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North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday, August 25, 2024

9:30 a.m.

**14th Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 16
Summer Sunday School**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Lord, Thy Mercy Now Entreating* P332 - Jan Bender

***OPENING HYMN:** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" V220

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: While storms rage around me, I will wear the whole armor of God.

PEOPLE: I will belt my waist with truth.

Leader: My shoes will march for peace and justice in this world.

PEOPLE: I will take up the shield of faith to defend against evil ways.

Leader: I will pray boldly at all times, to know the mystery of the Gospel.

PEOPLE: I will don the helmet of salvation and wield the sword of the spirit.

Leader: Be strong in the Lord, who provides for your every need.

ALL: I place my confidence and trust in God always. Amen.**

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

Prayer cleans the mist and brings peace for the soul.

Every morning, every evening let your heart sing:

Oh Beloved, There is no reality but You.

Rumi

***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

Redeemer God of limitless vision, alight in this place, this hour, and teach us how to wear your armor with Grace and humility. Breathe on us a spirit of stillness that we may be fully present to your word.

Open our souls and soften our hearts in this hour of worship.**

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.

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Ephesians 6:10-20 Page 1337

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

***PROCLAIMING HYMN:** "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"
V470

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 6:56-69 Page 1243

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then

what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who did not believe and who was the one who would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

SERMON: Do you see what I see? Christine Sima

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY: *God Is So Good* arr. Ron Sprunger

*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!

***SENDING HYMN:** “Rise Up, O Saints of God!” insert

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Dialogue sur les grands jeux* Francois Couperin

*Those who are able, please stand.

We welcome **Christine Sima** as our Guest Preacher this morning. Christine graduated from Hartford International University for Religion and Peace (formerly Hartford Seminary) with a Master’s Degree in Chaplaincy. She serves presently as the Christian Education Director at the North Guilford Congregational Church

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Guest Organist is Gail DeBoer.

Deacon is Jim Bennett. **Greeters** are Doris Ferner and Beth Anderson. **Scripture Reader** is Sandy Carter. **Fellowship Hour** will be immediately following service hosted by Ted and Joyce Manzo.

Today's flowers are given by Vicky and Peter Struk in memory of Laura.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Meg Adams, Sarah, and the family of Larry Balantyne.

Quote of the day:

"Dear Pastor,

I'm sorry I couldn't leave more money in the plate. Could you please have a sermon about a raise in my allowance?"

Church Chuckles

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Sunday School:

Today is the last class of Summer Sunday school.

Food Pantry: Summer Request

Please consider donating Juice boxes/Juice for our food clients. With the children home for the summer, these are much appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

Save The Date: Friday, Sept 20!!

The Women's Fellowship Military Whist Card Game will be on Friday, September 20. Tickets are available for purchase at Coffee Hour (\$12 per person). Singles, couples, and teams of four are welcome. Please call Carol Mitchell (203) 668-0608 or email cdmitchell60@yahoo.com.

Light refreshments will be served. There will be a variety of gift card raffles and a 50/50 raffle!

Our Fundraisers help support church projects and local organizations. Doors will open at 5:15 p.m. and the game begins at 6:00 p.m.

It's fun and easy to play! Come join the fun! Bring a friend!

Dates and times to be announced soon!!

Craft workshops for the Women's Fellowship Fair on November 2 will be held starting at the end of August and continuing through September and October. Dates and times to be announced soon.

Planning for the Fair has begun. Any ideas or suggestions are welcome. Sign up to help at Fellowship Hour or contact Carol Mitchell (203) 668-0608. Thanks!

Archdiocese Of Hartford Human Trafficking Task Force

Human Trafficking is occurring in our state and across the globe and YOU can do something about it. Awareness is the first step!

Please join St. Elizabeth Of the Trinity Social Action Group on **Thursday, October 3 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in St. Barnabas Church** for a presentation given by the Archdiocese of Hartford Human Trafficking Task Force.

