

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, September 25, 2022

9:30 a.m.

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Caring for all God's Precious Children**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***OPENING HYMN: "How Great thou Art"**

V 238

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We are here because we have heard the call of Jesus in our lives.

People: We are here to challenge & support one another to rise up and follow.

Leader: We are here because we want to be God's people.

People: We want to learn more about what it means to be the people of God.

Leader: We come, seeking to be moved, changed, and made whole by the Spirit of the living God.

All: Let us open our hearts to the moving of the Spirit, and prepare to leave this place as TRUE disciples of Christ. Amen.**

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

Wise and powerful God, give us the courage to acknowledge our weakness; grant us the wisdom to recognize our foolishness and to turn to you. Through Jesus Christ, bring your wisdom and your power into our lives, that we may join you in responsibility for healing the sufferings of the world. May we share in the quest to bring your future into our present, to bring your day of justice and love into this unjust and unloving world. Amen.**

***THE GLORIA "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" insert**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

God, your changes touch our lives with mystery and hope. We come to this place today, ready to see your power working through us. Help us to be open to your Word, and to answer your call among us. Through Jesus Christ we pray. 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Wayne Lavender

NOISY OFFERING

HYMN: "Spirit of Gentleness"

V375

First refrain and verse sung by members of choir

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: James 1:19-27 Page 1370

You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, for human anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 19:23-30 Page 1167

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

Then Peter said in reply, “Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my name’s sake will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

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

SERMON: Wealth, Camels, and Needles

Wayne Lavender

SLIDE SHOW & HYMN: “You Raise Me Up”

Josh Groban
(recording)

When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary
When troubles come and my heart burdened be
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence
Until You come and sit awhile with me.

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be.

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
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You raise me up to more than I can be.

You raise me up to more than I can be.

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS
PASTORAL PRAYER

Organ Response

THE OFFERTORY

*Doxology: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* insert
Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia

*Prayer of Dedication

GREETING OF PEACE ~unison

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

*CLOSING HYMN: "Here I am Lord"

V 509

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able, please stand.

**Flames of the Spirit: Resources for Worship, ed Ruth C. Duck,
Pilgrim Press, NY, 1985, page 116, #4.

##Flames of the Spirit: Resources for Worship, ed Ruth C. Duck,
Pilgrim Press, NY, 1985, page 70, #4.

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Greeters today are Sue Tibor and Cheryl Bogert. **Deacon** is John Tibor.
Scripture Reader is Cathy Welch. **The flowers** are given by Cynthia
Campos in dedication to the birthday celebration of Cathy Welch this
past August 28. **Coffee Hour** is hosted by Mary Johnston, Hans Hanson,
and Priscilla Bradford.

Special thanks to our guest organist this morning, Jurg Oggenfuss.
Jurg's first name is pronounced "Yerg". Welcome!

In Our Prayers This Week are: Linda Shannon, Betsy Gumbart,
Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Lorraine Burdge, Shirley Ryan, Joyce
Bellonio, Ellen Robert and Treffle Robert.

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.

Women's Fellowship is making apples to sell.

We are making 30 pies; sign up will be on a first come first serve
basis. You may sign up during coffee hour or by calling the church
office. The cost is \$12 for a 9 inch pie. The money is due by October
9th.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	9/25	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP – Caring for all God’s precious children (In-Person & Live Stream) Church School Pre-K-Grade 7 OASIS (Adventure Park, Bridgeport)
Monday	9/26	9:30 a.m. 10:30 6:30 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) New Haven Camera Club (CH)
Tuesday	9/27	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 12:30 p.m. 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Library) United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, Sanct.) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	9/28	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 5:30 p.m. 7:00	WINDOW MAILING Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Girl Scout Troop 60071 (K) Organist Search (Zoom)
Thursday	9/29	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	9/30	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	10/1	7:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 1:00 p.m. 2:00	MENS BREAKFAST (CH) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Rose Monaco Memorial Service Reception for Rose Monaco
Sunday	10/2	9:30 a.m. 10:45 4:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person & Live Stream) Church School Pre-K-Grade 7 FAITH FORMATION (K) OASIS Board Games (Spring Glen Church)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

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.

Bb Eb

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der,
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing,
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion

Bb F7 Bb

con - sid - er all the works thy hand hath made,
 I hear the birds sing sweet - ly in the trees;
 sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
 and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!

Eb

I see the stars, I hear the might - y thun - der,
 when I look down from loft - y moun - tain gran - deur
 that on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly bear - ing,
 Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion

Bb F7 Bb

thy power through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played.
 and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.
 he bled and died to take a - way my sin.
 and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain **Bb Eb Bb F**

Then sings my soul, my Sav - iour God, to thee, How great thou art!

Bb Eb

How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - iour God, to

Bb Eb F7 Bb

thee, How great thou art! How great thou art!

*THE GLORIA “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

HYMN: “Spirit of Gentleness” V375
First refrain and verse sung by members of choir

Refrain (Unison)

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow thro' the wil-der-ness

call - ing and free, Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,

stir me from plac - id - ness, Wind, Wind on the sea. Fine

Verses

D G A G D

1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
 2 You swept thro' the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes,

D Bm Bm7 E A

then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
 and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
 then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
 from the bond - age of sor - row the cap - tives dream dreams,

D G A G

and o - ver the e - ons you called to each
 and when they were blind - ed with their i - dols and
 and down in the cit - y you called once a -
 our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their

D Bm G

thing: — wake from your slum - bers
 lies, then you spoke thro' your proph - ets
 gain, when you blew thro' your peo - ple
 eyes, with bold new de - ci - sions

A7 D G/A D A D.C.

and rise on your wings.
 to o - pen their eyes.
 on the rush of the wind.
 your peo - ple a - rise.

Unison

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain,
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,

All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them; they turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Chord symbols: G, Am, G, C/G, G, D/F#, G, Em, Am7, C, Am, (F/G), D, D/C, G, Am/G, G, C/G, G, D/F#, G, Em7, Am7, Am/C, Am, G/B, Am7/C, Dsus-D

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have
heard you call-ing in the night. I will
go, Lord, if you lead me. I will
hold your peo - ple in my heart.

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

Julie Schweickert, Office Manager

Todd Swarney, Sexton

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Cambine, Mozambique

Our first home for children is the Carolyn Beleshe House For Children in Cambine. It was constructed in 2003-2005. 65 children call this home and several hundred have called it home in the past years.



Dondo, Mozambique

Our second home for children is the Mama Nocio House For Children in Dondo. It was constructed from 2016-2018. Today 24 children call it home with 12 more children set to arrive in the near future!



In 2011, Dr. Wayne Lavender accepted a teaching assignment at the University of Human Development in the Kurdish city of Sulaymaniyah, Iraq. During his time there, he established a chapter of the Foundation 4 Orphans. Wayne worked with university students from his university and colleges nearby to create a mentor program for orphans and vulnerable children in Iraq where ongoing wars and conflicts continue to claim many lives. F4O continues to work throughout the region—and has expanded its mission from mentoring children in need to visiting refugee camps for those fleeing either the Syrian regime or areas overrun by ISIS. The situation is different in Iraq than it is in Africa: instead of construction of orphanages, many orphans in Iraq have extended families ready and able to take them into their care. Yet these orphans are still vulnerable children and benefit tremendously from mentorship programs.

