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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, September 24, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 20 Family Sunday

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Praeludium Simon Sechter

*OPENING HYMN: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" V264

CHORAL INTROIT: I've Got Peace Like a River

Sung by the Chancel Choir Traditional Spiritual

I've got peace like a river ...
I've got joy like a fountain ...
I've got love like an ocean ...

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: In autumn beauty blue sky and golden land are clothed.

Apple-gathering children and nut-gathering squirrels alike prepare for winter.

PEOPLE: In our tradition, harvest is a time for rejoicing in God's natural bounty and the ingathering of our lives.

Leader: We praise God for all we have received. Seasons turn but God's love is changeless.

ALL: We praise God for all we have received. Maple leaves dancing, crisp breezes blowing, the good news of Jesus' sojourn in Galilee, and the restless winds of the Spirit rushing through our lives – all these assure us of God's faithful presence.**

Maren C. Tirabassi

*LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison

Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the hard and mean days.

For then we have you to lean upon.

Thank you for your presence during the bright and sunny days for then we can share that which we have with those who have less.

For those who have no voice, we ask you to speak.

For those who feel unworthy, we ask you to pour your love out in waterfalls of tenderness.

For those who live in pain, we ask you to bathe them in the river of your healing.

For those who are lonely, we ask you to keep them company.

For those who are depressed, we ask you to shower upon them the light of hope.

Dear Creator, we ask you to give to all the world that which we need most—Peace.## Amen.

Maya Angelou

*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

Our Sovereign God, Light of lights, Word of words, Life of all living, Peace of perfect peace: we praise you and thank you for the faith we have, for the hope we can always rekindle, for the love we experience in creation, redemption, and the spirit that dwells in the vortex of the universe and the breath of every child. Bless and consecrate the worship we share that in it we may affirm the grace and wonder of our relationship with you.** 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karlee Etter

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Jonah 3:10-4:4 Page 849 When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* HYMN: "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks"

V179

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 20:1-16 Page 1167 "God's kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day, and went to work.

"Later, about nine o'clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went.

"He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o'clock. At five o'clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?'

"They said, 'Because no one hired us.'

"He told them to go to work in his vineyard.

"When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.'

"Those hired at five o'clock came up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.'

"He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?'

"Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first."

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** "Lord of All Hopefulness" P217

SERMON: "Equal to Us!" Heather Arcovitch

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!

*CLOSING HYMN: "When All Your Mercies, O My God" V219

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *Voluntary* [in G Major]

Samuel Jackson

- *Those who are able, please stand.
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- *** **WORLD PRAYERS** –www.worldprayers.org retrieved 11/12/15
- Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-719615. All rights reserved.
- We welcome the Rev. Dr. Heather Arcovitch as our guest preacher this morning as part of the New Haven East Consociation Pulpit Rotation. Rev. Heather is the Pastor of the North Madison Congregational Church.

Deacon is Jim Bennett.

FAMILY SUNDAY; children remain in worship with their family. Fellowship Hour is hosted by Barbara Massey and the Chancel Choir.

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

In Our Prayers This Week are: Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Ellen Robert, Meg Adams, Paul Menillo, and David Gould.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fair Craft workshops

Help with sewing and handcrafted projects is needed. Fair Workshops will be in the Koinonia Room in September. Materials and instructions for projects for the fair will be available. We hope you will join us!

Holy Land Presentation: NH Library on Wednesday 9/27

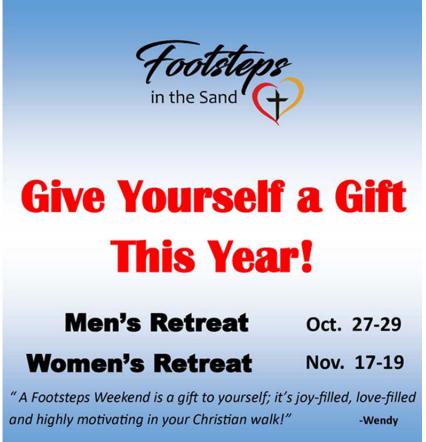
If you missed the recent presentation of the Holy Land visit by John Tibor and Mary Johnston, here's another opportunity. John and Mary are offering the Holy Land Presentation at the North Haven Memorial Library on Wednesday, September 27 at 2:30 pm. This presentation has been slightly refined from the earlier one and is scheduled for approximately one hour. Registration should be made on the Library Website, under Programs/Events register on Programs-Adult.

Comedy Night fundraiser: Saturday, October 21st,

the doors to Carroll Hall will open at 6:00 pm; the show will start at 7:30 pm; pizzas, subs, snacks, and soft drinks will be available to all attendees, as well as the opportunity to purchase tickets for both a baskets raffle and a 50/50 drawing; and tickets, priced at just \$25.00, can be purchased by contacting the undersigned (Jim Bennett) at either 203-909-1079 or at pdgjim98@gmail.com. Our goal is to sell all 100 tickets, so please let Jim know how many YOU will take.

Footsteps in the Sand

Could you use a spiritual boost? Footsteps in the Sand is a Christian Renewal Weekend crafted to do just that. These Weekends are designed to help you draw closer to Jesus and feel inspired and empowered to come back to our church with renewed energy and enthusiasm to serve our Lord.



Saturday, October 21, 2023

Men's Fellowship at North Haven Congregational Church

Reluctantly presents

JOKES MY IRISH FATHER TOLD ME

Come join in the fun, as comedian Dave Kane brings you a laugh filled presentation of jokes, one liners and stories that celebrate the warmth and resilience of the Irish sense of Humor.

Location

North Haven Congregational church 28 Church St. North Haven CT

DOORS OPEN: 6:00 PM SHOW TIME: 7:30PM

\$25

Includes pizza, subs, snacks and soft drinks

For tickets, please contact
Jim Bennett at 203-909-1079
Or pdgjim98@gmail.com

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	9/24	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)
·		11:15	Food Delivery (Catholic Church)
		4:30 p.m.	OASIS Chill Night - SGC
Monday	9/25	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
-		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
		6:30 p.m.	New Haven Camera Club (CH)
Tuesday	9/26	9:30 a.m.	Al-Anon (CH)
		12:00 p.m.	PLP (Parking Lot/Library)
		1:00	Danish Sisterhood (K)
		3:30	United Girls Choir (CH)
		6:00	Bible Study (Zoom)
Wednesday	9/27		WINDOW MAILING
		9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
		10:00	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
		7:00 p.m.	OASIS Worship (Zoom)
Thursday	9/28	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
		7:00 p.m.	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	9/29	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
		9:30	Day of Service (Choate)
		10:00	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	9/30	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	10/1	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)
		10:45	NEWCOMERS DISCUSSION (L)

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Raj Rose 9/26, Barbara Scheidecker 09/27, Jennifer Russo 09/27, Jillian Russo 09/27, Sarah Struk 09/28, Stephen Baraquin 09/29, Joyce Manzo 09/30, Robert Nielsen 10/01.

Happy Belated Birthday to Nancy Mahoney's mom, Muriel Tiedemann, who turned 96 on September 23rd.





