

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 25, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Praeludium*

Jurgen Knuth

***OPENING HYMN:** “God Is My Shepherd” (Psalm 23)

V748

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: This is the season of Easter:

PEOPLE: the celebration of resurrection,

Leader: the festival of hope,

PEOPLE: the promise of new beginnings,

Leader: the dance of faith,

PEOPLE: the hymn of love.

ALL: Let us worship our life-giving God!**

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

In the name of God, the Compassionate;
Look down upon the whole human family
Take away the divisions and hatreds
which have infected our hearts.
Break down the walls that separate us
Reunite us in bonds of love
So Your purpose may be accomplished...
That all nations and races serve You
in justice, peace and harmony. ^{##} Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

Risen Savior, we thank you that in your resurrection we are transformed. We are free from living graveclothes that have bound us – prejudices, fears, angers, self-centeredness, loneliness. We thank you that in your resurrection those dear to us are embraced. In you they have victory over suffering, unknown on earth, and the joy of your presence always. We thank you that in you resurrection we ourselves may hope for the end of pain, grief, tears, weakness and for everlasting life in the beauty of your spirit. Alleluia.*** 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: John 10:11-18

p. 1248

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 John 3:16-24

p. 1382

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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

ANTHEM: *Shepherd Me, God*
Chancel Choir

Marty Haugen
arr. Mark Hayes

This anthem was recorded at our 300th Anniversary Pierpont Concert in December 2016

PSALM 23 ~unison

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want;
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil;
For thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SERMON: "On The Loose"

Scott G. Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY

*Doxology

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!&&

*Prayer of Dedication

GREETING OF PEACE

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

*CLOSING HYMN: "The Church's One Foundation"

V331

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Allegro Moderato*

Christian Rinck

*Those who are able, please stand.

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The flowers this morning are given by Heather Rowe-Purcell in loving memory of her husband David. You are loved and missed everyday.

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: Paula Diehl 04/26, Donald Geissler 04/27, Danielle Powers 04/29.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Kevin & Cheryl Studley 04/30, Carla & Michael Hill 05/01.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items for Online Auction Fundraiser Thank you very much 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. Please plan to drop off the items at church, this Saturday, May 1st - 9am to 11am. Drive up to the Carroll Hall entrance in the parking lot. If your item is large and needs the elevator, please let us know and we will meet you at the elevator entrance. The items will be catalogued and photographed May 3 - 7. If you have information on your item that would assist in the auction please attach a note about it, it might be information on where or when it was made, or where it was purchased, or something special about it that might not be obvious. The items will be in the on-line auction from approximately May 10 - 17. Winning bidders will pick up their items on May 22. Thank you for your generosity. Please contact us if you have additional items to donate.

The **B** Team: Patience **B**enassi, Martin **B**enassi, Priscilla **B**radford and Martha **B**utterworth

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	4/25	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)
Monday	4/26	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Tuesday	4/27	9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Music Together (Lawn) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	4/28	9:30 a.m. 10:00 1:30 p.m.	WINDOW MAILING Music Together (Lawn) FOOD PANTRY OPEN STAFF MEETING (Zoom)
Thursday	4/29	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Music Together (Lawn) CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)
Friday	4/30	9:30 a.m. 10:00	Music Together (Lawn) FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	5/1	8:00 a.m. 9:00 9:30 10:30	MEN’S FELLOWSHIP (Zoom) AUCTION DROP-OFF (CH) Music Together (Lawn) Music Together (Lawn)
Sunday	5/2	9:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00	SUNDAY WORSHIP – (LiveStream) 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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Email: churchoffice@northhavenucc.org
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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.



1 The church's one foundation is Je - sus Christ our Lord;
 2 Called forth from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
 ♦ 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der the world sees us op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of our war,
 5 We now on earth have un - ion with God the Three in One,



we are his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word;
 one char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 ♦ by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and share through faith com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



from heaven he came and sought us that we might ev - er be
 One ho - ly name pro - fess - ing and at one ta - ble fed,
 ♦ yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious our long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, hap - py ones, and ho - ly Lord, give us grace that we



his liv - ing ser - vant peo - ple, by his own death set free.
 to one hope al - ways press - ing, by Christ's own Spir - it led.
 ♦ But soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

