



North Haven, Connecticut An Open & Affirming Congregation

#### NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Sunday, January 29, 2023

# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Annual Congregational Meeting

## **GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** Now All the Woods are Sleeping BWV 756 J. S. Bach

CHORAL INTROIT: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Words and Music by Ken Medema

Sung by the Chancel Choir

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us Love, send pow'r, send us Grace.

\*OPENING HYMN: "Arise, Your Light Is Come"

#### **\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Come, all who are poor in spirit; come, all who mourn; come, all who are meek; come, all who hunger and thirst after righteousness.

#### PEOPLE: Come, all who would be merciful; come, all who would be pure in heart; come, all who would be peacemakers.

- Leader: Let us come together the weak and the simple, the powerless and the foolish.
- **PEOPLE:** Let us confess that the source of our life is Christ. Jesus.

## ALL: Let us worship the God of every blessing\*\*

## \*LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison

Show us your mercy, O Lord; And grant us your salvation. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

9:30 a.m.

V 79

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten; Nor the hope of the poor be taken away. Create in us clean hearts, O God; And sustain us by your Holy Spirit.<sup>##</sup> Amen. Book of Common Prayer 1979

#### **\*THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.

#### **PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**~unison

We have come before you, O God, like those who gathered around Jesus on a faraway hill, long ago, to find new meaning for our lives. We want our lives to sound in harmony with your song of love. We want to live with integrity and wisdom, with a spirit of truth. Do not disappoint us, God, but allow us to know your presence and hear your voice. Come among us, holy God, for we pray in the name of Jesus.\*\* Amen.

Choral Amen **THE LORD'S PRAYER** (trespasses) 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**

**THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON**: Micah 6:1-8 Page 854 Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

#### **P513**

Karlee Etter

"With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high?

- Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
- Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
- He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

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

**\*HYMN:** "All My Hope is Firmly Grounded"

V 654

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**: Matthew 5:1-12 Page 1150 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

# HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

#### **GIFT OF MUSIC:** We Are One in the Bond of Love Words and Music by Otis Skillings (1935-2004) Sung by the Chancel Choir

We are one in the bond of love, We are one in the bond of love, We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God, We are one in the bond of love.

Let us sing now, every one, Let us feel God's love begun; Let us join our hands that the world will know We are one in the bond of Love.

SERMON: "The Kingdom of Heaven has Come Near" Scott Morrow

# PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONSPASTORAL PRAYERChoral Response

THE OFFERTORY: Sonatina for Worship No. 2 Offertory

Robert W. Jones

\*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: O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" V 560

## **\*THE BENEDICTION**

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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## http://www.godweb.org/prayer/prayersforpeace.htm - retrieved 1/13/17

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**Deacon** is Peter Hall. Scripture Reader is Jim Bennett.

**In Our Prayers This Week are:** In Our Prayers This Week are: Merrilee & George Gladkosky, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, & Ellen Robert.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Alan Conley 01/31, Craig Miller 01/31, Sophie Grant 02/04.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place immediately following worship this morning, the Annual Report is available in the narthex.

> NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC 28 CHURCH STREET \* NORTH HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06473 (203) 239-5691 \* FAX (203) 234-1751 AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

#### CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

January 29, 2023 10:45 a.m.

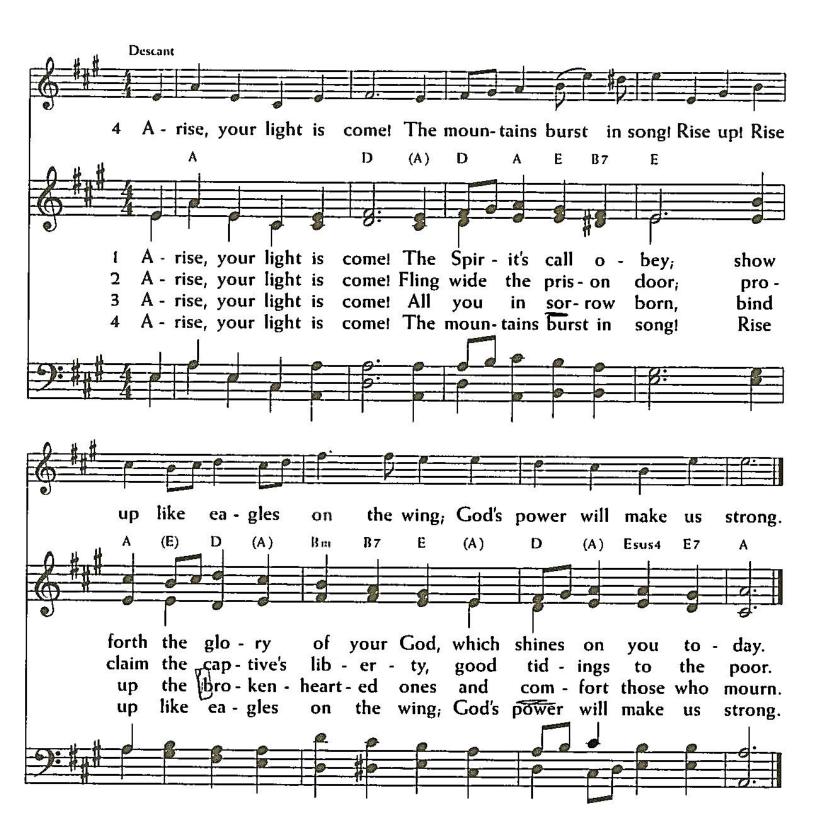
#### AGENDA

Call to Order Opening Prayer Moderator's Convening Statement Approval of Minutes of January 30, 2022 Annual Meeting Acceptance of Non-Financial Reports Acceptance of Endowment Report Acceptance of Treasurer's Report Approval of Budget for 2023 Election of Officers Election of Ministry Leadership Board Members Any Other Business That May Come Before This Meeting Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted, James B. Bennett, Church Clerk In case of postponement for any reason, the meeting will be held on February 5, 2023

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*				
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REAKFAST				
Live Stream)				
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\*Small print indicates non-Church function Bold print starts new day.



**\*HYMN:** "All My Hope is Firmly Grounded"

Unison Ø AII 1 my hope is firm - ly ground ed iп our great and 2 Tell me, who can trust our па ture, hu - man, weak, and 3 But in ev - ery time and sea son, out of love's a -4 Thank, O thank, our great Cre a tor, through God's on - ly liv - ing Lord; who, when - ev ег 1 most need him, nev ег in - se - cure? Which of all the air - y cas - tles can the bun - dant store, God sus - tains the whole cre - a - tion, fount of this day; Son God a - lone, the heaven-ly pot - ter, made us 0 fails to keep his word. God I must whol - ly hur ri - cane en dure? Built оп sand, naught can life for - ev er more. We who share earth and out of earth and clay. Quick to heed, strong in Ð O P 8 trust, God the ev er good and just. stand by our earth ly wis dom planned. air count on God's un fail ing care. deed, God shall all the peo ple feed. Θ Ď σ D

V 654

\*CLOSING HYMN: O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"



V 560

## 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.

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