

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, March 10, 2024

9:30 a.m.

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
The Noisy Offering**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: C Minor *Andante all breve*

P. Mauri
arr. Carlo Rossini

***OPENING HYMN:** “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing” V 559

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: May the God of grace be welcome in our midst.

PEOPLE: May we receive the power and peace of divine love.

Leader: Come let us worship with our hearts and minds and bodies.

PEOPLE: Let us become one seeking justice and compassion.

Leader: Blessed be God who challenges, heals, and unites us.

PEOPLE: Blessed be our learning and blessed be our vision.

ALL: Blessed be God who inspires all things to be new.**

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

Good and gracious God, You are light for our eyes.

Good and gracious God, You are the air we breathe.

You give us the voice to speak and a joyful song to sing

You are, O good and gracious God, our path to 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 ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison

God of promise and hope, you call us to trust in your way and set before us the paths of faithfulness. Sometimes we hesitate to follow you and to make changes in our lives. Sometimes our priorities and commitments reflect personal interests more than your desire for our lives and world. Free us, O God, that we might be faithful to you in the name of the Christ, we pray.** Amen.

~ *silence* ~

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ALL: Thanks be to God

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.

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karlee Etter

PSALM 107

V831

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Numbers 21:4-9 Page 138

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** "We Cannot Measure How You Heal"

V 613

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 3:14-21 Page 1238

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe

are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

GIFT OF MUSIC: “Just a Little Talk with Jesus”

Rev. Cleavant Derricks

Sung by the Chancel Choir

SERMON: “Navigating the Way”

Scott Morrow

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:** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

V 333

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Mosso moderato*

J. Gruber

arr. Carlo Rossini

*Those who are able, please stand.

** Reprinted by permission of the publisher from *Celebrate God’s Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada*.
Copyright © 2000 The United Church Publishing House.

Reprinted by permission from

<https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/liturgy-music/peace-prayers> ;
retrieved 4/1/20

Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE
#A-719615. All rights reserved.

Deacon is Jim Bennett. **Scripture Reader** is Jim Bennett.
Greeter is Beth Anderson.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Meg Adams, David Gould, and Sarah.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Amy Mears 03/12, Ryan Weiss 03/12, Patricia Jennings 03/13, Joseph Mulvey 03/17.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Kerry & Eben Stewart 03/08 (belated).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St Patrick's Day Dinner Sunday March 10, 3:00 p.m.

Adults, \$17; children under 12, \$7.

Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread, dessert, and coffee and tea!

Last Chance for Reservations, Contact Dot Pierce or Carol Mitchell after church. Payment may be made by check, online, or in person; Venmo accepted. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Takeout also available; must be under reservation and prepaid. Available for pickup after 4:00 p.m. Come join us!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	3/10	9:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER (CH)
Monday	3/11	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30	ABRAHAMS TENT (Wallingford) Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN New Haven Camera Club (CH)
Tuesday	3/12	9:30 a.m. 9:30 12:00 p.m. 12:00 3:30 6:00 7:30	ABRAHAMS TENT (Wallingford) Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (L) BUILDING & GROUNDS (H) United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, S) Bible Study (Zoom) Nutmeg Treasure Hunters (CH)
Wednesday	3/13	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 7:00 p.m. 7:00	ABRAHAMS TENT (Wallingford) Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon District Family (CH) MLB (L)
Thursday	3/14	6:00 p.m. 7:00 7:00	ABRAHAMS TENT (Wallingford) Girl Scout Troop 60151 (K) CHANCEL CHOIR Garden Club (CH)
Friday	3/15	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:00 10:30	ABRAHAMS TENT (Wallingford) Music Together (DBL) ORGAN TUNING (Foley Baker) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	3/16	9:00 a.m. 9:30 10:30	ABRAHAMS TENT (Wallingford) MENS FELLOWSHIP (CH) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	3/17	9:30 a.m.	ABRAHAMS TENT (Wallingford) WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)

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

*OPENING HYMN: "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"

D A D G D A7 D

1 Come, O Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
 2 Here I pause in my so - journ - ing, giv - ing thanks for hav - ing come,
 3 O, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!

D A D G D A7 D

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing call for songs of end - less praise.
 come to trust, at ev - ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe - ly home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to you.

D G D G D G D G D F#m G A7 D

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove.
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God,
 Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan - der from the love I've known:

D A D G D A7 D

Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.
 came to res - cue me from dan - ger, pre - cious pres - ence, pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

Refrain

Eleanor Daley 1994



O give thanks to God for steadfast love.

Music copyright © 1994 Eleanor Daley

Part One (1–9)

O give thanks, for God is gracious;
 God's steadfast love endures for ever.
 Let the redeemed of God say so,
 those redeemed from trouble,
 whom God gathered in from the lands,
 from the east and the west,
 from the north and the south. R

Part Two (17–22)

Some suffered because of their sinful ways,
 afflicted on account of their wrongdoing.
 They loathed every kind of food;
 they came close to the gates of death.
 Then they cried to you, God, in their trouble.
 You rescued them from their distress.
 You gave the word and healed them;
 you saved them from the grave.
 Let them thank you, God, for your steadfast love,
 for the wonders you do for us.
 Let them offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving,
 and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy. R

1 We can - not mea - sure how you heal
 2 The pain that will not go a - way,
 3 But pres - ent too is love which tends
 4 Your hands, though blood - ied on the cross,

or an - swer ev - ery suf - ferer's prayer,
 the guilt that clings from things long past,
 the hurt we nev - er hoped to find,
 sur - vive to hold and heal and warn,

yet we be - lieve your grace re - sponds
 the fear of what the fu - ture holds
 the pri - vate ag - o - nies in - side,
 to car - ry all through death to life

where faith and doubt u - nite to care.
 are pres - ent as if meant to last.
 the mem - o - ries that haunt the mind.
 and cra - dle chil - dren yet un - born.

5 So some have come who need your help,
 and some have come to make amends;
 your hands which shaped and saved
 the world
 are present in the touch of friends.

6 Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
 to mend the body, mind and soul,
 to disentangle peace from pain
 and make your broken people whole.

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven to
2 Come, al - might - ty to de - li - ver; let us all thy
3 Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
grace re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com -
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways
ly re - stored in thee, changed from glo - ry in - to

pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it
bles - sing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and
glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place, till we

us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
praise thee, with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

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.

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

Dave Nelson, Sexton