

REHOBOTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Church in the Village



MAY 21, 2023

139 BAY STATE ROAD, REHOBOTH, MA 02769



Rehoboth Congregational Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rehoboth, MA

1721
MAY 21, 2023

2023
Ten O'Clock

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY,
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Baptism: Remy Vita de Guzman
Order of Worship

The congregation is invited to join in on the **bold** print.

*The congregation is invited to rise.

GATHERING MUSIC

If you are joining us virtually, the live feed will begin on Facebook at 9:50AM.

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have an announcement to make, please use the microphone at the lectern.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather in the presence of the one who abandons no one.

Come, Holy Spirit, our advocate and comforter.

All are welcome in this sacred place, made holy by God in our midst.

**Open our hearts and minds this day, guide us into a loving relationship
with all your children.**

We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.

**Spark us with a word of life and radical belonging – a message that we share with
others as we seek to live out Christ's love.**

We call on the name of God who creates, redeems, and sustains us.

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Creator God, you are full of grace and justice. You are holy and present with us every moment of our lives. In our rush to compartmentalize and create control in our lives, we have unwittingly allowed seeds of chaos to be planted in our relationships with others. We have sought to put people and their illnesses, struggles, and complexities at bay while we call ourselves “normal” or “a little quirky”. Yet you are steadfastly patient and compassionate with all of your Creation, including each one of us.

We confess our “othering” of others as being a way we protect ourselves from our own inner battles.

You say that if we confess, you will draw us close and wrap us in your forgiveness that provides both truth and love. We come before you with humble hearts and contrite spirits asking for your pardon. Keep working with us so we may be honest and experience the gift of intimacy, with You and with others in this congregation....

(silent prayers of confession)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (one voice)

Hear the Good news: No fear, no chaos, no hopelessness is beyond the reach of the One whose breath gives us life.

Through Christ, God sees only our wholeness. Through Christ, forgiveness, love and new life are always possible. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI | RED #513**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Remy Vita de Guzman

(see insert)

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Helen Nablo

Following the Time for Children, children and youth group (Pre K to 12th grade) of all ages are invited to go downstairs to Church School. Parents, please escort them and ensure they are settled before returning to worship. Thank you!

SCRIPTURE**PSALM 88:1-9, 13-18**

O Lord, God of my salvation,
when, at night, I cry out in your presence,
let my prayer come before you;
incline your ear to my cry.
For my soul is full of troubles,
and my life draws near to Sheol.
I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;
I am like those who have no help,
like those forsaken among the dead,
like the slain that lie in the grave,
like those whom you remember no more,
for they are cut off from your hand.
You have put me in the depths of the Pit,
in the regions dark and deep.
Your wrath lies heavy upon me,
and you overwhelm me with all your waves.
You have caused my companions to shun me;
you have made me a thing of horror to them.
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;
my eye grows dim through sorrow.
But I, O Lord, cry out to you;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
O Lord, why do you cast me off?
Why do you hide your face from me?
Wretched and close to death from my youth up,
I suffer your terrors; I am desperate.
Your wrath has swept over me;
your dread assaults destroy me.
They surround me like a flood all day long;
from all sides they close in on me.
You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me;
my companions are in darkness.

John 13:33-35

Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Sad Psalms & Wisdom

Pastor Helen Nablo

ANTHEM

This Is My Commandment

RCC Choir

SHARING CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

PRAYER SONG

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

To donate online, visit our website: www.rehobothcongregational.org/donate

INVITATION & OFFERING

*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS WITH THE DOXOLOGY | RED #515

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN**

Come And Find The Quiet Center

BLUE #477

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP RESOURCES:

Our Call to worship and Opening Prayer were revised from “Mental Health and Wellness: Worship Resources for All”

WELCOME TO THE REHOBOTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH!

We are so glad you have joined us for worship today! There are restrooms located in the Narthex and the back of Fellowship Hall (which you can access through the hallway behind the sanctuary). Masks are optional.

FELLOWSHIP

Let us break bread together! Please join us for coffee and goodies in Fellowship Hall after worship. Exit the sanctuary through the door in the front of the sanctuary. Fellowship Hall is at the end of the hallway.

BUSY BOXES & COLORING PAGES

Busy boxes and coloring pages for kids are available in the narthex! Grab them anytime.

NURSERY

We love the sound of babies chatting during worship! If you prefer to keep your infants and toddlers in the sanctuary with you during worship, that's completely fine! If you would like to visit the RCC Nursery, it is open and staffed by our Nursery Care Provider, Jenn Danforth, throughout the entire service. **The nursery is located on the left hand side downstairs in the Church School hallway.**

CHURCH SCHOOL

Children (age 3 - 8th grade) are invited to begin in worship with their families. They will be dismissed to Church School after the children's sermon. Please escort them downstairs to ensure there are enough helpers in the classrooms before returning to worship!

YOUTH GROUP & HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our High School students (9th-12th grade) are invited to go downstairs to meet with Jamie, our Youth Group Director, in the Youth Group room at the end of Church School Hall.

GREETERS

We are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters on Sunday mornings! Greeters arrive at church at 9:30AM to hand out bulletins and greet people at the front door. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up on the clipboard in the narthex!

BELL RINGERS & ACOLYTES

Is your child interested in ringing the bell before worship or lighting the candles on the altar during worship? Please let one of the Deacons know!

THE REHOBOTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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“The Church in the Village”

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Rehoboth, MA 02769
www.rehobothcongregational.org
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OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Friday, 9:00AM-1:00PM

CONTACT OUR STAFF

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CONTACT OUR EXECUTIVE BOARD

visit our website for a full list of Executive Board members and contact information:

www.rehobothcongregational.org/board