

FOUNDED 1716

*North Haven
Congregational Church*

United Church of Christ

Holy Week



North Haven, Connecticut

An Open & Affirming Congregation

NOON PRAYER - HOLY WEEK
Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Opening Sentences

O God, open my lips,

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise. (Psalm 51)

Those who wait for God shall renew their strength,

They shall mount up with wings like eagles:

They shall run and not be weary,

They shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40)

Prayer

Let us pray:

Sustaining God, in the midst of our day,

And embraced by your world

We call upon your wisdom;

We draw upon your strength

We rely upon your grace.

Help us to continue faithfully in your way,

By the power of the Holy Spirit

And in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Hymn “Be Thou My Vision”

V642

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 49:1-7 p. 668

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother’s womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” But I said, “I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God.”

And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the

survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, “Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 12: 20-26 p. 1250

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.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

Silent Reflection

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Thanksgiving

Bountiful God, we lift our voices in prayers of praise,
For you have raised us o new life in Jesus Christ, and your blessings
to us and to your world come in generous measure. In our hearts and
with our voices, we name before you that for which we give thanks:

Specific events and people may be named.

Intercessions *Using response:* Gracious God, hear our prayer;
And in your love, answer.

Merciful God, you are close to all in need, and by our prayers we draw close to you.

Claiming your love in Christ Jesus for the whole world, we dare to pray for others.

Committing ourselves to care in his name for those around us,
We bring our prayers and concerns for friend and stranger:

Prayers for specific people and events, both near and far, may be offered.

Gracious God, hear our prayer;
And in your love, answer.

Bountiful and merciful God,
Accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Serenity Prayer

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.

Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it, trusting that You will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will, so that I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The God of peace be with us. **Amen.**
Bless God's name. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn "Be Thou My Vision"

V642

Unison

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O joy of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, my calm in all strife;
 ♦ 3 Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for the fight;
 4 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise,
 5 Great God of heav - en, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me save that thou art,
 I ev - er with thee, and thou in my life;
 ♦ be thou my dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light,
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's sun!

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou lov - ing par - ent, thy child may I be,
 ♦ thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 ♦ raise thou me heav - en - ward, O power of my power.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vis - ion, O rul - er of all.



Please join us for these services this week:

Noon Prayer services will continue each day through Friday this week.

We will have a Maundy Thursday service with communion and Tenebrae on Thursday evening at 7pm.

On Easter Sunday there will be a Sunrise Service at 6am at the gazebo on the Town Green. Our Easter morning worship service, with Choir and trumpets, will be at 9:30am