

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

Sunday, October 18, 2020

9:30 a.m.

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 24
The Season of Generosity**

COVENANT OF GATHERING of the North Haven Congregational Church, UCC

We covenant to work with each other and with our family and friends to keep our community safe and healthy.

We respect other people in the same physical space by wearing a face mask which covers nose and mouth the entire time we are gathered.

We show care for each person who is not from our household by keeping six feet safe distance.

We worship God through prayer and praise, and may speak or hum quietly but will not sing aloud while gathered.

We honor others by staying home if we are not feeling well or may have been exposed, knowing we can worship together whether gathered in person or in spirit.

We covenant to love, respect and care for each other through joyful times and in times of challenge, uncertainty and loss.

We worship as one body united in God's love and we listen together for God's still-speaking voice.

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Meditation*

William Stickles

***OPENING HYMN:** "I Sing the Mighty Power"

V 231

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We wait for God's salvation.

PEOPLE: God will swallow up death forever and wipe our tears away.

Leader: God will take our reproach and make a feast for all peoples.

PEOPLE: Let us act with compassion to dry the tears of others.

Leader: Let us walk with justice to silence reproach.

ALL: Let us make a festival with all God's children.**

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

God of compassion and love, show us how to care for each other and live in the world.

Beyond all limits, difficulties or failings, give us a passion to hold all people in respect and dignity.

Together, O God, may we create a world of freedom, justice and peace.## Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison

Gracious God, we humbly confess our faults. For anger, impatience, and quickness to misunderstand – forgive us. For thoughtlessness, indifference, and self-centering – forgive us. For unkindness and the lack of kindness – forgive us. For not speaking out against injustice and suffering – forgive us. For all the times we have not followed Jesus in the way of love – forgive, heal, and transform us into your servant people. In the name of Christ Jesus we pray.** Amen.

~ silence ~

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 SPIRIT OF THE SEASON OF GENEROSITY

Steve Peterson

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Exodus 33:12-23

p. 79

Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

The Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 22:15-22

p. 1170

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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

ANTHEM: *Shepherd me, O God* (Modern Setting of Psalm 23)

Marty Haugen
arr. Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir. This anthem was recorded live at our 300th anniversary Pierpont concert in December of 2016.

SERMON: "Things That Are God's"

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:** "When We Are Living"

V 581

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Grand March*

Stickles

*Those who are able, please stand.

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The flowers this morning are given by Rob and Lynne Nielsen in celebration of their birthdays (10/1, 10/4), anniversary (10/22), and their beautiful daughter Kim Natoli's birthday today, October 18th.

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: Nancy Mahoney 10/19, Elizabeth Anderson 10/20, Jonathan Bogaert 10/21, Kevin Studley 10/21, Cynthia Miller 10/22, Cheryl Logan-Sendlein 10/22, Gracie Kirk 10/24, Joseph DeLuca 10/247.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Lynne & Rob Nielsen 10/22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

IN-PERSON Worship next Sunday, 10/25.

Next Sunday's worship service will be in-person. If you would like to attend, please register online at the church's website (www.northhavenucc.org) or call the Church Office.

Make your Church Pledge Online!

We are trying many new ways of reaching out to members and friends this year. In conjunction with the **Season of Generosity** this year, you have the opportunity to make your pledge of financial support for the church next year online, through the church website (www.northhavenucc.org). On the homepage of the website you will see a bright purple banner invitation "Make Your 2021 Pledge Today." Click on the purple banner, and the Generosity page will open. Here you will find some comments from church members reflecting on their giving to the church, and a Pledge Card form which you can fill out and submit from the web page. If you would like a copy as your confirmation, you can print the screen before you submit your pledge, or call the Church Office and Julie Schweickert will send it to you.

Evaluation of the Pastor ONLINE!

