

FOUNDED 1716  
*North Haven*  
*Congregational Church*  
United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

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

**Sunday, January 3, 2021**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Second Sunday after Christmas  
The Sacrament of Communion**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** Fughetta on *God's Son Is Come*

J. S. Bach

**\*OPENING HYMN:** "What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest"

**P140**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Holy people of God, come. Come to follow the way prepared for you.

**PEOPLE: Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth.**

Leader: Once again the earth is surprised at a manger, as the glory of God transforms the commonplace.

**PEOPLE: Let us go to Bethlehem and see what God has made known to us.**

Leader: Experience the wonder of God's ways. Kneel in awe before life newly born.

**ALL: Let us bring glory and praise to God for all that we have seen and heard!\*\***

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

In this time of beginnings, O God, we ask Your blessing on the people of North Haven Congregational Church. We pray for patience and courage as we seek a new hope and continue to walk

the path of justice and peace, compassion and welcome.

Fill our hearts with song and our house with joy as we journey together.## Amen.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison**

Jesus Christ, God-with-us, you came that we may have life and have it more abundantly. We have not always lived up to your expectations for us. We confess that too often we are dry in spirit; fill us with your grace. We are often wrapped up in ourselves; open us to others. We are sometimes slow to learn, teach us of your ever-expanding truth. We waste ourselves on things that do not satisfy; whet our hunger and thirst for justice. We are too soon scattered like grains of the field; gather us into a single loaf. We are frequently distracted of mind. Direct us to what is most important: your love for us, your will for our lives, and your sustaining presence in every circumstance.\*\*\* Amen. ~ *silence* ~

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

p. 723

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

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

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:** John 1:1-18

p. 1236

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *Little Drummer Boy*

Words and music by Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati and Harry Simeone.

Arranged for The Evergreen Quartet by Thomas Brand, Jeremy Hutchins and Oliver Soell.

Recorded on Zoom meeting software, smart phones, and computer microphones by members of the NHCC Chancel Choir.

**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

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

Invitation and Consecration

The 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, 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.

Distribution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**GREETING OF PEACE**

*May the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you always!*

\***CLOSING HYMN:** “Joy to the World”

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\***THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Ave, maris Stella*

J. F. Dandrieu

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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**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, Linda Shannon, Elaine Burr, Joyce Bellonio, and Betsy Gumbart.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Kimberly Noel 01/05, Carl Flodquist 01/06, Matthew Noel 01/06, Bradley Schweickert 01/07.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1/3</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP – Online</b> OASIS (Zoom)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>1/4</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1/5</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> 5:30 p.m. 7:00	<b>ENDOWMENT MEETING (Zoom)</b> BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) MLB (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>1/6</b>	<b>10:00</b> 1:00 p.m.	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b> STAFF MEETING (Zoom)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1/7</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1/8</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1/9</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>MENS FELLOWSHIP (Zoom)</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1/10</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>WORSHIP – Online</b>

\*Small print indicates non-Church function  
**Bold print starts new day.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Please save the date for our Annual Congregational Meeting - on January 31<sup>st</sup>!** The Annual Meeting this year will be a virtual meeting. We will offer an online meeting format, similar to ZOOM, and we will also offer the possibility to call in via telephone to listen, comment, and vote. We will share more information about this after the New Year, and we hope to set up some opportunities to try out the online format in advance of the meeting. Stay tuned!

**Annual Reports for 2020 are due** in the Church Office on January 4 (tomorrow). This is a gentle reminder to Church leaders, staff, and Mission Teams to forward your annual reports to Julie promptly.

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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Website: [northhavenucc.org](http://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.

*In unison*



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar-y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come peas - ant, king, to own him;



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



REFRAIN



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing:



Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y.



1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their  
 3 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture  
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

And heaven and na - ture sing, And  
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -  
 And won - ders of his love, And

sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love. A - men.

heaven and na - ture sing.  
 peat the sound - ing joy,  
 won - ders of his love,