

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, November 21, 2021

9:30 a.m.

**Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 29
Reign of Christ
Thanksgiving Sunday**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Eduard Kremser

***OPENING HYMN:** "We Plough the Fields"

V520

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: The sun rises and it is light; night falls and it is dark.

PEOPLE: Bless the One who gives the life.

Leader: Sow the seed and cut the corn;
Bear the child and build the house.

PEOPLE: Bless the One who gives the life.

Leader: Lay the stone and light the fire;
Cast the net and water the earth.

PEOPLE: Bless the One who gives the life.

Leader: Serve the guest and pay the price;
Cut the wood and pick the flowers.

PEOPLE: Bless the One who gives the life.

Leader: Make the wine and bake the bread
Pour the wine and break the bread.

ALL: Bless the One who gives the life.**

From the Iona Community

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

Where there is peace in the heart, there is peace in the home.

Where there is peace in the home, there is peace in the community.

Where there is peace in the community, there is peace in the nation.

Where there is peace in the nation, there is peace in the world.

May peace begin here, right now, in each of our hearts. Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

Creator God, we come to celebrate the beauty and bounty of your good earth: glorious blue skies and blazing fall colors, fields ripe for harvest; gardens overflowing with goodness. Grant us thankful hearts, we pray. May our prayers and our lives overflow with gratitude. We offer this worship to your glory, now and always.** 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.

THE HARVEST TABLE OFFERING: "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

V519

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Joel 2:21-27

Page 835

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things!

Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before.

The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 6:25-33

Page 1152

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *For the Fruit of All Creation*

Text: Fred Pratt Green 1970

Welsh folk melody ca. 1784

Arr. Gary Snowbeck

Recorded by the North Haven Congregational Church Virtual Choir in November of 2020.



For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts of every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

Words © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, 380 S Main Pl, Carol Stream, IL 60188

Reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-719615. All rights reserved.

SERMON: “Choose to Be Thankful”

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:** “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

V291

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *March of the Pilgrims*

William Stickles

*Those who are able, please stand.

** Reprinted by permission of the publisher from *Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada*. Copyright © 2000 The United Church Publishing House.

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

The Thanksgiving Food is given by the congregation in celebration of Thanksgiving.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Linda Shannon, Betsey Gumbart, and Martha Swarney.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Peter Struk 11/21, Bruno Juliano 11/21 Rose Royka 11/25, Scott Morrow 11/26, Joan Bennett 11/26, Anna Woodruff 11/27, Cheryl Hall 11/27.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Cindy & Mark Luedee 11/28.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Angel Tree: We have struggled with how to carry out the Angel Project this year. We want to supply gifts for a specific child, unfortunately we have determined that this would cause logistical complications due to COVID restraints. Jesus taught us that all peoples are deserving. We therefore want to continue in a less satisfying way with the use of gift cards for the children.

Buy a gift card or cards in the amount of \$25 at Target or Walmart and send them to or leave them at the church. Alternatively, you may send a check to the church in any amount you want to give and we will buy gift cards. Please identify on the check it is for the angel project. Please have these to the church by SUNDAY DECEMBER 5th.

We prayerfully look to Easter when hopefully will provide Easter baskets for the children.

Wishing one and all a blessed Thanksgiving.

Kathy Harple

Women’s Fellowship Virtual Fair is coming soon—November 29th – December 8th! Items will be on the church website, with pictures and prices. Included this year are hand-made items, Christmas decorations, nearly new treasures and, of course, our fabulous assortment of baked goods—cakes, pies, breads, and cookies! Orders should be placed as soon as possible, since quantities are limited. Orders for baked goods will be taken until December 4th! Payment may be made online or by check payable to Women’s Fellowship. No refunds! Pick up date is December 12th from 11:30 to 1:30. Please wear a mask! Baker’s are needed! Would you consider baking a batch or two of your favorite cookies? Cookies are a big seller at the fair! If you would like to bake some cookies, please let Cheryl Bogert know (ca.bogert48@gmail.com or 203-208-4732). Thank you for supporting Women’s Fellowship.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	11/21	9:30 a.m. 9:30 4:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In Person & Live Stream) CHURCH SCHOOL (In Person) OASIS & Tidepool (Spring Glen Church)
Monday	11/22		
Tuesday	11/23	2:15 6:00 p.m. 6:00 7:00	STAFF MEETING (Zoom) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) NHOAH (L) Danish Sisterhood (K)
Wednesday	11/24		WINDOW MAILING
Thursday	11/25		THANKSGIVING (OFFICE CLOSED)
Friday	11/26		OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday	11/27		
Sunday	11/28	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.

*OPENING HYMN: "We Plough the Fields" V520

1 We plough the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far,
3 We thank you then, O Mak - er, for all things bright and good,

but it is fed and wa - tered by your al - migh - ty hand,
you paint the way - side flow - er, you light the even - ing star,
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food;

you send the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
ac - cept the gifts we of - fer for all your love im - parts,

the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give us dai - ly bread.
and, what from us you long for, our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Refrain

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heaven a - bove;

we thank you, God, O ho - ly God, for all your love.



1 Sing to the Lord of har-vest, sing songs of love and praise,
 2 God makes the clouds drop fat-ness, the des-erts bloom and spring,
 3 Bring to this sa-cred al-tar all things God's good-ness gave,



with joy-ful hearts and voi-ces your hal-le-lu-jahs raise,
 the hills leap up in glad-ness, the val-leys laugh and sing.
 the gold-en sheaves of har-vest, the souls Christ died to save:



by whom the roll-ing sea-sons in fruit-ful or-der move,
 God fills them all with full-ness, all things with large in-crease,
 your hearts lay down be-fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har-vest a joy-ful song of love.
 and crowns the year with good-ness, with plen-ty and with peace.
 and with your lives a-dore him who gave his life for all.



**WE GIVE
THANKS**

**TO
GOD**



**BE THANKFUL UNTO HIM, AND
BLESS HIS NAME. PSALM 100:4**

***CLOSING HYMN: "All Things Bright and Beautiful"**

Refrain (Unison)

G Am G C D G

*All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

G C Am G C D G *Fine*

all things wise and won - der - ful: in love, God made them all.

G C D G

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,
 ♦ 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4 The rock - y moun - tain splen - dour, the lone wolf's haunt - ing call,
 5 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

G Am D G C D G D.C.

God made their glow - ing col - ours, God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky;
 ♦ the ripe fruits in the gar - den: God made them ev - ery one.
 the great lakes and the prair - ies, the for - est in the fall,
 how great is God our mak - er, who has made all things well.

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.