



HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

+ *Hope Always* +



Hope Episcopal Church
Mt. Hope, Pennsylvania

May 11, 2025 10:00 AM

The Rev'd Bradley L. Mattson, Rector

The Rev'd Nancy Leshner, Deacon

WELCOME TO HOPE CHURCH

We are a community gathered together in the name of Jesus in the Episcopal Church in Central Pennsylvania. Whoever you are and wherever you are on your faith journey, we are so glad you are joining us for worship, community, and fellowship.

Please take a moment to go through the announcements in the bulletin, and familiarize yourself with the many ways there are to connect with us in worship, music, creation care, Bible study, outreach, GriefShare, and regional youth ministry.

We hope that you will find something in our church that speaks to you. Should you have any questions, or like to learn more, let's have a conversation. Please either call the church office at 717-665-6311 or email us at office@hopeepiscopal.org.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit +Romans 15:13

SEASON OF EASTER

Easter is celebrated by Christians to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, as described in the New Testament of the Bible. It is traditionally observed on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox, with its timing determined by specific tables aligned with the Gregorian calendar in Western churches.

According to Christian beliefs, Jesus was crucified on Good Friday, and three days later, on Easter Sunday, He rose from the dead, symbolizing victory over sin and death. The resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday is the cornerstone of the Christian faith, signifying the fulfillment of God's plan for redemption and offering believers the promise of eternal life. It is a day of immense joy and hope, as Christians celebrate the victory of light over darkness, life over death, and the triumph of God's love for humanity. Easter Sunday serves as a profound reminder of the transformative power of faith and the enduring message of hope that resonates throughout the ages.

Easter is considered the most important and joyful celebration in the Christian liturgical calendar. White is the liturgical color of Easter symbolizing rejoicing and purity of soul. The season of Easter extends to Pentecost Sunday - a period of 50 days. On the 40th day of Easter (Thursday) the solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated.

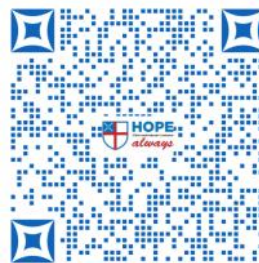
CHILDREN

Children are always welcome at Hope Church. Jesus wanted the little children to come to him, and children's voices and presence are an important part of our worship here at Hope Church.

To be added to our mailing list, please fill out a pew card, place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. You may also fill this out online by using the QR code.



Scan the QR Code below to check our more information about the Hope Always 175th Anniversary Campaign



Scan here for The Big Way of Love children's resources for following Jesus:



Fourth Sunday of Easter

Morning Prayer

The symbol ☩ indicates when to stand if able.

The symbol ✠ indicates where to make the sign of the cross.

Prelude

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Eric Thiman

Welcome + Good News & Announcements

THE GATHERING

Leader Beloved, we gather now in the presence of Almighty God and all the host of heaven, to offer our worship, praise, and thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. We come, as one, to lay down our burdens and confess our sins, to pray for the world and for ourselves, that we may come to know more deeply the vastness of God's love and bear the fruit of His grace in our lives. Let us also lift up the needs of all people, that the world may know peace and wholeness. And now, let us quiet our hearts within us, and remember God's presence with us, as we prepare to worship in Spirit and in Truth.

Opening Sentence:

Leader Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Ephesians 1:2)

Prayer of Preparation:

Leader Loving God, we come to you in humility, seeking your presence.

People **We come with our joys and our sorrows, our hopes and our fears.**

Leader You know the secrets of our hearts, and you understand our deepest needs.

People **Cleanse our thoughts and renew our spirits by your Holy Spirit.**

Leader As we gather in your name, make us aware of your presence among us.

