as

enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21 He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident. One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up. Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Luke 13: 31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish

my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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

SERMON "Seeking God"
Rev. Effie McAvoy

Please stand in body or in spirit

MUSIC "We Sing To You, O God"

Faith We Sing #2001

CLOSING PRAYER

POSTLUDE Delbert Collins

Website: www.sovumc.org

<https://www.facebook.com/shepherdofthevalleyri>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq6OxG9rThiQ9GeUqekdEjQ>

Rev. Effie McAvoy, Pastor
Sandy Knapp, CLM
Delbert Collins, Interim Music Director
Lisa Marciniak, Family & Children's Coordinator
Mary Hunter Lay Leader

Worship and Sunday School at 10:00 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.**

