

FOUNDED 1716

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, September 5, 2021

9:30 a.m.

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 18
The Sacrament of Communion**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Communion*

Clark

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

V220

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: What does this worship service need?

PEOPLE: Quiet where faith can grow,
song that blossoms hope,
scripture that remembers love,
honest words to untangle a small knotty existence,
gifts offering service of the heart.

Leader: Who shall come to this worship service?

ALL: All who have prayer in the center of their lives and
all who are lonely for the touch of God.**

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

Circle me, Lord.
Keep protection near
And danger afar.

Circle me, Lord
Keep hope within.
Keep doubt without.

Circle me, Lord.
Keep light near
And darkness afar.

Circle me, Lord.
Keep peace within.
Keep evil out.## Amen.

David Adam, Vicar

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~*unison*

Merciful God, whose care never ceases, we come to you as we are. We are tired from trying to do more than we can manage. We are anxious about problems that go unresolved. We are worried about events beyond our control. We do not easily let go. For mistakes we cannot redeem, for tasks left undone, for uncertain goals, we need your forgiveness and ask for your understanding. For recovery of strength and passion, we pray for your Spirit. For fullness of life, generous hearts, and contented souls, we pray to be followers of Christ Jesus. In your mercy, restore us and lead us.** Amen.

~ *silence* ~

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ALL: Thanks be to God

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 7:24-37

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From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: James 2:1-10, 14-17

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My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in

faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

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

GIFT OF MUSIC: Framingham

William Billings, 1779 (Revised 1781)

From The Psalm Singer’s Amusement

Text: Isaac Watts, 1709

Sung by Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music

Shall wisdom cry aloud,
And not her speech be heard?
The voice of God's eternal Word,
Deserves it no regard?

MEDITATION: “Arguing with the Bible”

Scott Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Organ Response

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

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation and Consecration

The Lord’s Prayer

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 ~unison

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

V681

***THE BENEDICTION**~unison

POSTLUDE: Prelude in F Major

J. E. Kindermann

*Those who are able, please stand.

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WORLD PRAYERS –www.worldprayers.org - retrieved 8/13/15

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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, Stefan McKosky, Linda Shannon, Betsy Gumbart, Greg Pierce, Jr., and the family of David Bellonio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Martin Benassi 09/06, Linda Lacobelli 09/06, Melissa DeLuca 09/06, Colin Studley 09/06, John Masnato 09/08, Sally Pallatto 09/09, Finn Cabelus 09/09, Avery Cretella 09/10, AnnMarie Czajkowski 9/10, Ryan Petrucci 09/11, Aaron Weiss 09/12.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Carl & Lillian Flodquist 09/05, David & Nancie Estep 09/06.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	9/5	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP (In Person & Live Stream)
Monday	9/6		OFFICE CLOSED (LABOR DAY)
Tuesday	9/7	6:00 p.m.	BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	9/8	10:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 7:00	FOOD PANTRY OPEN STAFF MEETING (Library) MLB (CH)
Thursday	9/9	11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00	ENDOWMENT (Zoom) CHANCEL CHOIR Garden Club (CH)
Friday	9/10	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	9/11	9:00 a.m.	9-11 Remembrance Town Green
Sunday	9/12	9:30 a.m. 4-6 p.m. 4-6 p.m.	WORSHIP (In Person & Live Stream) RALLY DAY:Church School Resumes OASIS Youth Group – Spring Glen Church OASIS Middle School Youth-Spring Glen

*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
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:

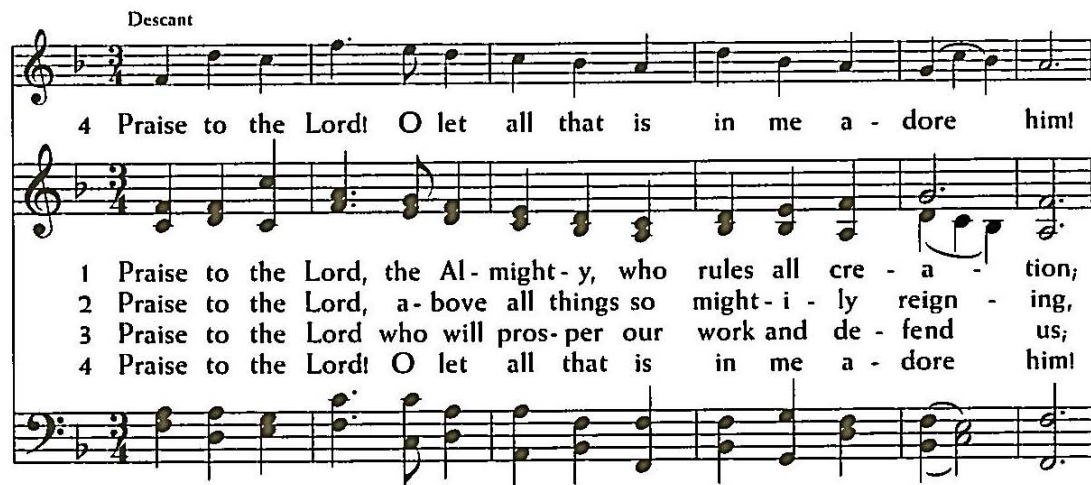
- Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;
- Welcoming all people from different and diverse backgrounds to become a community of disciples together; and
- Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed 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.

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!



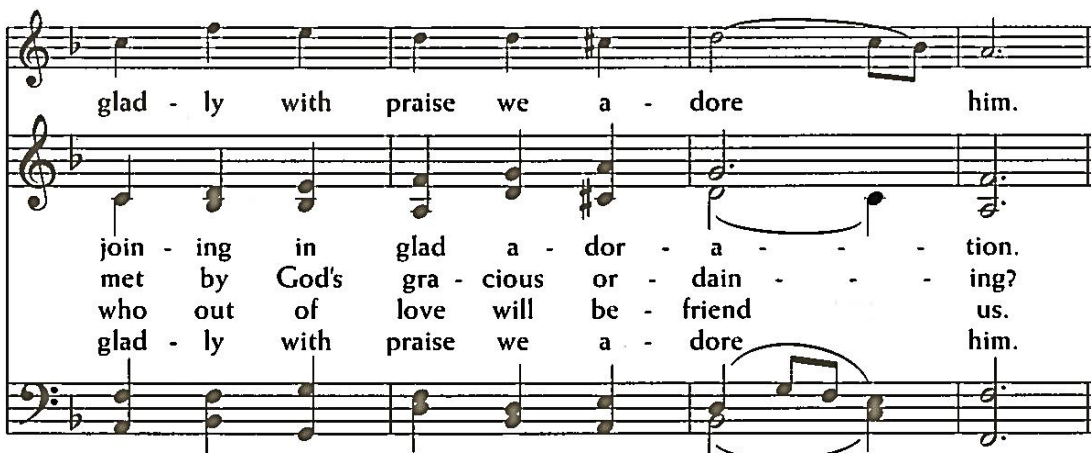
All that has life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him!

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 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 ♦ 3 The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the
 4 O Je - sus, from the moun - tain side, make haste to
 5 till all the world shall learn your love and fol - low

cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds, dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 ♦ fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -
 heal these hearts of pain; a - mong these rest - less
 where your feet have trod, till glo - rious from your

self - ish strife, we hear your words of life a - gain.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 ♦ tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion of your face.
 throngs a - bid, and tread the cit - y's streets a - gain,
 heaven a - bove shall come the cit - y of our God.