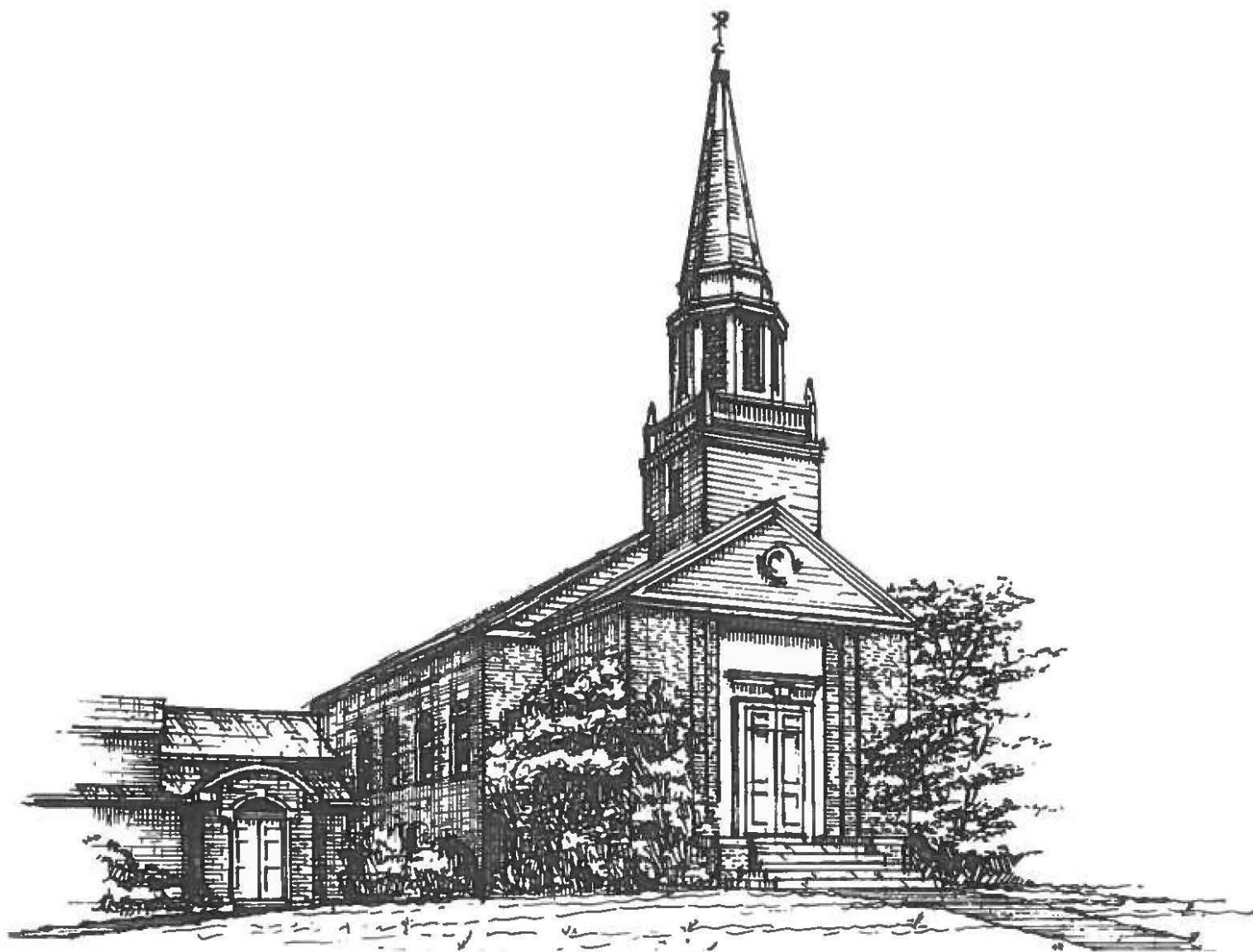


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North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven Congregational Church

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, July 23, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 11

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *St. Columba*

Robert Groves

***OPENING HYMN:** "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

V339

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We come to worship lonely or empty or frightened.

PEOPLE: We come to worship sick or grieving or discouraged.

Leader: We come from households spiky with anger. We come from unfinished projects, ruined plans, multiple irritations.

PEOPLE: We come from broken diets, hidden drinking, unanswered email, and a week without bedtime prayers.

Leader: We turn away from news and local opportunities to help someone.

ALL: From inadequacy we seek God's wholeness; from delinquency we seek God's forgiveness; from self-imposed impotence we hope to be freed for love and service by the Gospel's power.** *Maren C. Tirabassi*

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

O God of many names, lover of all nations,
we pray for peace

in our hearts, in our homes, in our nations, in our world.

