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North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven Congregational Church

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, August 22, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 16

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Ariosio*

Richard Redhead

***OPENING HYMN:** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

V220

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Holy One, You have called us to this sacred space.

PEOPLE: We come ready to hear your Word!

Leader: You have called us to this place of worship.

PEOPLE: We come ready to sing your praise!

Leader: You have called us from our homes and jobs.

PEOPLE: We are hungry for your Sabbath.

Leader: There is much you say to us and have us learn.

**ALL: God of Light and Love, We are ready to hear your Word!
Teach us your Way!**

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

O Light Everlasting, come into our lives this day!

Transform our hearts and minds to your purpose
and guide us toward your Way of Peace and Love. Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

Abba God, Creator of All There Is, Fill the vessels of our weary hearts and minds with Hope and Wonder. When we leave our burdens in Your care, we are refreshed. Holy and Gracious Jesus, God-incarnate and Bread of Heaven, teach us more about your radical welcome and how to live a better life in community in a way that is pleasing to God. Holy and Gracious Spirit, Breath of Heaven, we invite you to move among us and in us. Teach us to be still in your presence so we may hear the whisper of God breathing life into our souls; deepening our unity in our Love for God and for each other. We ask this in prayer today and as Jesus taught us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

Organ Amen

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.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION – organ interlude

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: The Gospel of John 4:4-14

p. 1239

But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: The Gospel of John 6:53-69

p. 1243

So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Seek Ye First*
Sung by Jeffrey Hutchins

Karen Lafferty

SERMON: “*Drink Me, Eat Me, Abide in Me*”

Kristie Rubendunst

MOMENT OF REFLECTION – organ interlude

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

UNISON PASTORAL PRAYER

Organ Response

We pray for the church and the world: For the people of our congregation... For those who suffer and those in trouble... For the sick, the hospitalized, and those who care for them... We pray, too, in remembrance of all who have sacrificed their lives while in military service, and with their families. We mourn with loved ones in their loss and celebrate their lives. We pray to illuminate the many concerns of our communities and ask you guide us in ways that please you... We pray for the world, its people, and its leaders... For the Church universal—its leaders, its members and its mission... For the many other concerns that we hold secretly in our hearts... We ask this in the name of Our Creator, Our Savior, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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.

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Abba God! It is our dream, given to us by Jesus, to help heal the brokenness of those around us and in the wider world as he did. In gratitude for your abundant gifts, we humbly offer you these fruits of our labors in the hope that we may help bring the fullness of life and spirit promised by the Bread of Heaven to all those in need in our church family, in our Beloved Community of North Haven and to all the world. Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE ~unison

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

V651

***THE BENEDICTION** ~unison

We have entered this Sanctuary to Worship, and find respite in the Peace and Love of God.

We are now ready to go out into the world to serve.

Remember this week and always: The Word of our Creator-God is the life and sustenance of all that exists. The Living Water and Bread of Life who is Jesus feeds our hungry spirits and fills us with hope. Our lives and souls that are broken and worn are healed and strengthened. And the stirring of the Spirit within us works to

transformed our hearts, deepening our capacity for compassion, joy, and creating an ever-increasing desire to live the Way of Life that Jesus taught, drawing us closer to God and to each other.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Dear Children of God! Go forth into the world! May our Life-giving, Life-restoring, Life-fulfilling God bless you and guide you and your families in all you do. Go now in Light and Love! And may your whole lives be Worship! Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Allegretto*

Howell

*Those who are able, please stand.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-719615.

We welcome Kristie Rubendunst as preacher and worship leader this morning. Kristie has been a Member-In-Discernment in the New Haven East Consociation, preparing for ordained ministry. An Ecclesiastical Council was held by ZOOM on June 24, and Kristie is approved for ordination pending a call!

The flowers this morning are given by Tom and Wendy Glynn in loving memory of Toms mom, Helga, whose beautiful and loving presence on earth is missed more with each passing year.

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, the family of Joe DeLuca, and the family of John Dockendorff.

WELCOME: Callie Jean Maher was born at 3:15am on 8-18-21, 8lbs 11 oz to Erin and Sean Maher and big brother Liam. Erin is the daughter of Nancy and Ken Mahoney. Congratulations to all.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Alexis Dubail 08/24, Ella Tolisano 8/27, Catherine Welch 08/28, Ben Purcell 08/28, Cheyanne Leyerzapf 08/28, Barbara Massey 08/29, Robert Grant 08/29, Bryan Cretella 08/29.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Scott Morrow & Carol Amico 08/22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free Kenmore Gas Range

A friend of the church has a 30" Kenmore Gas Stove that she is looking to "Re-home". The Stove is in good working condition and free to anyone who needs it. Please call the church office at (203) 239-5691 if you are interested, or know anyone that needs a stove.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	8/22	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP (In Person & Live Stream)
Monday	8/23		
Tuesday	8/24	6:00 p.m.	BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	8/25	10:00 a.m.	WINDOW MAILING FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Thursday	8/26	5:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts (Lawn/DBL)
Friday	8/27	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	8/28		
Sunday	8/29	9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	WORSHIP (In Person & Live Stream) BAPTISM

*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
 Fax: 203-234-1751
 Email: churchoffice@northhavenucc.org
 Website: 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.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(Peuples, criez de joie et bondissez d'allégresse)

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him!

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, who rules all cre - a - tion;
 2 Praise to the Lord, a - bove all things so might - i - ly reign - ing,
 3 Praise to the Lord who will pros - per our work and de - fend us;
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him!

All that has life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him!

O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and sal - va - tion.
 keep - ing us safe at his side, and so gent - ly sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy will dai - ly at - tend us:
 All that has life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him!

Let the A - men sound from God's peo - ple a - gain:

Come, all who hear: bro - thers and sis - ters draw near,
 Have you not seen how all you need - ed has been
 pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do,
 Let the A - men sound from God's peo - ple a - gain:

glad - ly with praise we a - dore him.

join - ing in glad a - dor - a - - - tion.
 met by God's gra - cious or - dain - - - ing?
 who out of love will be - friend us.
 glad - ly with praise we a - dore him.

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing

1 Gui - de - moi, Ber - ger fi - dè - le, en ce mon - de
 2 Christ, tu es la sour - ce vi - ve des bi - ens les

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y,
 stream doth flow, let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 pè - le - rin, prends à toi mon coeur re - bel - le,
 plus pré - cieux fais que pour toi seul je vi - ve,

hold me with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer,
 gui - de - moi, sois mon sou - tien, pain de vi - e,
 gui - de - moi du haut des cieux, viens, pro - tè - ge,

bread of heav - en, feed me till I want no more,
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and shield,
 pain de vi - e, de ta grâ - ce nour - ris - moi,
 viens pro - tè - ge, sois mon roc, mon bou - cli - er,

feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield.
 de ta grâ - ce nour - ris - moi.
 sois mon roc, mon bou - cli - er.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
 bid my anxious fears subside;
 death of death, and hell's destruction,
 land me safe on Canaan's side:
 songs of praises, songs of praises
 I will ever give to thee
 I will ever give to thee.

3 Du Jourdain je suis les rives;
 quand j'ai peur, rassure-moi.
 À Sion, qu'enfin j'arrive,
 affermis ma faible foi;
 tes louanges, tes louanges,
 à jamais je chanterai,
 à jamais je chanterai.