Here is yet another opportunity to respond online! The Evaluation of the Pastor is being conducted now, and the evaluation team from the Pastoral Relations Mission Team is seeking responses from as many members and friends as possible. Please take a few minutes and complete the Pastoral Evaluation online! Go to the church website (www.northhavenucc.org) and click on the green banner on the homepage "Annual Evaluation of the Pastor." This will open the Pastoral Evaluation page. Here you will find a brief explanation of the purpose of the evaluation and instructions. You are asked to answer 8 questions, and your specific thought and feelings and examples will be most helpful. **Please complete your evaluation by Nov. 3.** Thank you for helping to guide, affirm, and improve pastoral leadership at North Haven Congregational Church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| Sunday | Oct. 18 | 9:30 a.m. | WORSHIP (In-Sanctuary & Online) |
| | | 5:00 p.m. | OASIS YOUTH (Zoom) |
| | | 7:00 | NHE Consociation Annual Meeting (Zoom) |
| Monday | Oct. 19 | 10:00 a.m. | FOOD PANTRY OPEN |
| Tuesday | Oct. 20 | 6:00 p.m. | BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) |
| Wednesday | Oct. 21 | 10:00 a.m. | FOOD PANTRY OPEN |
| | | 1:00 p.m. | STAFF MEETING (Zoom) |
| | | 7:00 | REOPENING TEAM (Zoom) |
| Thursday | Oct. 22 | 7:00 p.m. | CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom) |
| Friday | Oct. 23 | 10:00 a.m. | FOOD PANTRY OPEN |
| Saturday | Oct. 24 | 9:00 a.m. | FALL CLEAN UP |
| | | 12:00 p.m. | Mason's Food Drive Drop-off (Parking Lot) |
| Sunday | Oct. 25 | 9:30 a.m. | WORSHIP (In-Sanctuary & Online) |
| | | 5:00 p.m. | OASIS YOUTH (Zoom) |

*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
Fax: 203-234-1751
Email: churchoffice@northhavenucc.org
Website: northhavenucc.org

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

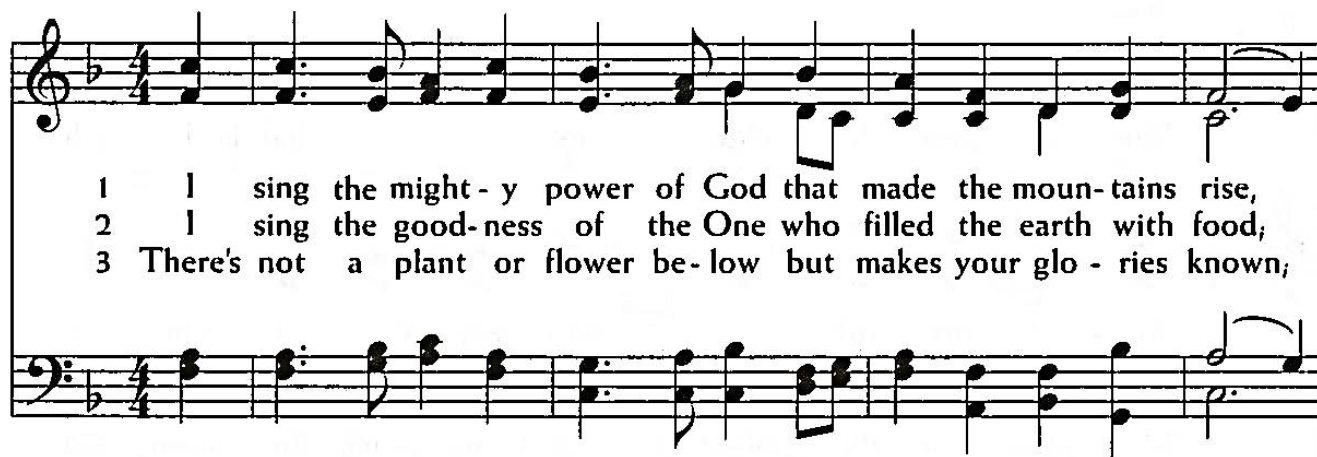
We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

- 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.

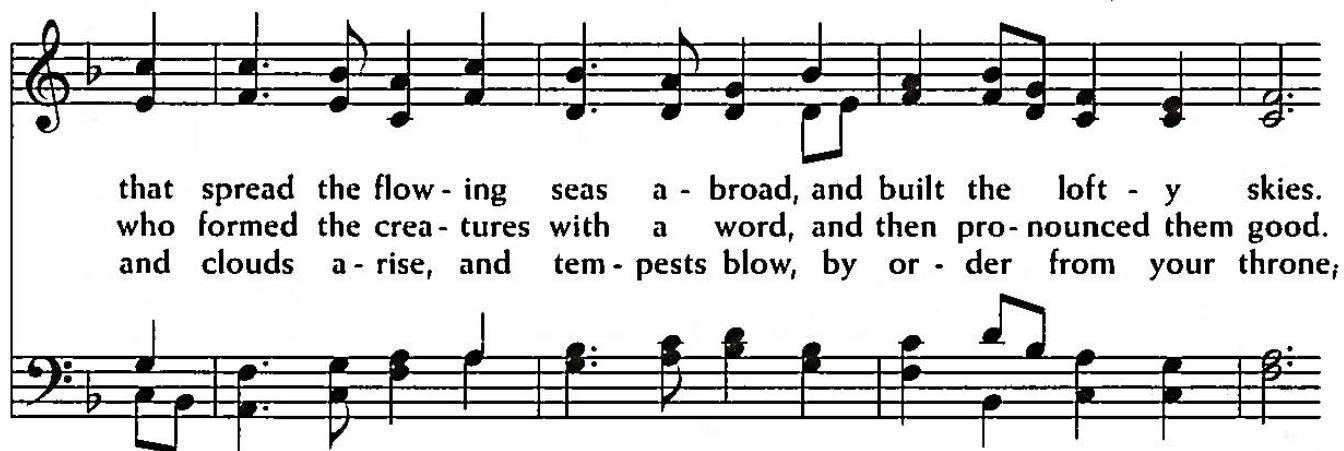
VALUES

We:

