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, November 12, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 27
The Noisy Offering

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Preamalon Manualiter in Fa

Magister Jorg Schapf

*OPENING HYMN: "The Day of Resurrection" V164

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: We wait for God's salvation.

PEOPLE: God will swallow up death forever and wipe our tears away.

Leader: God will take our reproach and make a feast for all peoples.

PEOPLE: Let us act with compassion to dry the tears of others. Let us walk with justice to silence reproach.

ALL: Let us make a festival with all God's children.**

*LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison

Creator, open our hearts to peace and healing between all people.

Creator, open our hearts to provide and protect for all children of the earth.

Creator, open our hearts to respect for the earth, and all the gifts of the earth.

Creator, open our hearts to end exclusion, violence, and fear among all.

Thank-you for the gifts of this day and every day. ** Amen.

Native American - Micmac - Alycia Longriver - 1995

*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 ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

Holy Spirit of God, who gathers the church into one body, gather us once again in your presence and strengthen the bonds of affection that hold your people together. Bless us with grace to cooperate with one another in love and service that we may be the signs of your united love to our fractured world. Teach us to show compassion to those in need, to face challenges with imagination, and to counter disappointment with prayerful trust. So may your church bring forth your will and your reign.** 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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHILDREN

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 25:1-9 Page 641

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN**: "God Is My Shepherd"

V748

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 22:1-14 Page 1170 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.'

But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: Shine On Me

Traditional Spiritual arr. Rollo Dilworth

Sung by the Chancel Choir

SERMON: "Faith amid Destruction"

Scott Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS PASTORAL PRANCES

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: "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name"

V426

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Motet, *Dulcis Amica Dei* Anonymous (16th century)

*Those who are able, please stand.

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*** **WORLD PRAYERS** –www.worldprayers.org - retrieved 9/4/15

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Deacon is Nancy Mahoney. Scripture Reader is Heather Mastracchio.

Greeters are Cynthia Boerma Campos and Beth Anderson.

Today's flowers are given by Carla and Mike Hill, to celebrate and be grateful for Mike's new job beginning this month as well as to thank the Congregation for their thoughts, prayers, and support in the passing of Mike's parents this past summer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the last day Donations will be matched by Rotary

Monetary donations made today to the Food Drive will be partially matched by the North Haven Rotary. For every \$1 given, the Rotary will donate \$0.25. If you plan on giving to the Food Drive, please make your donation go further and **TODAY**. Thank you for your support.

Stop & Shop Benefit for Food Pantry

The Leadership Team at Stop & Shop, 79 Washington Avenue has designated the Food Pantry benefit from the Bloomin' 4 Good Program. The Pantry will receive \$1 from every specially marked \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold during the month of November 2023.

Harvest Table Offering: Sunday, November 19th

Sunday, November 19th we will be collecting fruit and vegetables for our annual Harvest Table Offering. Please bring fruits and vegetables that will decorate the Communion Table and remind us all of how blessed we are as a congregation. This food will be donated to local soup kitchens to be used in feeding those less fortunate.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	11/12	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)	
		4:00 p.m.	OASIS Video Game Night (SGC)	
Monday	11/13	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)	
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)	
		6:00 p.m.	New Haven Camera Club (CH)	
Tuesday	11/14	9:30 a.m.	Al-Anon (K)	
		12:00 p.m.	PLP (L)	
		12:00	BUILDING & GROUNDS	
		3:30	United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, SANCT)	
		6:00	Bible Study (Zoom)	
		7:30	Nutmeg Treasure Hunters (CH)	
Wednesday	11/15		WINDOW DEADLINE	
		9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)	
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)	
		5:15 p.m.	PASTORAL RELATIONS Zoom	
Thursday	11/16	10:00 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)	
		6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 60151 (K)	
		7:00	CHANCEL CHOIR	
Friday	11/17	9:30 a.m.	Music Together (DBL)	
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)	
Saturday	11/18	9:00 a.m.	HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE	
		9:30	Music Together (DBL)	
		10:30	Music Together (DBL)	
Sunday	11/19	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)	

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

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: Audrey Tilley 11/12, Theodore Manzo 11/13, Hannah Nottingham 11/17, Ann Dubar 11/18, Michelle McBride 11/18, Nancy Gutowski 11/19.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: George & Flo Coulston 11/14, Jim & Joan Bennett 11/14.

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.





