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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, September 26, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 21

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Andante*

Kate Boundy

CHORAL INTROIT: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*
Chancel Choir

Text: Henry Van Dyke
Tune: Beethoven

***OPENING HYMN:** "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

V216

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP** (James 3:17-18):

Leader: God's wisdom is pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity.

PEOPLE: Our wisdom is none of these things. We compete for knowledge, and our learning fosters belligerence. Our understanding is insufficient and our compassion limited. We long for certainty and sacrifice too much for its sake. We strive for conditional sincerity.

Leader: The harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

PEOPLE: We do not fully comprehend God's wisdom or achieve God's righteousness, but we come together to share insight, read Scripture, sing, pray, and make peace.

ALL: Let us worship together.**

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

Creator God, gentle in power and strong in tenderness: kindle we pray, in the hearts of all people your passion for peace and your will for justice, that we may fearlessly contend against the powers of death and restrain evil's rage with your love.## Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~*unison*

God, you create a tabernacle for the sun, the moon, and all the lights of heaven and are present to all things in all times and yet never can be contained. We know you are not limited by the houses of worship we build, but rather that your love always shelters our worshipfulness. Bless and consecrate our gathering in this place and the love we share in this time. May your peace be upon our restless hearts, and may we always find you in our midst, especially in the least likely of our sisters and brothers. ** Amen.

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.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Soon and Very Soon*

Andraé Crouch

Arr. Jack Schraeder

Recorded by the Chancel Choir at the 300th Anniversary Concert in 2016**THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

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So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

SERMON: "Faith in Exile"

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

GREETING OF PEACE ~unison

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

V664

***THE BENEDICTION**~unison

POSTLUDE: *Sortie*

G. Wedemann

*Those who are able, please stand.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

OASIS and Tidepool youth will hike at East Rock Park on Sunday 4-6pm. Meet at 41 Cold Spring Street, dress for hiking and bring your water bottle.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*



Sunday	9/26	9:30 a.m. 9:30 11:15 11:30 2:00 p.m. 4:00	WORSHIP (In Person & Live Stream) CHURCH SCHOOL (In Person) Food Delivery (St. Elizabeth) BAPTISM-Casey Twins (Outside) Installation – Rev. Joe Perdue (Branford) OASIS & Tidepool Hike-East Rock Park
Monday	9/27	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (Lawn)
Tuesday	9/28	9:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 6:00	Music Together (Lawn) Music Together (Lawn) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	9/29	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 1:30 p.m. 4:00	WINDOW MAILING Music Together (Lawn) FOOD PANTRY OPEN PERSONNEL MT (Library) STAFF MEETING (Zoom) Medical Equipment Pick up (K)
Thursday	9/30	9:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00	Music Together (Lawn) Girl Scouts (Lawn/DBL) CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)
Friday	10/1	9:30 a.m. 10:00	Music Together (Lawn) FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	10/2	8:00 a.m. 9:30 10:30	MENS FELLOWSHIP (Zoom) Music Together (Lawn) Music Together (Lawn)
Sunday	10/3	9:30 a.m. 9:30 4:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In Person & Live Stream) CHURCH SCHOOL (In Person) OASIS & Tidepool (Spring Glen Church)

*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.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Heather Rowe-Purcell, Onna & Sam Gott, Ben & Cole Purcell, Heidi Welch, Mary Cestaro, Tim Peiffer, Linda Shannon, Betsy Gumbart, and the family of David Bellonio.

