

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, May 2, 2021

9:30 a.m.

**Fifth Sunday of Easter  
The Sacrament of Communion**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** *Andantino*

J. Blied

**CHORAL INTROIT:** *Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying*

Words & Music by  
Ken Medema (b. 1943)

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**\*OPENING HYMN:** "God of the Sparrow"

V229

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: God has made this day.

**PEOPLE: Let us rejoice and be glad.**

Leader: The God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead raises us to new life daily.

**PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.**

**ALL: Glory be to God our Creator, to Jesus our risen Christ, and to the Spirit our Comfort.\*\* Amen.**

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

Let us open our hearts to the love of God.

Let us break open the doors and let the stranger in.

Let us embrace rich and poor, the beautiful and the bruised,  
both tears and laughter, for God's arms are wide  
and in Her there is no stranger!

Let us walk the way of the open heart.## Amen

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION: ~unison**

Gracious God, Dresser of Vines, we confess that we have been more willing to consume the fruits of others than to bear fruit ourselves. We have refused to give of ourselves when the harvest is uncertain. We have not been fruitful because we depended too much on ourselves and not enough on you. Help us, God, to be channels for your grace, branches who feed on your life-giving Spirit, bearers of your word of love and joy, in Jesus Christ.\*\* Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:** 1 John 4:7-21

p. 1382

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:** John 15:1-8

p. 1253

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

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

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *Surrexit Christus, Alleluia!*

Taizé Chant  
Jacques Berthier

All you heavens bless the Lord, Surrexit Christus, Alleluia!  
stars of the heavens bless the Lord. Cantate Domino, Alleluia!

Sun and moon bless the Lord, Surrexit Christus, Alleluia!  
and the night and day bless the Lord. Cantate Domino, Alleluia!

**MEDITATION:** “Practicing Faith, Abiding in Love”

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

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

Invitation and Consecration

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.

Distribution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**GREETING OF PEACE**

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

\***CLOSING HYMN:** “In Christ There Is No East or West”

**V606**

\***THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Allegro*

Christian Rinck

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Robin Rose 05/04, George Coulston 05/05, Aurora Davis 05/07, Bryant Munson 05/08, Sienna Baldino 05/09.

## 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

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5/2</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 4:00 p.m. 5:00	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP – (LiveStream)</b> OASIS 5 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> Grade GAME NIGHT (Zoom) OASIS (Zoom)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>5/3</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5/4</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 6:00 p.m. 7:00	<b>Music Together (Lawn)</b> PERSONNEL MISSION TEAM (Library) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) MLB (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>5/5</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 1:30 p.m. 7:00	<b>Music Together (Lawn)</b> FOOD PANTRY OPEN STAFF MEETING (Zoom) REOPENING (Zoom)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5/6</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Music Together (Lawn)</b> CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>5/7</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00	<b>Music Together (Lawn)</b> FOOD PANTRY OPEN
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5/8</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:30	<b>Music Together (Lawn)</b> Music Together (Lawn)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5/9</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 11:00 12:00 p.m. 4:00 5:00	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP – (LiveStream)</b> Church School: PreK-Gr2 (Zoom) Church School: Gr3-Gr7 (Zoom) OASIS 5 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> 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  
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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.

Unison

G                      C                      Em                      Am                      Dm

1 God of the spar - row      God of the whale  
 2 God of the earth - quake      God of the storm  
 3 God of the rain - bow      God of the cross  
 4 God of the hun - gry      God of the sick  
 5 God of the neigh - bour      God of the foe  
 6 God of the a - ges      God near at hand

G                      C                      F                      E7                      Am                      Em

God of the swirl - ing stars      How does the crea - ture say  
 God of the trum - pet blast      How does the crea - ture cry  
 God of the emp - ty grave      How does the crea - ture say

God of the prod - i - gal      How does the crea - ture say  
 God of the prun - ing hook      How does the crea - ture say  
 God of the lov - ing heart      How do your chil - dren say

F                      Em                      Am                      Dm                      1-5                      6

Gsus4                      G                      C

Awe      How does the crea - ture say      Praise  
 Woe      How does the crea - ture cry      Save  
 Grace      How does the crea - ture say      Thanks

Care      How does the crea - ture say      Life  
 Love      How does the crea - ture say      Peace  
 Joy      How do your chil - dren say      Home



C G C F7 Bb F

1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
 2 In him shall true hearts ev - ery - where  
 3 Join hands, then, peo - ple of the faith,  
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west,

C F Am Dm7 G7 C F C

in him no south or north,  
 their high com - mun - ion find;  
 what - e'er your race may be;  
 in him meet south and north;

C Am C Bdim Em7 G7 C

but one great fam - i - ly of love  
 his ser - vice is the gold - en cord  
 all child - ren of the liv - ing God  
 all Christ - like souls are one in him

F C C G7 C

through - out the whole wide earth.  
 close bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
 are sure - ly kin to me.  
 through - out the whole wide earth.