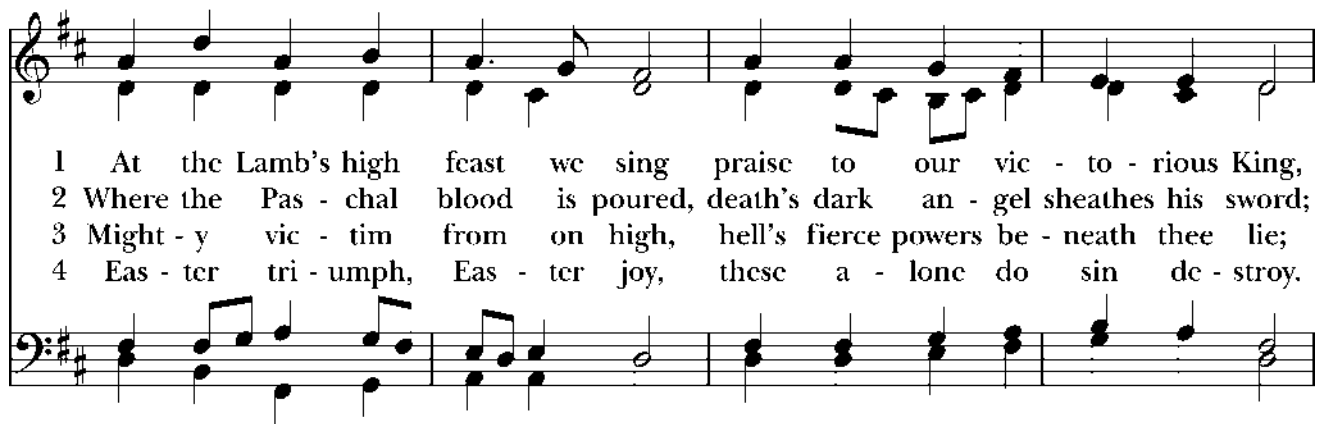
People **Help us to lay aside all that distracts and burdens us,**

Leader that we may worship you in spirit and in truth.

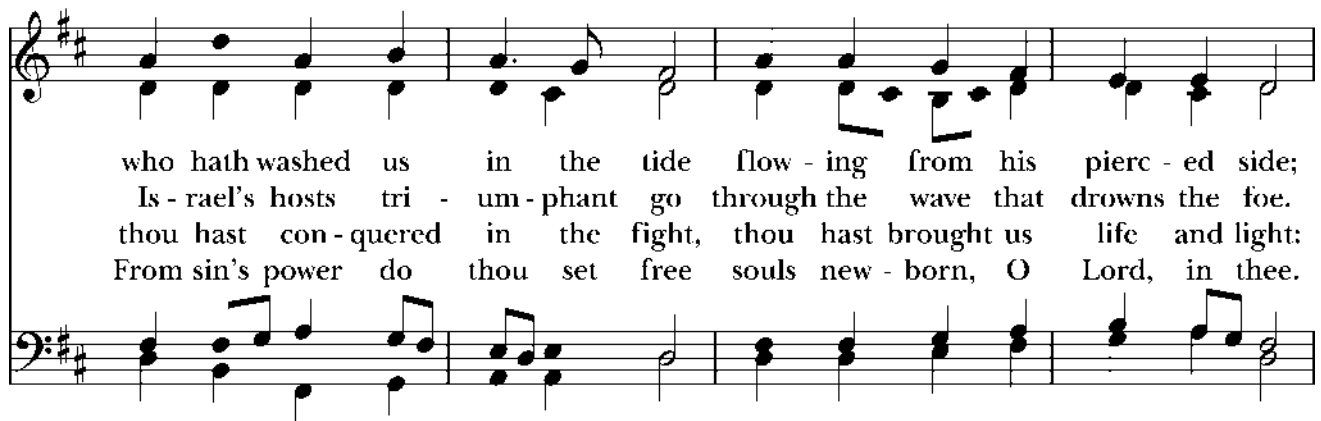
People **Guide us in our prayers and in our praises,**

Leader that we may draw closer to you and be transformed by your love.