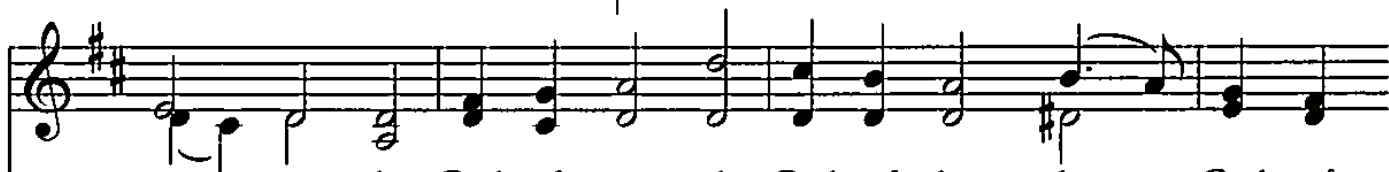
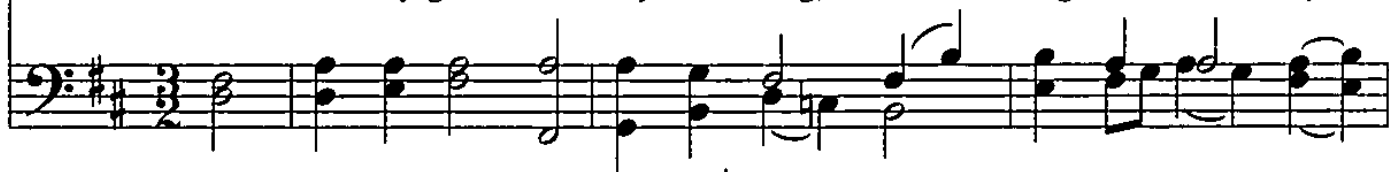
Flowers are given by Sue and John Tibor in loving memory of Sue's father Robert Banta who began his new life in heaven 8 years ago. His love of adventure and being near the water live on in his family; he is always in our hearts.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Raj Rose 9/26, Barbara Scheidecker 09/27, Jennifer Russo 09/27, Jillian Russo 09/27, Sarah Struk 09/28, Stephen Baraquin 09/29, Joyce Manzo 09/30, Robert Nielsen 10/01.

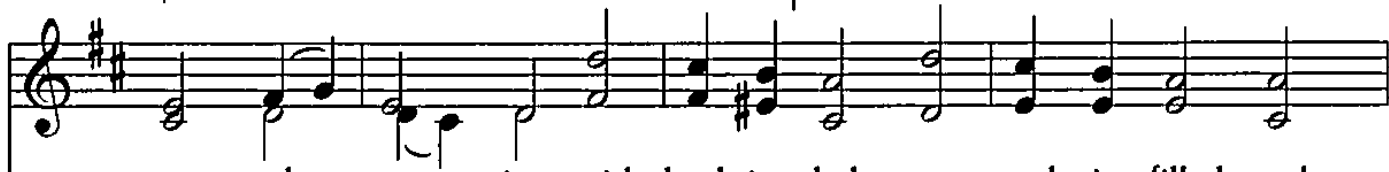
The Rev. Joe Perdue will be installed as Senior Pastor at First Congregational Church of Branford today at 2pm. A reception will follow. Those attending need to wear a mask. Please RSVP to office@firstcongregationalbranford.org .



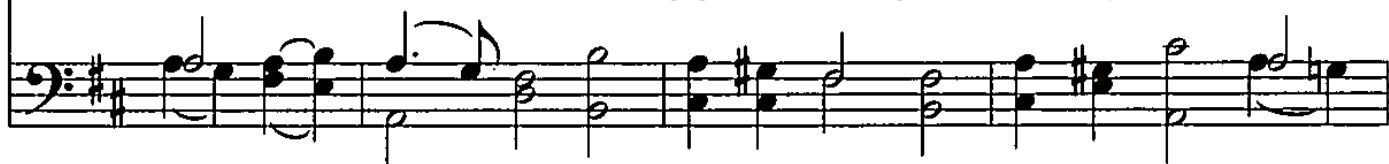
1 Sing praise to God, who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
2 What God's al-might-y power hath made, God's gra-cious mer - cy
3 Our God is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -
4 Thus all my glad-some way a - long, I sing a - loud thy



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
keep - eth: by morn-ing glow or eve-ning shade God's watch-ful
tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay, our peace, and
prais - es that all may hear the grate-ful song my voice un -