In this presentation you will learn:

- The different types of human trafficking and where it happens
- The warning signs for sex trafficking and labor trafficking
- National and local effort to combat this crime, including the role of the Catholic Church in the fight against human trafficking
- How to support victims and survivors
- How your faith community can get involved

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	8/25	9:30 a.m. 10:45	WORSHIP: In Person/Live Stream FAITH FORMATION MT (H)
Monday	8/26	8:00 – 2:30 1:00 p.m.	REGULAR OFFICE HOURS RESUME FOOD PANTRY
Tuesday	8/27	9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:00 7:00	Al-Anon (K) PLP (L) BUILDING & GROUNDS (H) Music Under the Stars (Green)
Wednesday	8/28	 10:00	WINDOW MAILING FOOD PANTRY
Thursday	8/29	7:00 p.m.	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	8/30	9:30 a.m. 10:00	Musical Folk – Teacher Workshop (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	8/31		
Sunday	9/1	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: In Person/Live Stream
Monday	9/2	 9:30 a.m.	OFFICE CLOSED (LABOR DAY) AA (K)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Ella Tolisano 8/27, Catherine Welch 08/28, Ben Purcell 08/28, Barbara Massey 08/29.

*OPENING HYMN: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

V220

Descant

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him!

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, who rules all cre - a - tion;
 2 Praise to the Lord, a - bove all things so might - i - ly reign - ing,
 3 Praise to the Lord who will pros - per our work and de - fend us;
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him!

All that has life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him!

O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and sal - va - tion.
 keep - ing us safe at his side, and so gent - ly sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy will dai - ly at - tend us:
 All that has life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him!

Let the A - men sound from God's peo - ple a - gain:

Come, all who hear: bro - thers and sis - ters draw near,
 Have you not seen how all you need - ed has been
 pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do,
 Let the A - men sound from God's peo - ple a - gain:

glad - ly with praise we a - dore him.

join - ing in glad a - dor - a - - - - tion.
 met by God's gra - cious or - dain - - - - ing?
 who out of love will be - friend us.
 glad - ly with praise we a - dore him.

***PROCLAIMING HYMN: "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"**

V470

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 3/2 time. The score consists of three systems of music. The first system contains two verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment features chords and single notes in both hands, providing harmonic support for the vocal lines.

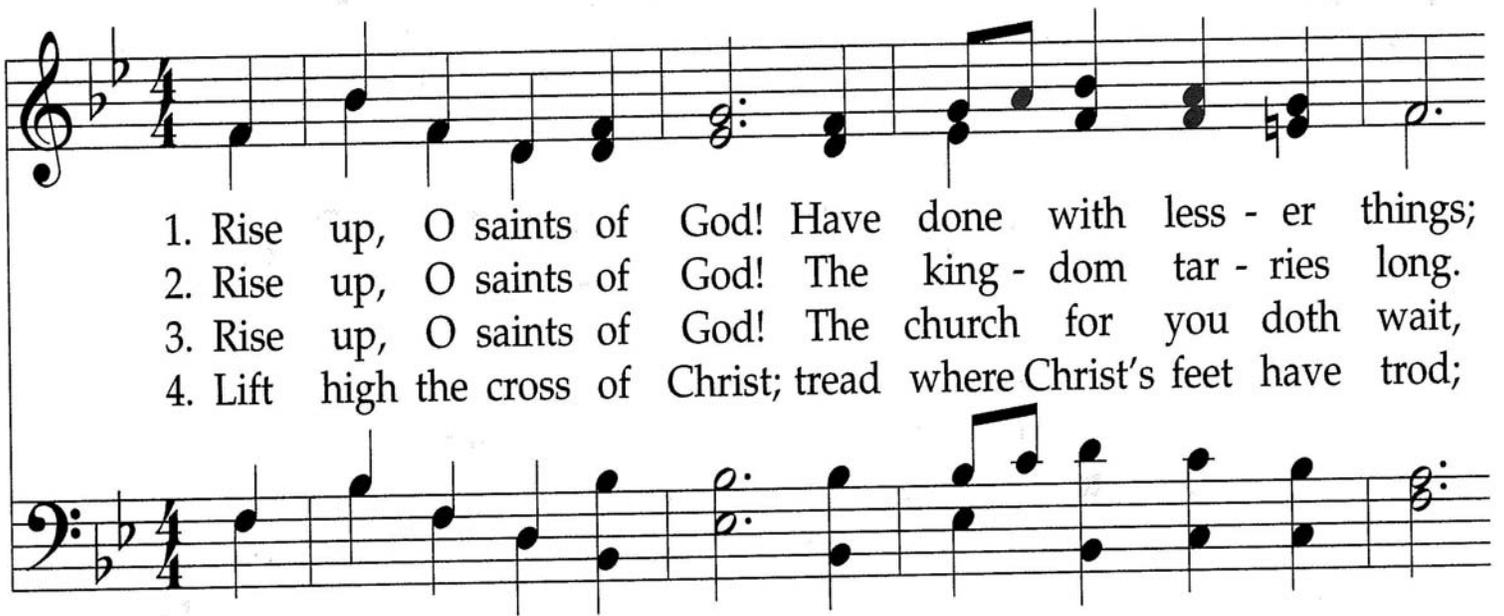
1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the
2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your

