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North Haven Congregational Church United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut An Open & Affirming Congregation

NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, April 16, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*OPENING HYMN: "The Day of Resurrection" V164

CHORAL INTROIT: We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Sung by the Chancel Choir Text: Henry Alford

Tune: Samuel McFarland (1814)

Harmonization: Richard Proulx (1986)

1. We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

- 2. We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod; but in your promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
- 3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Christ our Savior is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

PEOPLE: Break forth into joy! Sing together!
God comforts those whose hearts are broken in sorrow.

Leader: We who once suffered in death, we who once cried in despair-

PEOPLE: Now we know victory over death! Now we know joy over despair!

ALL: For God has raised Christ from the grave!

The tomb is empty and death has been defeated for all the earth!**

*LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison

Oh God, you made yourself known to us in the person of Jesus, and now you are made flesh in all people.

Let us be a community of the incarnation, a people who sorrow, suffer, hope and rejoice with all human beings.

Let us be Christ to one another. Let us be peace.## Amen.

*THE GLORIA PATRI

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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

God of Resurrection, we cry out to you as empty people in a fractured world. We live in a world of Good Fridays: where the innocent suffer and die, where midday shadows smother the light, where hopes and dreams dissolve, where evil seems to triumph. God of Resurrection, we long to discover your presence, we long to feel the rhythm of your power, we stumble toward the tombs in our lives and long to find them empty. Bring Easter to our hearts, to our eyes and ears, to our lives, this morning. In the name of Christ, whose life and love could not be stamped out, whose resurrection hope is the hope which plants love and laughter in our lives and lures them to sprout and bloom and blossom like spring flowers in the morning sun, we say,** Amen.

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.

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karlee Etter

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Page 1262 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

"Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* HYMN: "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks"

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 Peter 1:3-9 Page 1374 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the

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genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

ANTHEM: *The Triumph of Our King* by Angela Birkhead-Flight Sung by the Chancel Choir

An empty tomb, an angel bright proclaim the resurrected Christ: "Why look among the dead? He is risen, as he said, and heaven's doors flung open wide."

Through the waters flowing still and deep and the Holy Spirit's fire and heat, in Christ we are redeemed, and our song of freedom rings throughout Earth and Heaven we join and sing: Alleluia!

So the Lamb of God who once was slain has triumphed and begun his reign! So death where is your sting, in the victory of our king and his gift of life eternally? Yes, death now has no sting, for the triumph of our king is his gift of life eternally.

SERMON: "A Ministry of Encouragement" Scott Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY

*Doxology

Tune: Lasst uns erfruen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! &&

*Prayer of Dedication

GREETING OF PEACE ~unison

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

*CLOSING HYMN: "Fairest Lord Jesus" V341

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

- *Those who are able, please stand.
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- Permission to reprint, podcast, and stream the music in this service is obtained from One License with license #A-719615.
- Deacon is Cathy Welch. Scripture Reader is Susan Compton.
- **Today's flowers** are given in celebration of Herb & Ann Schneider's 65th anniversary on April 12th from the Bennett's and the entire Congregation.
- **Fellowship Hour** is hosted by Peter & Cheryl Hall. Come down after worship and enjoy time together.
- We extend a very warm and enthusiastic welcome to Heather Meachen, the new Church Organist! It is a joy to have her talents grace our worship service this morning. We offer Heather our congratulations and look forward to wonderful musical collaboration together!
- In Our Prayers This Week are: Merrilee & George Gladkosky, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Ellen Robert, and David Gould.
- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Betsy Gumbart 04/17, Carla Hill 04/17, Lauren Campos 04/22, Larry Ballantyne 04/22.
- **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Martin & Patience Benassi 04/16, Merrilee & George Gladkosky 04/19.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	4/16	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream)
Monday	4/17	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
·		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
		6:30 p.m.	New Haven Camera Club (K)
Tuesday	4/18	9:30 a.m.	Al-Anon (K)
		9:30	Music Together (DBL)
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
		12:00 p.m.	BUILDING & GROUNDS (H)
		12:00	PLP (Parking Lot/Library)
		1:00	Danish Sisterhood (K)
		3:30	United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, Sanct)
		6:00	BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	4/19		WINDOW DEADLINE
		9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
		10:00	FOOD PANTRY
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
		5:15 p.m.	PASTORAL RELATIONS (Zoom)
Thursday	4/20	11:00 a.m.	ENDOWMENT (H)
		5:15 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 60151 (K)
		7:00	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	4/21	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
		10:00	FOOD PANTRY
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	4/22	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	4/23	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream)
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^{*}Small print indicates non-Church function **Bold print starts new day.**

BOY SCOUT TROOP 811 will hold their annual Ziti Dinner at Faith United Methodist Church, 81 Clintonville Road, on Saturday April 22nd from 5:00 – 7:30pm. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$8 for kids; children 5 and under and Scouts in uniform are free! There is a \$2 discount for seniors and military. The dinner is served restaurant style with table serving by the Scouts; takeout orders are also available. For tickets or information contact Michael Wurm, Scoutmaster, 203-530-4731 or troopmaster811@sbcglobal.net.

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
Heather Meachen, Organist
Julie Schweickert, Office Manager
Todd Swarney, Sexton

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.





*CLOSING HYMN: "Fairest Lord Jesus" V341









Need a Spiritual Boost?

Did the Lenten Season and Holy Week leave you wanting to deepen your relationship with Christ? Give yourself the gift of a fantastic **Renewal Weekend** from Footsteps in the Sand.

Footsteps in the Sand is a non-denominational community of Christians, from churches in our area, that seek to bring people closer to Christ and help develop leaders for the local church.

Contact: Cathy Welch at kwelch@snet.net or Tim Peiffer at thepeiffs@yahoo.com for more information. Men's and Women's weekend are now excepting registrations.

Men's Weekend May 19-21 Women's Weekend June 2-4

Go to our website: Footsteps-Sand.org