

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, July 30, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 12

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Herr Jesu Christ, Dich Zu Und Wend'

"Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" Johann G. Walther

***OPENING HYMN:** "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" V 325

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We have been called to walk the faithful road and to choose the way of God's justice.

PEOPLE: We are here because we believe strongly that our God is good, and that we live in that goodness. We are here to proclaim our faith and to seek direction along this faith journey.

Leader: Come together, then, to be God's people. Follow Christ and listen for the good things that God has done. Rise up in praise and thanksgiving!

ALL: We will share with others the goodness that we have found in God. May our lives be an expression of that goodness.** *Sandra E. Graham*

***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**

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*

O God, our joy and our comfort, we gather in your name to give thanks for all the gifts of this day. Our spirits abound with your gift of joy. Of all the many things we have received from your hand, the flame of joy is the most precious. We have also come to this hour of prayer bearing in our hearts the sorrows of our world. Comfort us with your presence that we may be strengthened to continue to proclaim your goodness and deliverance in all the earth; through Jesus Christ our Savior. ** Amen. *Margaret Gay MacKinnon Godfrey*

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: 1 Kings 3:5-12 Page 302

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** "I Sing the Mighty Power"

V 231

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

SERMON: “Growing Our Faith”

Joseph Tobin

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY

*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!

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: O Gott, Du Frommer Gott BWV 767

"O God Thou Faithful God"

J. S. Bach

*Those who are able, please stand.

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We welcome back **Joe Tobin** as our guest Preacher today. **Deacon** is Tim Peiffer.

Lemonade and Fellowship on the lawn provided by Dot Pierce and Carol Mitchell.

Today's flowers are given by Cathy Welch to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the blessing of my beautiful daughter Amy who celebrated her birthday on July 27th.

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.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	7/30	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream)
Monday	7/31	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
Tuesday	8/1	9:30 a.m. 9:30 12:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Parking Lot)
Wednesday	8/2	9:30 a.m. 10:00 7:00 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY Lions Club (CH)
Thursday	8/3	6:30 p.m.	Mothers of Twins (CH)
Friday	8/4	9:30 a.m. 10:00 6:30 p.m. 7:30	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY CT Area Al-Anon (CH) Movie Night on the Green
Saturday	8/5	9:30 a.m. 7:30 9:30 10:30	ONLINE AUCTION PICKUP (Chapel) MENS FELLOWSHIP (CH) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	8/6	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP(In-Person & Live Stream)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Caitlin Elizabeth Thalken 08/02, William Adams 08/05, Brie Rose 08/06.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Jim & Leslie Dockendorff 08/01, Rebecca & Alan Conley 08/04, Barbara & Richard Massey 08/05.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On-Line Fundraising Auction

The On-Line Fundraising Auction to help support our church budget is live. Bidding is ongoing and closes early on Monday evening, tomorrow.

Details can be found on-line at the link:

<https://www.auctionninja.com/clearinghousestatesales/sales/details/north-haven-ct-church-charity-auction-11429.html>

Winning bidders can pick up their items only on Saturday August 5 between 9:30 am and 11:30 am

Thank you to church members for their gracious donations. They made this fundraiser possible: Kim Coughlin, Doris Ferner, SueBeth and Robert Higgins, Joyce and Ted Manzo, Sarah Munson, Anne Schneider, Susan Guckert, Sue and John Tibor, Joan Bennett, Sue Compton, Patience and Martin Benassi, Barbara Massey, Cheryl Bogart, Nancy Mahoney, Beth Anderson and Heather Meachen.

Any questions can be directed to The B Team, Patience Benassi, Martin Benassi, Priscilla Bradford and Martha Butterworth

Free Movie Night on the North Haven Town Green, Sponsored by Pond Hill Baptist Church. Thursday, August 4th, fun starts at 7:30pm. The movie is “Family Camp”, a funny, faith movie. “When two polar-opposite families are forced to camp together, the dads struggle to hold onto their families and marriages as they compete for the coveted camp trophy.” There will be Free: Popcorn, Bottled Water, Flavor Ice, Family Games, and Raffle.

Festivities will begin around 7:30, with the movie starting at dusk. Bring your lawn chairs, picnic blankets and flashlights.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE:

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

This holiday season, travel back in time to Bethlehem as the original Christmas story unfolds all around you. Journey alongside Mary and Joseph, a flock of surprised shepherds, and three wisemen—along with their camels! There may be no room at the inn, but God has a lowly stable prepared as the angels announce the coming of the Messiah!

