

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Peace

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday, December 18, 2022

9:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* arr. by Mark Sedio

CHORAL INTROIT: *Came He Not in Fire* (Advent Introit)

African American Spiritual

Words & Music by William Farley Smith (1941-1997)

Chancel Choir

Came he not in fire, onward came the Lord.

Not in wind or rain, onward came the Lord.

Hail nor sleet or snow, onward came the Lord.

In a still small voice came he, onward came the Lord.

***OPENING HYMN: “People Look East”**

V9

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Advent summons us

PEOPLE: with the exuberant hopefulness of a small child.

Leader: Advent holds us spellbound

PEOPLE: with child-like wonder.

Leader: Advent challenges us

PEOPLE: to care for the littlest child.

ALL: Advent amazes us, for God was made known in a tiny child.**

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

We dream God’s dream, of a world at peace

Where enemies are reconciled, and children play in safety;

Where the poor and powerless find justice.

We remember God’s promise of a Ruler of Peace,

Filled with the Spirit of God, of wisdom and understanding,

Of counsel and might, of justice and faithfulness.

Come Lord Jesus! Open our lives to the Peace which you bring;

let us turn to you, and get ready!### Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison

We sing “O Come, All Ye Faithful”, God, but we confess that we are not always faithful. We could have shown love this past week, but we kept ourselves busy with other things. We spoke without thinking

and hurt someone. We treated the gifts and greetings and meals as chores, leaving out the most important ingredient – caring. We are sorry. Please forgive us and accept our worship.

Amid the colors that surround us this season – the red, the green, the gold – send the light of your Christ, that all that is good may be revealed more clearly and all that is wrong may be exposed and changed.

We pray in the name of Jesus, who was born in Bethlehem, who lived, and died for our sakes, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.*** Amen. ~ *silence* ~

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ALL: Thanks be to God

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

Choral 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 LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Jennifer Febbroriello & Gabriella DeLuca; Jackie Jennings and Thomas & Patricia

Scripture: John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Lighting the Candle of **Peace**

Prayer-*unison*

O Lord, stir up Thy power, we pray Thee, and come; and with great might help us, that with the help of Thy grace, Thy merciful forgiveness may hasten what our sins impede. You, O God, will live and reign forever. Amen.

Sung Response: “A Candle is Burning” v. 2

V6

A candle is burning, a candle of peace,
A candle to signal that conflict must cease:
For Jesus is coming to show us the way;
A message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

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

***HYMN:** “O Holy Spirit, Root of Life” **V379**

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 1:18-25 Page 1147

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

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

ANTHEM: *Soon and Very Soon* Andraé Crouch (1942-2015)
Chancel Choir

SERMON: “In the Name of Jesus” Scott Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY: *I Wonder As I Wander*

Appalachian Carol

*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 Child Is This”**

V74

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Glory Be to the Lord*

Godwin Sadoh

Based on a Nigerian hymn

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Deacon is Kathy Harple. **Scripture Reader** is Cathy Welch.

Guest Organist is Gail DeBoer. **Fellowship Hour** will be available after service, please come enjoy.

Poinsettias decorate the sanctuary in memory of family and friends of NHCC.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Ed Collett, Mabel Peterson, Stephen Simonson, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, and Ellen Robert.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Cynthia Boerma Campos 12/18, Carol Amico 12/19, Damon Quinn 12/19, Stefan McKosky 12/20, Rich Gallagher 12/22, Saydee Baldino 12/24.

ADVENT NIGHT



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poinsettias Fund

We have poinsettias that decorate the sanctuary during the Advent season. Contributions may be put into the poinsettias envelopes found in the pews and placed in the offering plates or left in the church office. The contributions that exceed the cost of the poinsettias will be donated to Outreach for urgent community needs. Please make a note if the donation is made in memory or in honor of a loved one.

Family in Need after house fire – please bring donations to the church office.



Family in need of clothing:

Mom-Shirt:Large, Pants:Large, Shoes 7.5

Dad-Shirt:2XL, Pants: 38/30, Shoes 11

Two Sons:Young Adults- Shirt M/L, Pants L (32/30) Shoes 10.5-11

Daughter:18 yr old-Shirt M, Pants M, Shoes 8-8.5

Grandma:Shirt 1X, Pants 1x, Shoes 8.5 wide

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	12/18	9:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	WORSHIP– (In-Person & Live Stream) OASIS CHRISTMAS PARTY (CH)
Monday	12/19	6:00 p.m.	CT Record Club (CH)
Tuesday	12/20	9:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) PLP (Library) United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, S) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	12/21	9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	WINDOW DEADLINE CLEANING (Sang) Girl Scout Troop 60071 (K)
Thursday	12/22	7:00 p.m.	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	12/23		
Saturday	12/24	4:30p.m. 10:00	CHRISTMAS EVE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT LESSONS & CAROL SERVICE
Sunday	12/25	9:30 a.m.	CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP– (In-Person & Live Stream)
Monday	12/26	9:30 a.m.	OFFICE CLOSED AA (K)
Tuesday	12/27	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:30	OFFICE CLOSED Al-Anon (K) Danish Sisterhood (K) United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, Sanct)

*Small print indicates non-Church function
Bold print starts new day.

Church 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

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
 ♦ 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
 5 Ang - els, an - nounce with shouts of mirth

of the crown - ing of the year.
 ♦ one more seed is that plant - ed there:
 guard the nest light that must be filled;
 one more the nest light that must be filled;
 Christ who brings the new life shall brim,
 earth.

Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 ♦ give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 ev - en the hour when wings are fro - zen
 shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 ♦ that in course the flow - er may flour - ish.
 God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

Peo - ple, look east and sing to - day:

Peo - ple, look east: Love the guest is on the way.
 Love the rose is on the way.
 Love the bird is on the way.
 Love the star is on the way.
 Love the Lord is on the way.

Peo - ple, look east:



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre - a - tor,
 2 E - ter - nal Vig - our, sav - ing one, you free us
 3 O Ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing power, en - com - pass

cleans - er of all things, a - noint our wounds, a -
 by your liv - ing word, be - com - ing flesh to
 us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -

wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
 wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
 cir - cling all, a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

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.

Em D G D

1 What child is this, who laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come,

Em Am B Em D G

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for
 one and all, to own him. The King of Kings sal -

D Em Am B Em

an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain Bm G D Em Am B

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;

Bm G D Em Am B Em

haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!



With gratitude, we share the names of those who have pledged to support the annual budget of 2023:

Elizabeth Anderson
Larry & Lori Ballantyne
Joyce Bellonio
Martin & Patience Benassi
Jim & Joan Bennett
Mark & Laurel Bessette
Cheryl Bogert
Priscilla Bradford
Elaine Burr
Marc & Martha Butterworth
Sandy Carter
Ed & Mary Ellen Collett
Susan Compton
Kim & Tom Coughlin
George & Flo Coulston
Lisa & Joe DeGrand
Carmen & Melissa Deluca
Paula Diehl
Jim & Leslie Dockendorff
Ken & Ann Dubar
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Gail Fulop
Rich & Jody Gallagher
Merrilee & George Gladkosky
Tom & Wendy Glynn
Betsy Gumbart
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Linda & George Silk
Stephen & Linda Simonson
Anthony & Cheryl Solecki
Peter & Victoria Struk
John & Sue Tibor
Audry Tilley
Doris Vigliotto
Tracy & David Weiss
Cathy Welch

as of 12/13/2022