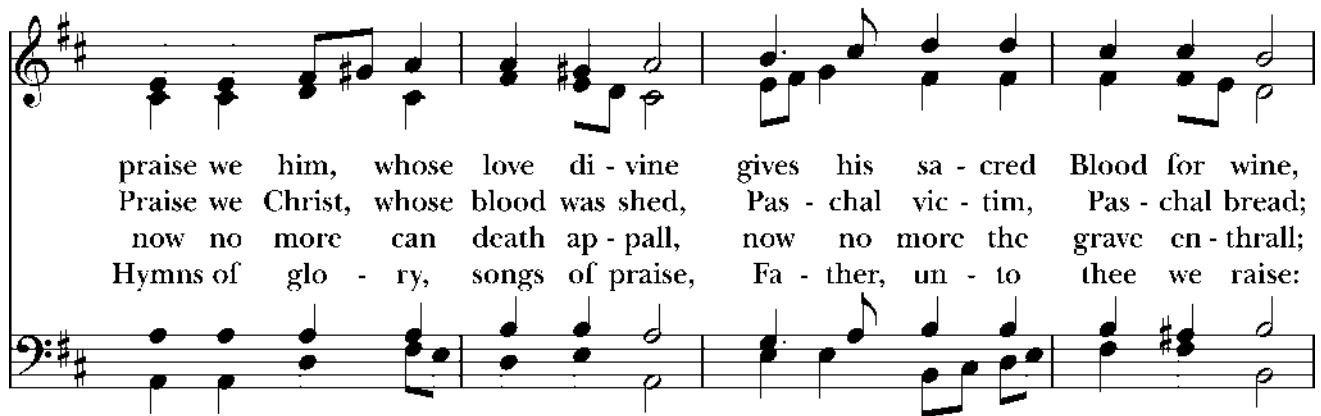
People **Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,
 2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
 3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;
 4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.



who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
 Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
 thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light;
 From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.



praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,
 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;
 now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
 Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:



gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
 with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
 thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.
 ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

Reader: We will read the Psalm responsively.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
 I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
 and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
 and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
 for you are with me;
 your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 9:36-43

Reader A Reading from the Book of Acts.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Refrain: All **I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.**

- 1 'I am the Lord, your Holy One, ♦
the Creator of Israel, your King.'
- 2 Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, ♦
a path in the mighty waters,
- 3 'Remember not the former things, ♦
nor consider the things of old.
- 4 'Behold, I am doing a new thing; ♦
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
- 5 'I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, ♦
to give drink to my chosen people,
- 6 'The people whom I formed for myself, ♦
that they might declare my praise.'

Isaiah 43.15,16,18,19,20c,21

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

All **I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.**

Second Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

Reader A Reading from the book of Revelation.

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Nancy Leshner

Affirmation of Faith

Leader Let us declare our faith in God.

People **We believe in God the Father,**
 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
 who lives in our hearts through faith,
 and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
 who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God; Father,
 Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The offering will be taken at this time.

The Offertory

Please take this time to make an offering to Hope Church:

- 1. Online: <https://hopeepiscopal.breezechms.com/give/online> or scan the QR code in the margin of your bulletin*
- 2. Text: "[AMOUNT]" to (717) 999-5991 to make a donation to the General Fund. If it is your first time using text giving, a link will be sent by return text to complete the donation.*
- 3. Offering plate: cash or a check payable to "Hope Episcopal Church". You may designate any ministry in the 'memo' line.*

Thank you very much for your contribution to advance the mission of Hope Episcopal Church! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. Each system has a vocal staff with lyrics and a piano accompaniment staff. The lyrics are as follows:

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
 * 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with
 5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy

1 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 2 ran - somed soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 3 yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 4 thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!

6 And so through all the length of days
 thy goodness faileth never:
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house for ever.

The Doxology & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The congregation stands while the ushers bring the offering forward.

**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.**

Leader All things come of thee of God.
People And of thine own have we given thee.

The Prayers of the People For the Care of Creation and the World

*The people kneel or stand as able.
The Leader and People pray responsively*

Leader Behold the light of the risen Christ, shining through the shadows and scattering fear. With alleluias in our hearts, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all in need.

Intercessor O God of resurrection hope, you have raised your Church with Christ to new life. Breathe your Spirit upon us that we may bear witness in love, serve with compassion, and proclaim your good news with joy.

People **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O Creator of springtime and renewal, all creation sings your praise. Renew the earth, refresh the waters, and restore balance to our ecosystems. Teach us to walk gently with all that lives.

People **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O Prince of Peace, you have triumphed over the grave and broken the power of death. Grant wisdom and humility to the leaders of nations, that they may walk in the ways of justice and reconciliation.

People **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O Healing Light, you revealed yourself to Mary in the garden and to the disciples behind locked doors. Shine your comfort on all who suffer, especially [names may be offered], and bring them peace and healing.

People **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O Welcoming One, you prepared a meal for weary friends on the shore. Bless those who offer food, shelter, and welcome in your name. Make us generous in heart and ready to serve.