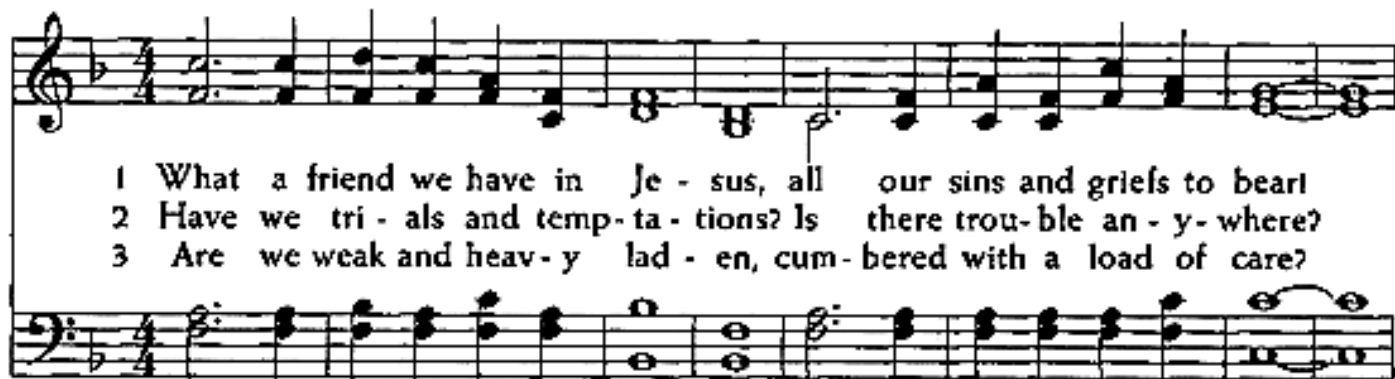


our sal - va - tion; with heal-ing balm my soul is filled, and
eye ne'er sleep - eth; with - in the shel - ter of God's might, let
joy, and bless - ing; as with a moth - er's ten - der hand, God
wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in your God, my heart! Both

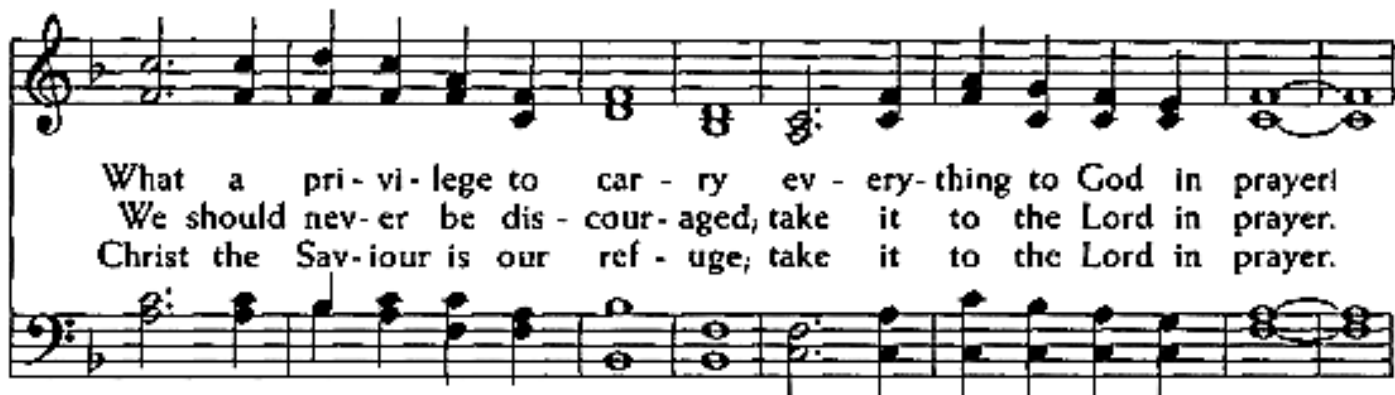


ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stilled:
all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
gent - ly leads the cho - sen band:
soul and bod - y take your part:

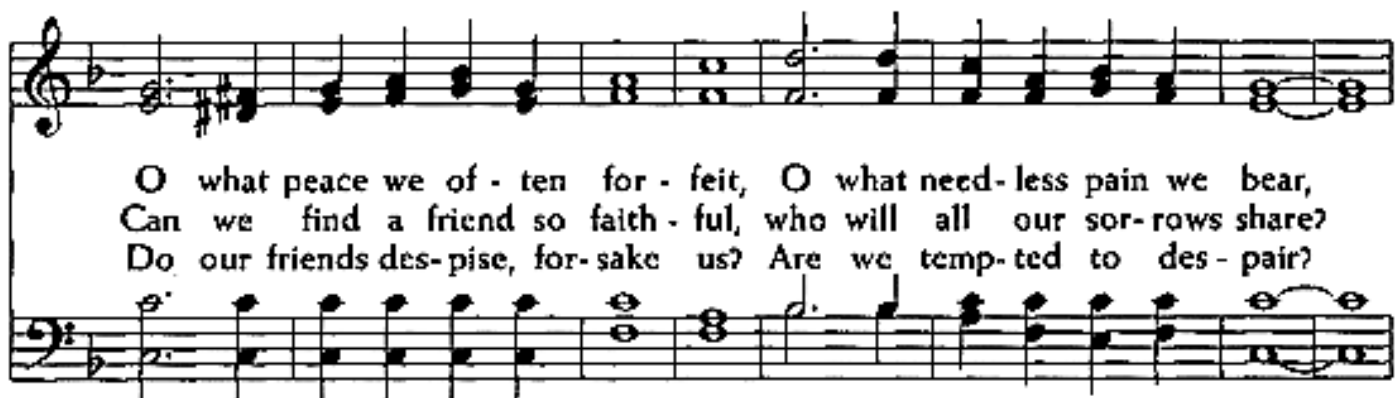




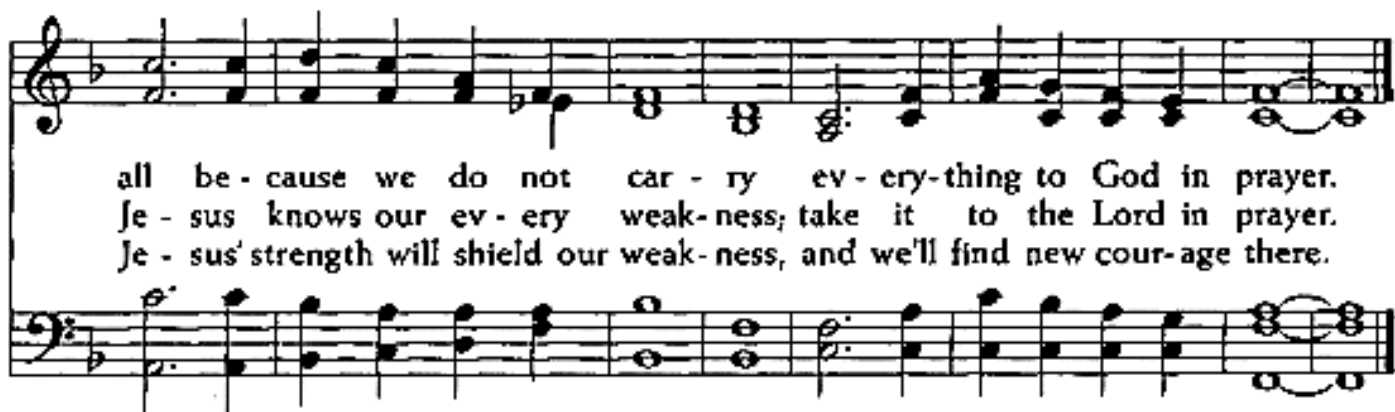
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a pri - vi - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged, take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Christ the Sav - iour is our ref - uge, take it to the Lord in prayer.



O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do our friends des - pise, for - sake us? Are we temp - ted to des - pair?



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness, take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Je - sus' strength will shield our weak - ness, and we'll find new cour - age there.