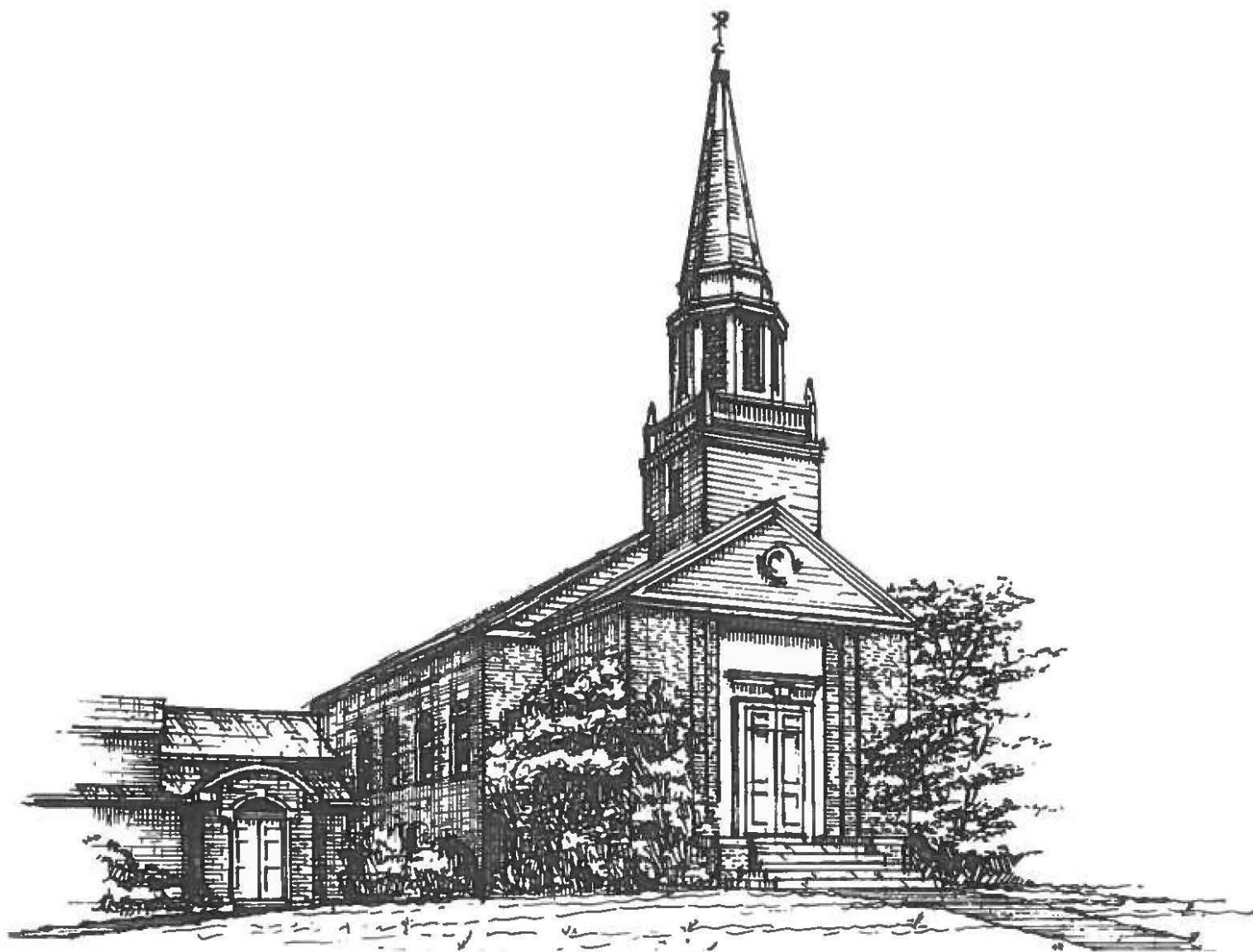


FOUNDED 1716

*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, October 1, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 21  
World Communion Sunday - The Sacrament of Communion  
Neighbors In Need All-Church Offering**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**CHORAL INTROIT: *As We Gather At Your Table***

Sung by the Chancel Choir

Words by Carl Daw

Tune: Beach Spring

As we gather at your table,	Gracious Spirit, help us summon
As we listen to your word,	Other guests to share that feast
Help us know, O God, your presence;	Where triumphant Love will welcome
Let our hearts and minds be stirred.	Those who had been last and least.
Nourish us with sacred story	There no more will envy blind us
Till we claim it as our own;	Nor will pride our peace destroy,
Teach us through this holy banquet	As we join with saints and angels
How to make Love's victory known.	To repeat the sounding joy.

