

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday, October 11, 2020**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 23  
The Season of Generosity**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** Prelude on *Graefenberg*

Camil van Hulse

**\*OPENING HYMN:** "God Is My Shepherd"

**V748**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Paul the Apostle commends to us whatever is true and honorable and just.

**PEOPLE: Let us hear these words so we may be challenged.**

Leader: Paul also offers us whatever is pure and lovely and gracious.

**PEOPLE: Let us seek these ways so we may be blessed.**

Leader: We are to set before ourselves whatever is excellent and worthy of praise.

**PEOPLE: Let us think upon these deeds in our worship together.**

**ALL: And the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep our hearts  
and minds in Christ Jesus.\*\***

**\*LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison**

Oh God of all creation, the world is in desperate need  
of the seasoning of the Gospel and the light of Your Word.

Make us a people of "Salt and Light"

who build communities of faith, justice and compassion.

Help us always to work for peace in the world. <sup>##</sup> Amen.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison**

O God, you search after us when we have gone far from you, yet we confess that we have become consumed with our own affairs. We seldom pause to listen for the wind in the trees or hear the happy voices of children. Sometimes we feel that the burdens of the world fall entirely on our shoulders, and we have been slow to put our trust in you or to cooperate with others. When we take ourselves too seriously, remind us that we are only human! Make us patient with our mistakes, even as we are willing to forgive others. And remind us that we are also precious, not because we are good but because you have accepted us and called us to be your very own.\*\* Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)**

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, forever. Amen.

**THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Exodus 32:1-14

p. 77

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

**HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Matthew 22:1-14

p. 1170

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *Surrexit Christus, alleluia*  
Jeff Hutchins

Taize Chant  
Jacques Berthier

**SERMON:** “Who Can Be Saved?”

Scott G. Morrow

## **PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

#### **THE OFFERTORY:**

\*Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

### **GREETING OF PEACE**

\***CLOSING HYMN:** “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

**V670**

### **\*THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** Postlude in D

P. Lecourt

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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**The flowers this morning are given by** Peter and Cheryl Hall in memory of Peter’s father, Robert Hall, who would have been 93 on October 10<sup>th</sup> and in honor of Peter’s mother, Hazel, who is watching with Peter and Cheryl from New Hampshire this morning.

**In Our Prayers This Week are:** Heather Purcell, Ona & Sam Gott, Ben & Cole Purcell, Heidi Welch, Mary Cestaro, Tim Peiffer, David Bellonio, Marlene Belonio, Stefan McKosky, Rose Monaco, Sabrina Selmer, Linda Shannon, Elaine Burr, Joyce Bellonio, and Betsy Gumbart.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Jeff Whipple 10/11, Barbara Marks 10/16, Marissa Volpe 10/16, Adrienne D'Antonio 10/16, Gary Czajkowski 10/16, Kerry Stewart 10/17.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Ray & Cynthia Geissler 10/14, Deborah & Stefan McKosky 10/15.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Celebration of the Life of David Purcell.** You are invited greet David's family during calling hours on Saturday, Oct. 10, 1-3pm, at W. S. Clancy Memorial Funeral Home, 244 N. Main Street, Branford. Please note that social distancing guidelines will be in effect.

**Midafternoon Worship Today – Outdoors and In-Person.** We will have a Midafternoon Service Today, Sunday, Oct. 11, at 3pm. Please bring folding chair and a mask, and join us on the church lawn on the Linsley Street side. Dress warmly! This will be a short service. If you are coming to this service, please email [pastorscott@northhavenucc](mailto:pastorscott@northhavenucc) or call the Church Office and leave a voicemail.

**Thank you to all who continue to support the Food Pantry!**

We would appreciate all donations, both non-perishable and monetary. Please bring your donations to the church between 8:00 and 2:30 p.m. Monday – Friday, or donate through our online giving via the website. Thank you for your support.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***

|                  |                |                   |   |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Oct. 11</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  | <b>WORSHIP (Online)</b>                               |
|                  |                | <b>3:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>AFTERNOON WORSHIP Outdoors In-Person</b>           |
|                  |                | <b>5:00</b>       | <b>OASIS YOUTH In-Person At East Rock Park</b>        |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>Oct. 12</b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>                               |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>Oct. 13</b> | <b>12:00 p.m.</b> | <b>BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS (Zoom)</b>                  |
|                  |                | <b>6:00</b>       | <b>BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)</b>                             |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Oct. 14</b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>                               |
|                  |                | <b>1:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>STAFF MEETING (Zoom)</b>                           |
|                  |                | <b>5:00</b>       | <b>PASTORAL RELATIONS (Zoom)</b>                      |
|                  |                | <b>7:00</b>       | <b>REOPENING TEAM (Zoom)</b>                          |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>Oct. 15</b> | <b>2:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>ENDOWMENT (Zoom)</b>                               |
|                  |                | <b>7:00</b>       | <b>CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)</b>                           |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>Oct. 16</b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>                               |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>Oct. 17</b> | <b>8:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>MENS FELLOWSHIP (Zoom)</b>                         |
|                  |                | <b>10:00</b>      | <b>Mothers of Twins clothing xchgng (Parking Lot)</b> |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Oct. 18</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  | <b>WORSHIP (In-Sanctuary &amp; Online)</b>            |
|                  |                | <b>5:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>OASIS YOUTH (Zoom)</b>                             |

\*Small print indicates non-Church function

**Bold print starts new day.**

### Church Office Staff:

All the Members, Ministers to the World  
The Reverend Scott G. Morrow, Senior Pastor  
Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children  
Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music  
Gary Snowbeck, Organist  
Julie Schweickert, Office Manager  
Todd Swarney, Sexton  
Telephone: 203-239-5691  
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### **MISSION**

Our church's mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- Worship together;
- Nurture of Christian discipleship; and
- Compassionate service to our community and beyond.

