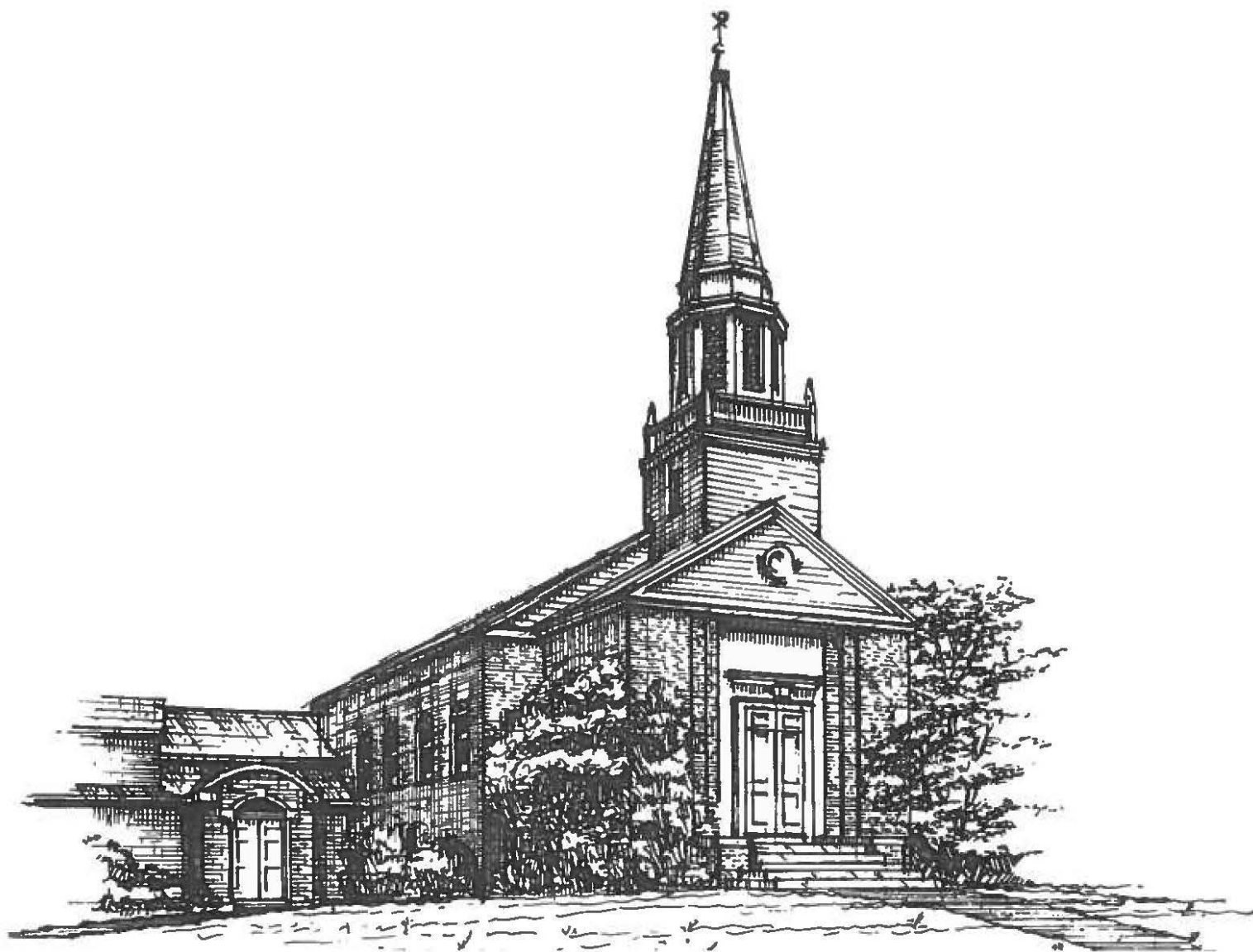


FOUNDED 1716

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 17, 2024

9:30 a.m.

**Fifth Sunday in Lent
One Great Hour of Sharing**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: C Minor *Andante*

Fr. Walczynski
Arr. Carlo Rossini

***OPENING HYMN:** “Jesus Shall Reign”

V330

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Sometimes we are a dry bones people, a people without hope.

PEOPLE: God raises us from living graves and fills us with Spirit.

Leader: Sometimes we are cut off from one another, and our sources of joy are dried up.

PEOPLE: God makes a home for us with one another where we live with celebration.

Leader: Sometimes we come to worship aimless and fearful.

ALL: God gives hope, strange dreams, the promise of his life.**

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

God of new beginnings, God of life and possibilities,
as You awaken the frozen ground bringing spring to birth,
awaken our frozen hearts to compassion for one another.
Stir within us the work of Your 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, you seek us and we flee. You offer us an easy yoke, and we tie ourselves with cares and burdens. You forgive us, and we hoard our complaints against our sisters and brothers. Give us conversion that turns us into the light; teach us a repentance alive in works of love; lead us into the narrow path; guide us through the valley of the shadow. Call us to follow Jesus Christ and in his way to live and suffer, die and rise again.** 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karlee Etter

PSALM 51

V776

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 12:20-33

Page

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

V135

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Amazing Grace* (Northern Version)

Sung by the Chancel Choir arr. Sandy Valerio & Alan Bucchner

SERMON: “Coming Clean” 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:** “He Leadeth Me” **V657**

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Bourée* (from Water Music)

G. F. Handel
arr. M. A.

*Those who are able, please stand.