People **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O Resurrection and Life, you have gone ahead to prepare a place for us. Grant that the departed may rise with all your saints in glory, and bring comfort to those who mourn.

People **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O God of faithful witness, we give thanks for the ministries of Hope Church. Inspire all who worship, serve, teach, and grow here, that your kingdom may be revealed in our midst.

People **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

(Pause for silent prayer.)

Officiant Radiant God, you have revealed your glory in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. As we walk in the light of Easter, may your presence guide our steps, transform our hearts, and fill our lives with resurrection joy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

People **Amen.**

✠The Lord's Prayer

The people kneel or stand.

Officiant As our Savior taught us, so we pray...

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 trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and
the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu nombre; venga tu reino;
hágase tu voluntad
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también
nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en la tentación
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.

Blessing and Dismissal

Leader May the Lord bless and keep us.

People **Amen.**

Leader Go in peace, with hearts full of hope, to love and serve the Lord.

People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

#708 - "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Postlude

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

E. L. Ashford

Worship Servers - May 4, 2025

Ushers - Tom Brown, Steve Norton

Lectors - Lucy Longo, Stephanie Seaman

Prayers of the People - Lynette Brown

Acolytes - J.D. Hynick, Max Brown

Please remember in your prayers:

Elizabeth Grace & the Mattson Family; John, Marian, Michael, Bob, Janice, Barbara, Angie, Katie, Jerry, Paul, Braiden, Diane, Nancy, Judith, Lydia, Jeff, Lester, Beth Ann, Mose, Ed, Daphne, Peg, Stephanie, Bertha, Lily, Carol, Steve, Lori, Patrick, the Solis Family, the Leibley Family, Betsy, Bud Dissinger, Steve Tribiooi and family, for the repose of Emily Garber and for comfort and peace for Grant Garber and Emily's family and friends; Bob & Mary Sims and the family and friends of Royce Sims; Laine Hamm and the family and friends of Nancy Wesley; and our Grief Share, Creation Care, Outreach, Property and Yarn Ministries.

Those suffering from all illnesses and those who caring for them;
Those impacted by natural disasters and violence;
The People of Ukraine and all those supporting them;
Those living in nursing homes, group homes, and prisons;
The People of the Diocese of Navajoland and all indigenous peoples;
Those serving in the military;

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Northumberland

The Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan



A Jubilee Parish

A parish of The Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania
The Most Reverend Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop, Episcopal Church
in the United States of America
The Right Rev. Audrey Cady Scanlan, Bishop of Central Pennsylvania

Worship at Hope Church

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist and live-streamed on YouTube.

Our Clergy and Staff

The Rev'd Bradley L. Mattson, Rector	bmattson@hopeepiscopal.org
The Rev'd Nancy Leshner, Deacon	nlesher@hopeepiscopal.org
Katie Brown, Parish Administrator	office@hopeepiscopal.org
Gail Edgell, Emeritus Organist	music@hopeepiscopal.org
Terry Heisey, Principal Organist	
Doug Beach, Adjunct Organist	
Jo Steffy, Sr. Warden	srwarden@hopeepiscopal.org
Jeremy Brown, Jr. Warden	jrwarden@hopeepiscopal.org
Gwen Norton, Sexton	
Bob Sims, Verger	
J.D. Hynick, Jr. Verger	

Our Vestry & Parish Officers

Jo Steffy, Sr. Warden; Jeremy Brown, Jr. Warden; Gwen Norton, Treasurer;
Tom Brown, Steve Norton, Brandon Peach, Steve Palmer, Janelle Weckerly
Lucy Longo, *Assistant Treasurer*; Jo Steffy, *Delegate to Convention*,

Supporting Volunteer Staff

Lynette Brown, *Altar Guild*; tbd, *Card Ministry*; Bob Sims, *Cemetery*; Janelle Weckerly, *Special Events*;
Lucy Longo, *Finance Committee*; Kathleen Peach, *Outreach Committee*; Jeremy Brown, *Property Committee*
tbd, *Creation Care Committee*; Gail Edgell, *Garden of Hope*, Stephanie Seaman, *Livestream Coordinator*

Visit Us Online and In Person

www.hopeepiscopal.org office@hopeepiscopal.org

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In case of a pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Bradley Lodge Mattson

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