**\*OPENING HYMN: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"**

V213

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: God's wisdom is pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity.

**PEOPLE: Our wisdom is none of these things. We compete for knowledge, and our learning fosters belligerence. Our understanding is insufficient and our compassion is limited. We long for certainty and sacrifice too much for its sake. We strive for conditional sincerity.**

Leader: The harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

**PEOPLE: We do not fully comprehend God's wisdom or achieve God's righteousness, but we come together to share insight, read Scripture, sing, pray, and make peace.**

**ALL: Let us worship together!\*\*** *Maren C. Tirabassi*

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

Creator God, gentle in power and strong in tenderness: kindle we pray, in the hearts of all people your passion for peace and your will for justice, that we may fearlessly contend against the powers of death and restrain evil's rage with your love.## Amen.

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 CONFESSION:~unison**

O God, you search after us when we have gone far from you, yet we confess that we have become consumed with our own affairs. We seldom pause to listen for the wind in the trees or hear the happy voices of children. Sometimes we feel that the burdens of the world fall entirely on our shoulders, and we have been slow to put our trust in you or to cooperate with others. When we take ourselves too seriously, remind us that we are only human! Make us patient with our own mistakes, even as we are willing to forgive others. And remind us that we are also precious, not because we are good but because you have accepted us and called us to be your very own.

Amen. \*\*

*Allen P. Happe*

*~ silence ~*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 21:23-32 P. 1169**

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe

him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

\* **HYMN:** “What Wondrous Love Is This”

V147

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Philippians 2:1-13 P. 1339

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he existed in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be grasped,

but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly

and gave him the name

that is above every other name,

so that at the name given to Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

**GIFT OF MUSIC:** *Make Me a Channel*

Words from the Prayer of Saint Francis

Sung by Chancel Choir

Adapted by Peter Amidon

Music by Peter Amidon

**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

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

Hymn of Preparation: "Now to Your Table Spread"

V456

Invitation and Consecration

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**GREETING OF PEACE** ~unison

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

\***CLOSING HYMN:** "Ask Me What Great Thing I Know"

V338

\***THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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**Deacon** is Peter Hall. **Scripture Reader** is Susan Compton.  
**Fellowship Hour** is hosted by Jackie Jennings.

**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, David Gould, and Sarah.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Robert Nielsen 10/01, LaVala Rossi 10/03,  
Linda Nielsen 10/04.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Cheryl & Dana Andrews 10/05.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Fair Craft workshops**

Help with sewing and handcrafted projects is needed. Fair Workshops will be in the Koinonia Room in October. Materials and instructions for projects for the fair will be available. If interested in joining us, please call Carol Mitchell at 203-668-0608 or Cathy Welch at 315-414-6803.



**Give Yourself a Gift  
This Year!**

**Men's Retreat** Oct. 27-29

**Women's Retreat** Nov. 17-19

*"A Footsteps Weekend is a gift to yourself; it's joy-filled, love-filled and highly motivating in your Christian walk!"*

-Wendy

### **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.

Artist: Alexis

Age: 15

Congregation: Trinity United Church of Christ, St. Louis MO



# Behold!

*"God saw everything God made  
and behold, it was very good." Genesis 1:31*

## Young environmental advocates lead the way.

**A**t First Congregational Church in Montclair, New Jersey, young climate leaders like Jey Cook and Simona Graceffo have played a leading role in advancing the care of God's creation both within and beyond their church. With a sense of passion and purpose, they created an uplifting video to kick-start the all-church process of becoming a UCC Creation Justice Church. Each of them was also a climate justice fellow at their church over the course of the summer as they engaged with efforts in the broader community to promote local sustainability and food security. Witness the leadership of Cook and Graceffo in their video:  
<https://bit.ly/CreationJusticeVideo>





# Prayer

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Dear God,

Each day we behold the beauty and goodness of all that you have created.

Each day we breathe in your air, drink your water, and enjoy your fields of harvest.

We rejoice and give thanks for the gifts of your creation!

Amen.

# Litany of Wonder

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**Leader:** Let us behold the wonders of creation. Let us marvel at the infinite artistry of nature.

**People:** Let our senses take it all in: each tree, each flower, each blade of grass.

**Leader:** All around us are gifts that have been bestowed upon us by God.

**People:** Today, we renew our spirits and fill our hearts with gratitude

**Behold!**

**With your generous support, The United Church of Christ, thorough the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering, helps its members live out their beliefs via acts of service.**

**Please donate today!**

**For more resources and to share and learn best practices for environmental justice, visit**

**[ucc.org/nin](http://ucc.org/nin)**

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Two-thirds of your donations to NIN support advocacy, programming, and grants. One-third of your generous gifts directly support CAIM.