**Reprinted by permission of the publisher from *Touch Holiness*, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright © 2012 The Pilgrim Press.

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 Peter Hall. **Scripture Reader** is Susan Compton.

Fellowship Hour is will be in Carroll Hall after service.

Today's flowers are given by Sandy Carter In Memory of my Beloved Grandson Jack Viele in Celebration of his his 35th Birthday. Happy Birthday in Heaven. Love you always.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Patricia Jennings 03/13, Joseph Mulvey 03/17, Jeffrey Jennings 03/18, Catherine Dubail 03/19, Rich Mayhew 03/19, Hunter Coughlin 03/20, Ann Schneider 03/21, Lynn Lafleur 03/23.

Quote of the Week:

“Grandpa should have been in the Garden of Eden instead of Adam,” Jules told his mom. “He can’t eat an apple without his false teeth.”

Church Chuckles – Every Day Thoughts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Team Spotlight: Weekly Food Pantry Team

Most church members are likely aware of the holiday food drive, where food boxes are distributed to over 150 families prior to both Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays. What you may not be aware of is the work that is done year round by our Weekly Food Pantry Team: John Tibor, Gail Fulop, Robbie Juliano, Martha Perrotti, Nancy Mahoney, and Rob Nielson.

There are two food pantries in North Haven, one supported by the Town and the other supported by the churches. The Food Pantry supported by the churches is housed here at the North Haven Congregational Church. The need is great, the pantry has grown significantly over the years and recently adding a third pick up day to help meet the need.

The Pantry distributes food three times a week, year round by appointment;

Monday 1:00pm – 2:00pm

(Staffed by members of the Catholic Churches)

Wednesday 10:00am – 11:00am

(Staffed by members and friends of NHCC)

Friday 10:00am – 11:00am

(Staffed by members and friends of NHCC)

Appointments to pick up food from the pantry can be made on our website with an online scheduling page, or by calling the church office. The general rule is to give food to a client once every 30 days, and if someone needs it more frequently, we work to support them.

The food for the pantry is supplied by donations from our church members, other churches, the community, and CT Food Share. In addition to donations food is purchased with money donated to the food pantry. Volunteers purchase food from CT Food Share at a significant discount and shop local grocery stores (hopefully taking advantage of sales).

Donations sometimes come all at once. There is a quarterly donation from the Catholic churches; hundreds of bags of non-perishable food is generously donated by their parishioners. Our team sorts and organizes the food.

Food need happens every day, every week with a great deal of time and coordination by our Weekly Food Pantry Team to meet this need.

Thank you to the team for the coordination and physical work that greatly benefits those in need.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	3/17	9:30 a.m.	ABRAHAM'S TENT (Wallingford) WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream)
Monday	3/18	1:00 p.m. 6:00	FOOD PANTRY OPEN CT Record Club (K)
Tuesday	3/19	9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) PLP (L) BUILDING & GROUNDS (H) United Girls Choir (CH, DBL, S) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	3/20	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:15 6:00	WINDOW DEADLINE FOOD PANTRY OPEN Danish Sisterhood (K) PASTORAL RELATIONS (Zoom) Girl Scout Troop 60071 (K)
Thursday	3/21	7:00 p.m.	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	3/22	10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Community Supper-St. John's Episc.
Saturday	3/23		
Sunday	3/24	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP - PALM SUNDAY (In-Person/Live Stream)

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

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

*OPENING HYMN: "Jesus Shall Reign"

V330

Descant

4 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
 3 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns; and pris - oners
 4 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

hon - ours to our King, an - gels de - scend with

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains; the wea - ry find e -
 hon - ours to our King, an - gels de - scend with

songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

Unison G Am Bm Am C Am C/G G

In the a-bun-dance of your com-pas-sion, wash my sins a-way.

Music copyright © Benedictine Fathers, Mount Angel Abbey

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great kindness,
in the fullness of your mercy blot out my offences.

Wash away all my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is always before me. R

Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done evil in your sight;
so that you are justified in your sentence,
and blameless in your judgement.

Guilty I have been from my birth,
a sinner from the time of my conception.

But you desire truth in our inward being,
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean,
wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness,
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Turn away your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities. R

Put a new heart in me, O God,
and give me again a constant spirit.

Do not cast me away from your presence,
do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and strengthen me with a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

O God, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. R

You desire no sacrifice, or I would give it,
you take no delight in burnt offerings.

The sacrifice you accept, O God, is a broken spirit,
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. R

* HYMN: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

D Ddim D A7 D

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand:
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus my eyes at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing - place;

F#7 Bm B7 Em G F#

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me;
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face,

D D7 G B Em

a home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 and from my smit - ten heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess,
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

A7 D G D A D

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and the bur - den of the day.
 the won - der of his glo - rious love, and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

D G D

1 He lead - eth me: O bless - ed thought! O words with
 2 Some - times 'mid scenes of deep - est gloom, some - times where
 3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er
 4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy

D A D

heaven - ly com - fort fraught! What - e'er I do, where -
 E - den's bow - ers bloom, by wa - ters calm, o'er
 mur - mur nor re - pine, con - tent, what - ev - er
 grace the vic - tory's won, even death's cold wave I

G D Bm D A7 D

'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
 trou - bled sea, still 'tis his hand that lead - eth me.
 lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.
 will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.

Refrain

D A D G D Bm D A

He lead - eth me! He lead - eth me! By his own hand he lead - eth me!

A7 D A A/G D A7 D G D Bm D A7 D

His faith - ful fol - lower I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me!

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.