Experience MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS as it comes to life on stage with massive sets and live animals in this cherished holiday production from Sight & Sound Theatres.®

SIGHT & SOUND
THEATRES

MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS

A 2-day bus trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA, to see

The Miracle of Christmas,
December 6-7, 2023.

This trip is open to **EVERYONE**—all church members and their families and friends!

Please see Carol Mitchell or Dot Pierce for a flyer and registration form. Deposit of \$100 is due at registration, and the balance is due no later than October 1.

Reservations are limited, so please sign up ASAP. Don't miss the opportunity to see this show. Sign up today!



*OPENING HYMN: "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" V 325

Descant

4 Laud and hon-our to the Fa-ther, laud and hon-our to the Son,

1 Christ is made the sure foun-da-tion, Christ the head and cor-ner-stone,
 2 To this tem-ple where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, to-day;
 3 Here be-stow on all your ser-vants what they ask of you to gain,
 4 Laud and hon-our to the Fa-ther, laud and hon-our to the Son,

laud and hon-our to the Spir-it, ev-er three and ev-er one,
 cho-sen of the Lord, and pre-cious, bind-ing all the church in one,
 with your faith-ful lov-ing-kind-ness hear your ser-vants as they pray,
 what they gain from you for ev-er with the bless-ed to re-tain,
 laud and hon-our to the Spir-it, ev-er three and ev-er one,

one in might, and one in glo-ry, while un-end-ing a-ges run.

ho-ly Zi-on's help for ev-er, and its con-fi-dence a-lone.
 and your full-est be-ne-dic-tion shed with-in its walls al-way.
 and here-af-ter in your glo-ry ev-er-more with you to reign.
 one in might, and one in glo-ry, while un-end-ing a-ges run.

1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun - tains rise,
 2 I sing the good - ness of the One who filled the earth with food;
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes your glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
 who formed the crea - tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.
 and clouds a - rise, and tem - pests blow, by or - der from your throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 O God, your won - ders are dis - played where - 'er I turn my eye;
 while all that bor - rows life from you is ev - er in your care,

the moon shines full at God's com - mand and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
 and ev - ery - where that I may be, you, God, are pres - ent there.

*CLOSING HYMN: "We Are Pilgrims" vs. 1-4

V595

Chords: Eb, Ab, Eb/sus4, Eb, Cm, Cm7

1 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low trav - ellers
 2 Sis - ter, let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing, when you laugh I'll

Chords: Fm7, Bb, Ab, Eb, Ab, Fm, Eb

on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
 Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you; I will share your joy and sor - row,

Chords: Fm7, Bb, Bb7, Eb

walk the mile and bear the load.
 let you be my ser - vant too.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.



FRI, AUG 4 AT 7:30 PM

North Haven Congregational Church Presents...

Miracle of Christmas

December 6-7, 2023



Day 1: Our travels take us to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. This morning we **depart at 8:00 a.m. from North Haven Congregational Church at 28 Church Street, North Haven, CT.** We stop for lunch at the lovely **Lititz Springs Inn and Spa** before taking an Amish tour with a local guide. Our guide will share with us the life of the Amish and give us understanding of the Amish culture. After, we check-in to our accommodations for the evening, **The Cork Factory Hotel.** This 19th Century building once housed the historic Armstrong Cork and Kerr Glass Companies. There is time to freshen up before we sit back and enjoy **dinner.** (L,D)

Day 2: This morning, a **full breakfast** is included before travelling into the heart of Lancaster County to take our reserved seats at **Sight & Sound Theatre** for their production of **"Miracle of Christmas."** This holiday season, travel back in time to Bethlehem as the original Christmas story unfolds all around you. Journey alongside Mary and Joseph, a flock of surprised shepherds, and three wisemen—along with their camels! There may be no room at the inn, but God has a lowly stable prepared as the angels announce the coming of the Messiah! Experience **MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS** as it comes to life on stage with massive sets and live animals in this cherished holiday production. After, we travel to **Kitchen Kettle Village,** known to be a quick stop where we stock up on jams and jellies and other local crafts. Here, we have time here for lunch, on own. This afternoon, we travel home with great memories of a more stylish side of Lancaster County PA. (B)

\$409 pp Double | \$369 pp Triple | \$469 Single

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Carol Mitchell | 203-668-0608

Checks Payable: Tours of Distinction