

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, April 18, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Easter

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Andante*

K. H. Zollner

***OPENING HYMN:** “The Strife is O’er”

V159

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Sing praises to God, you faithful, give thanks to the Holy One!

PEOPLE: Weeping may linger for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Leader: You turn our weeping into dancing, God; you remove the garments of mourning.

**ALL: May we praise you and not be silent!
We will give thanks to you, O God, forever!****

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

Oh God of all that is...

Let us lift up light where there is darkness

Let us bear hope where there is despair

Let us build community where there is isolation

Let us model abundance where there is scarcity

Let us be love where there is fear

Let us live in Peace!### Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

We come before you, O God, in Easter joy, seeking to be a people of the resurrection. Be known among us; assure us of your presence, your love, and your renewing power. Through your Word and Spirit, reveal your purpose in our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ.** Amen.

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: Acts 3:12-19

p. 1263

When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 John 3:1-7

p. 1381

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you.

Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Yes God Is Real* Words and Music by Kenneth Morris (1917-1988)
Sung by Jeffrey Hutchins Arranged by Clarence Boyer (1935-2009)

SERMON: “Children of God”

Scott G. Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY

Tune: Lasst uns erfren

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!&&

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

GREETING OF PEACE

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** “Now There Is No Male or Female”

V627

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Moderato*

Anon.

*Those who are able, please stand.

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The flowers this morning are given by Carla Hill in loving memory of her parents, Phil and Cindy James, who watch over us all everyday and who this month would have celebrated their 59th Wedding Anniversary. They are also given in loving memory of her brother, Brian James, who is watching over her and thought of everyday.

She also wishes to honor and celebrate all of those in our Church Family having Wedding Anniversaries this month.

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, Linda Shannon, Joyce Bellonio, Betsy Gumbart, Shirley Ryan and all the family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Lauren Campos 04/22, Larry Ballantyne 04/22.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Merrilee & George Gladkosky 04/19, Bryant & Sara Munson 04/23, Anthony & Cheryl Solecki 04/24.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items for Online Auction Fundraiser Thank you to those who have sent in photos of items you are donating for our church's on-line fundraising auction. We have received donations including antiques, bicycles, a piano, Waterford, jewelry, a treadmill and more. If you have items to donate and have not been in touch with us yet, please contact us or send a photo. If you have already sent in your photo of items to be donated, thank you and please plan to drop off the items at church, Saturday May 1st - 9am to 11am. More news and information to follow. Thank you for your generosity.

The **Busy Bees** – Patience **Benassi**, Martin **Benassi**, Priscilla **Bradford** and Martha **Butterworth**

Please complete the Return to In-Person Worship Survey The ReOpening Team has prepared a revised Return to In-Person Worship Survey. The link to the survey is on the Church website. Conditions have changed in the months since the first survey – most notably widespread vaccination. The survey will help the ReOpening Team understand the congregation’s comfort and interest in participating in various in-person worship services and activities both indoors and outdoors. Your response to the survey will be completely anonymous. **The survey will close on April 27.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	4/18	9:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00	SUNDAY WORSHIP – (LiveStream) OASIS 5 th -7 th Grade GAME NIGHT (Zoom) OASIS (Zoom)
Monday	4/19	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Tuesday	4/20	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Music Together (Lawn) PERSONNEL MT (Zoom) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	4/21	9:30 a.m. 10:00 1:30 p.m. 7:00	WINDOW DEADLINE Music Together (Lawn) FOOD PANTRY OPEN STAFF MEETING (Zoom) REOPENING (Zoom)
Thursday	4/22	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Music Together (Lawn) CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)
Friday	4/23	9:30 a.m. 10:00	Music Together (Lawn) FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	4/24	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30	Music Together (Lawn) Mothers of Twins Rain date (Parking Lot) Music Together (Lawn)
Sunday	4/25	9:30 a.m. 11:00 12:00 p.m. 4:00 5:00	SUNDAY WORSHIP – (PreRecorded Online) Church School: PreK-Gr2 (Zoom) Church School: Gr3-Gr7 (Zoom) OASIS 5 th -7 th Grade GAME NIGHT (Zoom) OASIS (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
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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 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to - ry of
2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their le - gions
3 He closed the an - cient gates of hell, the bars from heaven's high
4 On the third morn he rose a - gain, glor - ious in maj - es -

life is won, the song of tri - umph has be - gun, hal - le - lu - jah!
has dis - persed; let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst, hal - le - lu - jah!
por - tals fell; let songs of praise his tri - umph tell, hal - le - lu - jah!
ty to reign; O let us swell the joy - ful strain, hal - le - lu - jah!

G D Em Am D G C

1 Now there is no male or fe - male, now there is no
 2 Cru - ci - fied with Christ the Sav - iour, bap - tised in his
 3 Death has no do - min - ion o'er him, so for us death

Dsus4 D G A7 D Em7 A D

free or slave, now there is no Jew or Gen - tile
 ho - ly death, and as Christ was raised to glo - ry
 holds no power, life's own wa - ters now have marked us

Em Bm Am C Dsus4 D G D A D

in the earth Christ died to save. Christ has set us
 we have new life on this earth. Power of wa - ter
 born to God this ve - ry hour. From this mo - ment

G A7 D G D A D

free for free - dom: we no more sing slav - ery's creed,
 and God's nam - ing, turn - ing us from dark to light,
 and for - ev - er dead to sin, a - live in Christ,

Em B Em Am G Dsus4 D G G7 C Am Dsus4 D G

old sub - mis - sions can - not claim us, Christ has set us free in - deed.
 joins us to those who, be - fore us, ran the race and fought the fight.
 born of wa - ter and the Spir - it, now in Christ we find our life.