For the peace you willed, we pray.^{##} Amen. George Appleton V693

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

P513

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

Merciful God, Just God, Faithful God, God of blessing and God of our most difficult times, we come to you for a moment of quiet in our self-made busyness. We come to you for energy in our weariness. We come to you for challenge when we are willing to settle for our own small plans and dreams. We long for the peace of your presence, even as we are afraid of the urgency of your call. Enter, Spirit of God, into our community and enable us to love and serve you and all your children.** Amen. *Maren C. Tirabassi*

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 FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 Page 931

For neither is there any god besides you whose care is for all people, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly,

For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all. For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power, and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it. Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge fairly, and with great forbearance you govern us, for you have power to act whenever you choose.

Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous must be kind, and you have filled your children with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** "Come Down, O Love Divine"

V367

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Page 1160

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of

the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

SERMON: “Keeping Down the Weeds”

Joseph Tobin

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

John Carter

*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. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

GREETING OF PEACE ~*unison*

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** “Praise to God”

V243

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Postlude*

Robert W. Jones

*Those who are able, please stand.

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In Our Prayers This Week are: Merrilee & George Gladkosky, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Ellen Robert, Herb and Ann Schneider, Meg Adams, and David Gould.

We welcome back **Joe Tobin** as our guest Preacher and **Gail DeBoer** as our substitute Organist today. **Deacons** are Tim Peiffer and Peter Hall. **Scripture Reader** is Tim Peiffer. **Greeter** is Doris Ferner.

Today's flowers are given by Kathy Harple. These flowers are given for my brother David who went to be with the Lord 14 years ago on the 25th. He loved family and the great outdoors. He was a crazy fool who still makes me laugh. I miss him so much.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: George Silk 07/24, Heather Mastracchio 07/24, Martina Benassi 07/25, Vivian Shipley-Harris 07/26 James Shea 07/27, Kristin Lynch 07/29.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Stephen & September Baraquin 07/23.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	7/23	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream)
Monday	7/24	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
Tuesday	7/25	9:30 a.m. 9:30 12:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Parking Lot)
Wednesday	7/26	9:30 a.m. 10:00	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY
Thursday	7/27		
Friday	7/28	9:30 a.m. 10:00	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY
Saturday	7/29	9:30 a.m. 10:30	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	7/30	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

Descant

4 Be this while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine,

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ening cries:
 2 To God, the Word on high, the hosts of an - gels cry:

1 Quand le so - leil se lè - ve et quand le jour s'a - chè - ve:
 2 Au Cré - a - teur l'ou - vra - ge de ses mains rend hom - ma - ge:

may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let mor - tals, too, up - raise

bé - ni soit Jé - sus Christ! Pour dire son al - lé - gres - se
 bé - ni soit Jé - sus Christ! LÉ - glise en sa pré - sen - ce

through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 their voice in hymns of praise: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

mon coeur à Dieu s'a - dres - se: bé - ni soit Jé - sus Christ!
 chan - te l'a - mour im - men - se: bé - ni soit Jé - sus Christ!

3 Let all of humankind
 in this their concord find:
 may Jesus Christ be praised!
 Let all the earth around
 ring joyous with the sound:
 may Jesus Christ be praised!

4 Be this, while life is mine,
 my canticle divine:
 may Jesus Christ be praised!
 Be this th' eternal song,
 through all the ages long:
 may Jesus Christ be praised!

Descant

3 The year - ing strong, with which the soul will long

1 Come down, O love di - vine, seek now this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the year - ing strong with which the soul will long

shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;
 and vis - it it with your own ar - dour glow - ing.
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

for none can guess its grace, till love cre - ates the place
 O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let your glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till love cre - ates the place

where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes its dwell - ing.
 and kin - dle it, your ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, my on - ward path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes its dwell - ing.

*CLOSING HYMN: "Praise to God"

V243

1 Praise to God, praise to God, for the green-ness of the trees,
2 Thanks to God, thanks to God, for the gift of friends in Christ,
3 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, for the grace of Christ, the Son,

for the beau-ty of the flowers, for the blue-ness of the sky,
for the church, our house of faith, for the gift of won-drous love,
for the love of par-ent God, for the com-fort and the strength

for the great-ness of the sea. Praise to God, praise to God,
for the gift of end-less grace. Thanks to God, thanks to God,
of the Spir-it, ho-ly God. Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God,

now and for - ev - er - more.
now and for - ev - er - more.
now and for - ev - er - more.

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