**[www.ucc.org/nin](http://www.ucc.org/nin). Thank You!**



**Comedy Night fundraiser: Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>,**  
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.

**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

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10/1</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:45 12:00 p.m.  6:00	<b>WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)</b> NEWCOMERS DISCUSSION (L) OASIS: Ropes Course (Discovery Museum) Confirmation Class (CH)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10/2</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:30 1:00 p.m.	<b>Music Together (DBL)</b> Music Together (DBL) Retired Federal Employees (CH)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10/3</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 12:00 p.m. 3:30 6:00	<b>Al-Anon (CH)</b> PLP (Parking Lot/Library) United Girls Choir (CH) Bible Study (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10/4</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 10:30 6:00 p.m. 7:00	<b>Music Together (DBL)</b> FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Girl Scout Troop 60071 (K) Lions Club (CH)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10/5</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 2:30 p.m. 6:00 6:30 7:00	<b>Music Together (DBL)</b> Food Drive Council (L) Girl Scout Troop 60151 (K) Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR
<b>Friday</b>	<b>10/6</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 10:30 6:30	<b>Music Together (DBL)</b> FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) CT Area Al-Anon (CH)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10/7</b>	<b>7:30 a.m.</b> 9:30 10:30	<b>MENS FELLOWSHIP (CH)</b> Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10/8</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)</b>

\*Small print indicates non-Church function

**Bold print starts new day.**

Descant

4 Re - joyce in glo - rious hope, for Christ, the judge, shall come  
 C G C Am Em F C (G7 C) G

1 Re - joyce the Lord is King! Your ris - en Lord a - dore!  
 2 Je - sus the Sav - iour reigns, the God of truth and love;  
 3 God's king - dom can - not fail; Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;  
 4 Re - joyce in glo - rious hope, for Christ, the judge, shall come

to glo - ri - fy the saints for their e - ter - nal home.  
 C Am G D G C G D G

Re - joyce, give thanks and sing and tri - umph ev - er - more.  
 when he had purged our sins, he took his seat a - bove.  
 the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given.  
 to glo - ri - fy the saints for their e - ter - nal home.

We soon shall hear the arch - an - gel's voice;  
 C F Dm6 Am C G C F

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
 Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
 Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
 We soon shall hear the arch - an - gel's voice;

the trump of God shall sound, re - joyce!  
 C F Dm6 (C F) C G G7 C

re - joyce; a - gain I say, re - joyce!  
 re - joyce; a - gain I say, re - joyce!  
 re - joyce; a - gain I say, re - joyce!  
 the trump of God shall sound, re - joyce!

1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
 2 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,

what won - drous love is this, O my soul!  
 what won - drous love is this, O my soul!  
 to God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;

What won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of  
 What won - drous love is this, that caused the Lord of  
 to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I  
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul,  
 life to lay a - side his crown for my soul,  
 Am, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing,  
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on,

for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul.  
 for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.  
 I will sing; while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.  
 I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

# Hymn of Preparation: "Now to Your Table Spread"

V456

1 Now to your ta - ble spread we come, each one in  
2 Hands of the world stretch out your mys - ter - y to  
3 Here is our com - mon wealth in shar - ing what is

faith that you a - lone pro - vide the words of  
touch in long - ing to be - lieve a truth be -  
good, as though all hu - man - kind a - round one

life and death: in wine and bread, in  
yond our reach, to sing in joy, to  
ta - - - ble stood, this bread to break, this

prom - ised food we find your lov - ing heart, O God.  
cry in grief, to know your mean - ing for our life.  
wine to taste: one peo - ple in the name of Christ.



\*CLOSING HYMN: "Ask Me What Great Thing I Know"

V338

F C7 F Bb F C7 F

1 Ask me what great thing I know that de - lights and stirs me so,  
 2 Who de - feats my fierc - est foes? Who con - soles my sad - dest woes?  
 3 Who is life in life to me? Who the death of death will be?  
 4 This is that great thing I know; this de - lights and stirs me so:

F C Fsus4 F Bb F

what the high re - ward I win, whose the name I  
 Who re - vives my faint - ing heart, heal - ing all that  
 Who holds all my days se - cure, in God's heart where  
 faith in Christ who died to save, Christ who tri - umphed

C F C Dm C F Bb F C F

glo - ry in:  
 grief im - parts? Je - sus Christ, the cru - ci - fied.  
 love is sure?  
 o'er the grave,

## ***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.