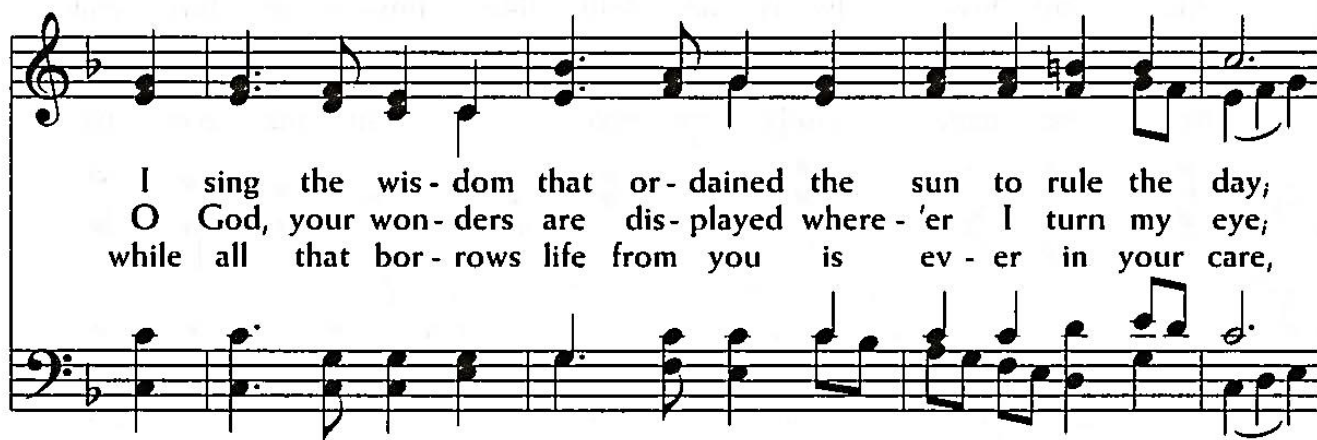
- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.



1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun - tains rise,
 2 I sing the good - ness of the One who filled the earth with food,
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes your glo - ries known,



that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
 who formed the crea - tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.
 and clouds a - rise, and tem - pests blow, by or - der from your throne,



I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day,
 O God, your won - ders are dis - played where - 'er I turn my eye,
 while all that bor - rows life from you is ev - er in your care,



the moon shines full at God's com - mand and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the skyl
 and ev - ery - where that I may be, you, God, are pres - ent there.

*CLOSING HYMN: "When We Are Living"

V 581

Unison D Em A7 D



1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

Bm Em A7 D




and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,

D G Em A F#m



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,

Bm Em A7 D



we be-long to God, we be-long to God.



Beloved, Love Creation.

"We may think we are nurturing our garden, but of course it's our garden that is really nurturing us." - Jenny Uglow

From the beginning of the creation narrative in the Bible, we learn about the design of stewardship. The beloved story of Adam and Even in the garden portray an understanding of care for creation – tending of the garden. The original Hebrew translates with the words “till” and “keep.” The word “till” implies “to be bound in service to” and the word “keep” in its original form implies “to preserve” for the future. This understanding is the foundation of stewardship in any form. Our role as stewards of creation can best be understood by our connection to creation, that it was made for our own sake. Most importantly, that by our own actions of love and care we are fed – literally physically and spiritually.

To Love creation was the call of the beloved community at St. Mary's United Church of Christ in Maryland when their pastor reported for summer military duty, far away from his church and congregation. Tasked with maintaining the parsonage's flower garden, the community grew flowers for the shut-in and hospitalized members.



The success of this effort inspired the development of a raised bed garden adjacent to the church, which is now tended by the entire congregation. St. Mary's connected with a sister church in this effort. Together, their efforts provided produce for the food pantry in their community. Through this project, all generations cultivated the bounty and beautiful blessings of creation together.

As we think about stewardship, can we expand our definition of harvest? What are the needs of your broader community? And who are your partners in answering those needs? Do you provide a tangible or physical product? Or is your harvest more intangible, like an experience of community? Whatever it may be – may it be fruitful and multiply.

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 |