### **VISION**

We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

- Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;
- Welcoming all people from different and diverse backgrounds to become a community of disciples together; and
- Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed Mission Teams.

### **VALUES**

We:

- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.

1 God is my shep - herd, I'll not want, I  
 2 Re - stored to life each morn - ing new, I  
 ♦ 3 When I must pass through shad - owed vale, where  
 4 No en - e - my can o - ver - come, no  
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my days will

feed in pas - tures green. God grants me rest and  
 rise up from the dust to fol - low God whose  
 ♦ loss and death a - wait, I will not fear for  
 power on earth de - feat the ones a - noint - ed  
 sure - ly fol - low me, and where God reigns in

bids me drink from wa - ters calm and clean. Through  
 pres - ence gives me con - fi - dence and trust. I  
 ♦ God is there, my shep - herd strong and great, whose  
 by God's grace and fed with man - na sweet. My  
 heaven and earth, my dwell - ing place will be. My

dai - ly tasks, I'm blessed and led by one I have not seen.  
 praise the name of God to - day, in God I put my trust.  
 ♦ rod and staff will com - fort me and all my fears a - bate.  
 cup is filled and o - ver - flows as I my Sav - iour greet.  
 shep - herd bless - es, cares, and leads through all e - ter - ni - ty.

G D7 G C

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
 2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears, and the night draws near,

C#dim7 G D7 Em A7 D

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
 when my life is al - most gone,  
 and the day is past and gone,

G D7 G G7 C

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:  
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:  
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

Refrain C#dim7 G Em G D7 G

take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.





## Beloved, Love the Children.

*“Grown men can learn from very little children, for the hearts of the little children are pure. Therefore, the Great Spirit may show to them many things which older people miss.” – Black Elk 1863-1950*

**H**ow often have I found myself amazed at the simple wisdom of children? Children have a profoundly different perspective on how they see the world – if only we could see the world through their eyes! Jesus tells us in our sacred texts that we must become like little children to enter the kin-dom of heaven. (*Matthew 18:3*)

In 2019, Skyland Community United Church of Christ, through their Love of Children, reached out to the broader community to create a photo exhibition. Located in the Santa Cruz mountains of California, the congregation invited children ages 4 – 11 from the community to submit photographs. Over 80 children participated in the “My World in the Santa Cruz Mountains” exhibit. People from all ages attended the exhibit reception replete with milk and cookies. Each participant was valued as an artist and encouraged to talk about their submission.



All enjoyed the playful and profound perspectives of their world in the mountains through the eyes of the children.

What might we learn about one another, our communities, and especially our church if we were to see them through the eyes of a child? Do they feel heard... seen... valued? How do they know they are ‘beloved’?

As you reflect on stewardship in our church, think about these things. How do your actions express your love of children? Are children engaged in ways that also inspire us? What do they teach us about love? Nelson Mandela reminded us, “Our children are our greatest treasure. They are our future.” Beloved, Love the children.

## WEEKLY GIVING IF THE PERCENTAGE IS

(Rounded to the nearest dollar)

| Annual Income | Monthly Income | Weekly Income | 2%    | 4%    | 6%    | 8%    | 10%   | 15%   |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 16,000        | 1,333          | 308           | 6.00  | 12.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 31.00 | 46.00 |
| 20,000        | 1,667          | 385           | 8.00  | 15.00 | 23.00 | 31.00 | 39.00 | 58.00 |
| 25,000        | 2,083          | 481           | 10.00 | 19.00 | 29.00 | 38.00 | 48.00 | 72.00 |
| 30,000        | 2,500          | 577           | 12.00 | 23.00 | 35.00 | 46.00 | 58.00 | 87.00 |
| 35,000        | 2,917          | 673           | 13.00 | 27.00 | 40.00 | 54.00 | 67.00 | 101   |
| 40,000        | 3,333          | 769           | 15.00 | 31.00 | 46.00 | 62.00 | 77.00 | 115   |
| 45,000        | 3,750          | 865           | 17.00 | 35.00 | 52.00 | 69.00 | 87.00 | 130   |
| 50,000        | 4,167          | 962           | 19.00 | 38.00 | 58.00 | 77.00 | 96.00 | 144   |
| 60,000        | 5,000          | 1,154         | 23.00 | 46.00 | 69.00 | 92.00 | 115   | 173   |
| 75,000        | 6,250          | 1,442         | 29.00 | 58.00 | 87.00 | 115   | 144   | 216   |
| 100,000       | 8,333          | 1,923         | 38.00 | 77.00 | 115   | 154   | 192   | 288   |
| 125,000       | 10,417         | 2,404         | 48.00 | 96.00 | 144   | 192   | 240   | 361   |

