

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, January 2, 2022**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Second Sunday after Christmas  
The Sacrament of Communion**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** *Pastoral Symphony*

G. F. Handel

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

**V216**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**PEOPLE: We understand God as creative voice in all the universe.**

Leader: Christ is life, a life-light that could not be overcome.

**PEOPLE: The impossible is possible – evil shall not overwhelm good.**

Leader: The human being who was preexistent voice, true shining, was rejected by the world and ill-received by his neighbors.

**ALL: The only-begotten God who is the prophet of Nazareth, gives us power to become children of God.\*\***

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

In this new year, O God, at this time of beginnings,  
we ask your blessing on the congregation of the  
North Haven Congregational Church and  
on the people of our community.

We pray for patience and courage  
as we seek a new hope and continue  
to walk the path of justice and peace  
Make us a people of compassion and welcome.  
Fill our hearts with song and our house  
with joy as we journey together.## Amen

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison**

Organ Amen

Jesus Christ, God with us, you came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. We have not always lived up to your expectations for us. We confess that too often we are dry in spirit; fill us with your grace. We are often wrapped up in ourselves; open us to others. We are sometimes slow to learn; teach us of your ever-expanding truth. We waste ourselves in things that do not satisfy; whet our hunger and thirst for justice. We are too soon scattered like grains of the field; gather us into a single loaf. We are frequently distracted of mind. Direct us to what is most important; your love for us, your will for our lives, and your sustaining presence in every circumstance.\*\* Amen.

~ silence ~

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Jeremiah 31:7-14

p. 723

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

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

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:** John 1:1-18

p. 1236

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

**GIFT OF MUSIC:** *The Little Drummer Boy*

Words and music by Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati and Harry Simeone  
Arranged for The Evergreen Quartet by Thomas Brand, Jeremy Hutchins and Oliver Soell

Recorded on Zoom meeting software, smart phones, and computer microphones by members of the NHCC Chancel Choir.

**MEDITATION:** "Steadfast Presence, New Beginnings"

Scott G. Morrow

**PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS  
PASTORAL PRAYER**

Organ Response

**THE OFFERTORY**

\*Doxology

\*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

**THE GREETING OF PEACE**

\***CLOSING HYMN:** "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

**V703**

\***THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Yuletide Postlude*

William Stickles

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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**In Our Prayers This Week are:** Linda Shannon, Betsy Gumbart, Marcia Foulds, Martha Swarney, Marlene Bellonio, Lorraine Burdge, Herb Schneider, Shirley Ryan, and Kerry Stewart.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Lily Corcoran 01/02, Kimberly Noel 01/05, Carl Flodquist 01/06, Bradley Schweickert 01/07, Kyle Brock 01/09.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 4:00 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP – Family Sunday</b> <b>(In Person &amp; Live Stream)</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>1/3</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1/4</b>	<b>12:30 p.m.</b> 6:00	<b>PLP (Library)</b> BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>1/5</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> 1:30 p.m. 5:30 7:00	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b> STAFF MEETING (Zoom) Girl Scout Meeting (CH) MLB (CH)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1/6</b>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> 5:00 6:30 7:00	<b>STAFF MEETING (Library)</b> Girl Scouts (DBL) Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR (Zoom)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1/7</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> 6:00 p.m.	<b>FOOD PANTRY OPEN</b> Girl Scout Meeting (CH)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1/8</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1/9</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 9:30 4:00 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP (In Person &amp; Live Stream)</b> CHURCH SCHOOL OASIS & Tidepool (Spring Glen Church)

\*Small print indicates non-Church function

**Bold print starts new day.**

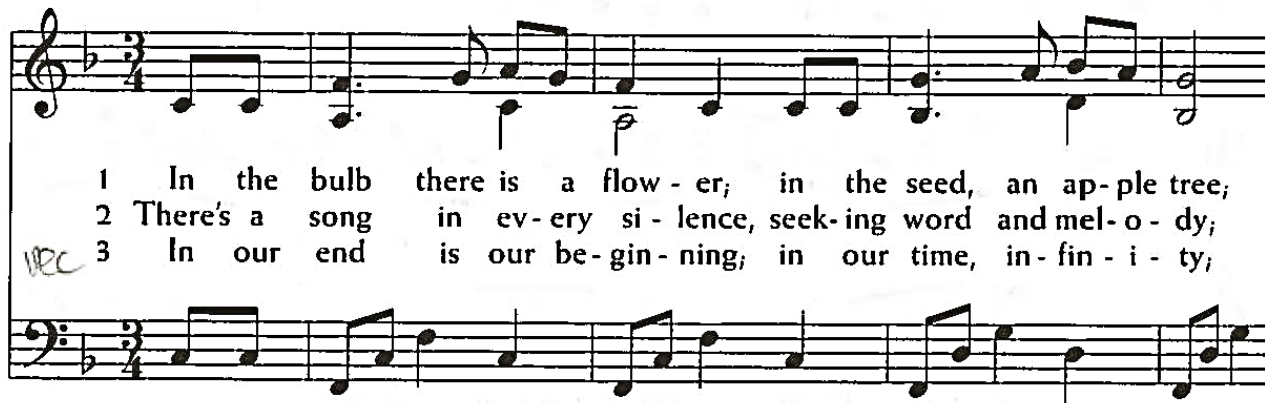
1 Sing praise to God, who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -  
 2 What God's al-might-y power hath made, God's gra-cious mer - cy  
 3 Our God is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -  
 4 Thus all my glad-some way a - long, I sing a - loud thy

