

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**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent  
One Great Hour of Sharing**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** Prelude on *From God Shall Naught Divide Me*

Camil van Hulse

**\*OPENING HYMN:** “Ask Me What Great Thing I Know”

**V338**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: From the wanderings of our lives, we have come to gather here.

**PEOPLE: We bring life with us, to this time and place.**

Leader: Come here, offering your lives before God.

**ALL: And the presence of God will go with us and remain with us in our play and work, in our resting and our service.\*\***

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

Good and gracious God, You are light for our eyes.

Good and gracious God, You are the air we breathe.

You give us the voice to speak and a joyful song to sing

You are, O good and gracious God, our path to peace.<sup>##</sup> Amen.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison**

O God, we confess that we often come to you reluctantly, afraid of what we might have to give up or change when we enter your presence. In our reluctance, we often miss opportunities for your grace to touch us, and through us to touch others. Touch us that we might be healed; forgive us that we might be born again. 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: Numbers 21:4-9 p. 138**

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*

Peter Amidon

Words adapted from Prayer of St. Francis

Amy Morrow, melody; Carol Amico, harmonies

Gary Snowbeck, piano

Jeff Hutchins, audio mixing

Virtual recording March 2021

**SERMON:** “Not Death, but Life”

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**

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

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

**V669**

### **\*THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Gloria Patri*

J. E. Kindermann

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Kristen Mazziotti 03/17, Joseph Mulvey 03/17, Jeffrey Jennings 03/18, Catherine Dubail 03/19, Rich Mayhew 03/19, Hunter Coughlin 03/20, Ann Schneider 03/21.

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3/14</b>	9:30 a.m. 11:00 12:00 p.m. 5:00	<b>Daylight Saving Time Starts</b> WORSHIP – Online (LiveStream) CHURCH SCHOOL:PreK-Gr2 (Zoom) CHURCH SCHOOL:Gr3-Gr7 (Zoom) OASIS (Zoom)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>3/15</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3/16</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> 6:00	<b>WORSHIP STAFF MEETING (Zoom)</b> BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3/17</b>	10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:00 7:00	<b>WINDOW DEADLINE</b> FOOD PANTRY OPEN STAFF MEETING (Zoom) PASTORAL RELATIONS (Zoom) REOPENING (Zoom)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3/18</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>3/19</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3/20</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>MENS FELLOWSHIP (Zoom)</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3/21</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP – Online (LiveStream)</b> OASIS (Zoom)

\*Small print indicates non-Church function

**Bold print starts new day.**



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Podcast for Lent** I want to share a project by Rev. Doug Clark, a retired UCC pastor and colleague of mine. This may be of interest to you during Lent. Are you concerned about the urgency of the climate crisis? Would you like to explore some faith-based resources for taking action? You're invited to join Jenna Van Donselaar, from Young Evangelicals for Climate Action, and Doug Clark, retired UCC pastor and environmental theologian, for a six-week podcast series around the theme of a "Fossil Fuel Free Lent." We'll be connecting the traditional Lenten practices of fasting and prayer with fasting from our use of fossil fuels and engaging in prayerful study of the creation narratives in the biblical book of Genesis. To listen to the podcast, search "Creation Care Conversations" wherever you get your podcasts, or: <https://open.spotify.com/show/4Q0C08CaI65Rib26bL8FWK?si=Xbf9UwVRTCuJXA2fpUq23g>





**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be received and celebrated today. This offering is received across the whole United Church of Christ, and in many other Protestant denominations. The offering is used to support worldwide efforts to supply clean drinking water, food, education and health care. It is also used to support both domestic and international disaster preparedness and response. Funds from this offering often support the very first outside response in large disasters around the world. Please give prayerfully and generously!

**The Clothing Mission Team** received a generous donation of nearly new men's clothing in memory of Stanley Celmer, given by his daughter Sharon DeMatteo. This clothing will be given to families in need this Spring.

**Easter Gift Cards for Covenant To Care** Our annual gifts to children through our Covenant to Care social worker will need to be gift cards this year, instead of Easter baskets. Please purchase gift cards to Walmart or Target in \$25 amounts. If you can give more than \$25, purchase additional cards. Checks for donations should be made out to NHCC with a notation that the contribution is for the Easter project. Gift cards and donations are due at the Church Office by March 20<sup>th</sup> to allow for the more complicated process of distribution due to COVID.

**Items for Online Auction Fundraiser** The church is considering having a fundraiser in May, in the form of an on-line auction as we had last July. Thank you to those who have sent in photos of items they would donate. If anyone else has items to donate, please send in photos as indicated in the e-mail that was sent out on Tuesday. We would need more donations to be able to move forward with this fundraiser.

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 Ask me what great thing I know that de - lights and stirs me so,  
 2 Who de - feats my fierc - est foes? Who con - soles my sad - dest woes?  
 3 Who is life in life to me? Who the death of death will be?  
 4 This is that great thing I know; this de - lights and stirs me so:

what the high re - ward I win, whose the name I  
 Who re - vives my faint - ing heart, heal - ing all that  
 Who holds all my days se - cure, in God's heart where  
 faith in Christ who died to save, Christ who tri - umphed

glo - ry in:  
 grief im - parts? Je - sus Christ, the cru - ci - fied.  
 love is sure?  
 o'er the grave,



1 Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bo - som fly,  
 2 Oth - er re - fuge have I none; hangs my help-less soul on thee.  
 3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find.  
 4 Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high.  
 Leave, ahl leave me not a - lone; still sup - port and com-fort me.  
 Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
 let the heal - ing streams a-bound; make and keep me pure with-in.

Hide me, O my Sav - iour, hide, till the storm of life is past;  
 All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
 Just and ho - ly is thy name, I am all un - righ - teous-ness:  
 Thou of life the foun-tain art, free - ly let me take of thee;

safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last.  
 co - ver my de-fence-less head with the sha - dow of thy wing.  
 false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.  
 spring thou up with - in my heart; rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.