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 -

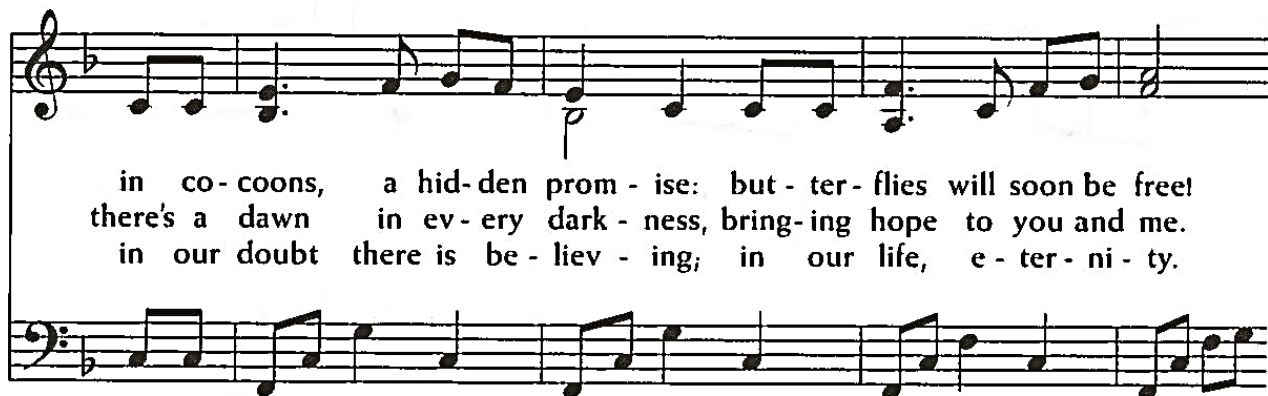
our sal - va - tion; with heal-ing balm my soul is filled, and  
 eye ne'er sleep - eth; with - in the shel - ter of God's might, lo!  
 joy, and bless - ing; as with a moth - er's ten - der hand, God  
 wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in your God, my heart! Both

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:

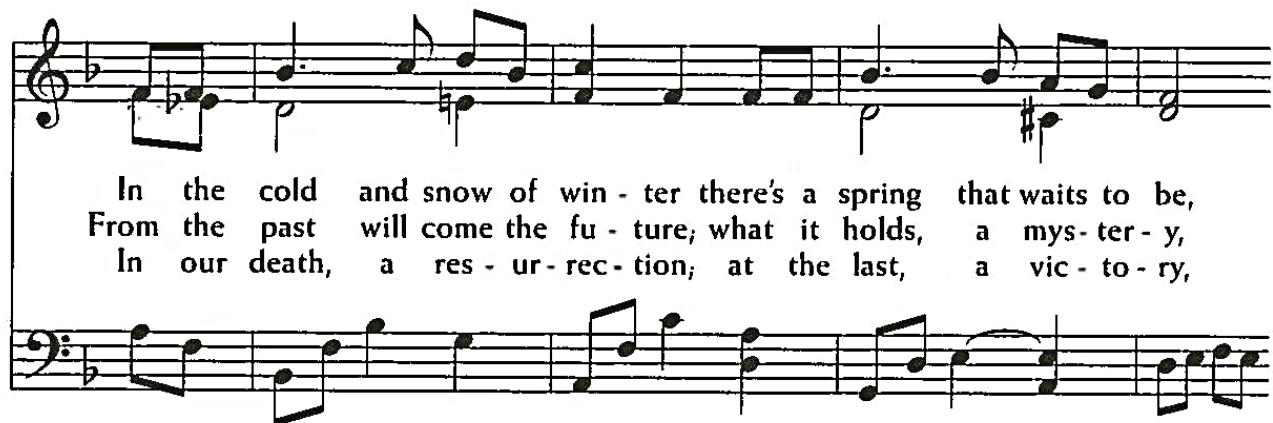
Unison



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;



in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,



un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

## 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](mailto:churchoffice@northhavenucc.org)  
Website: [northhavenucc.org](http://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.