wine which you have poured, for the words which you have
gift of peace re - stored, by your call to heaven a -

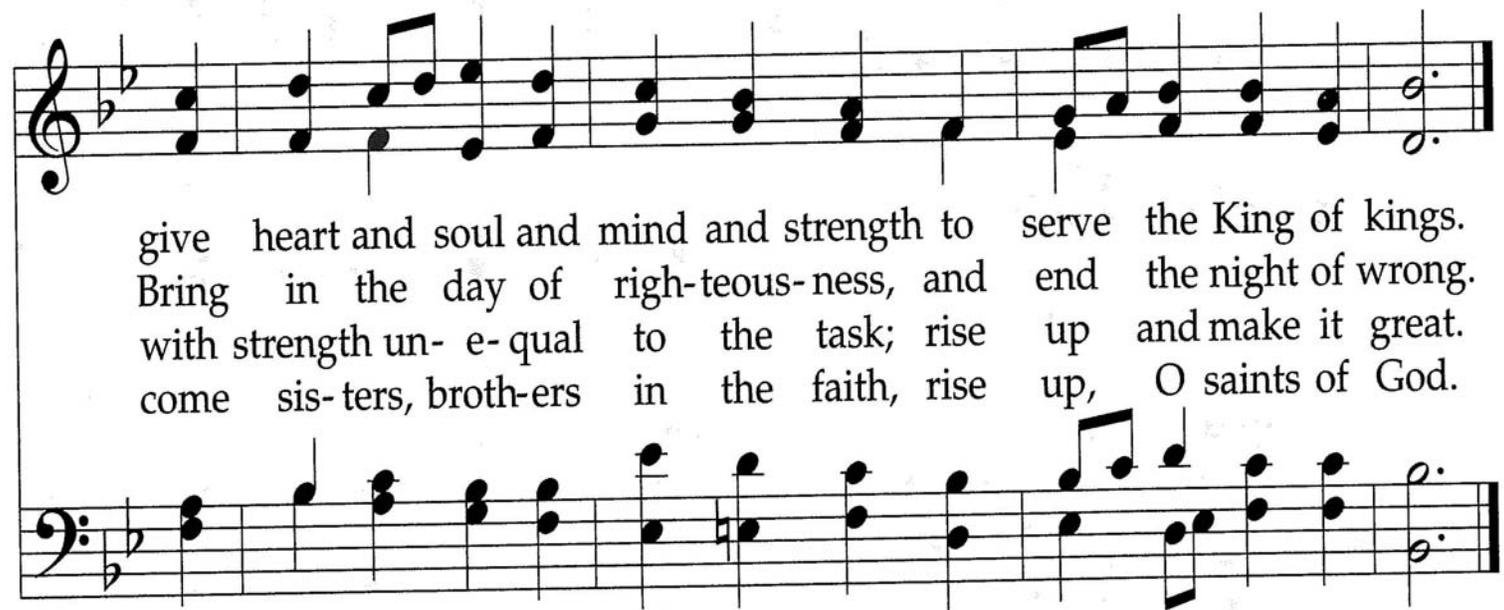
spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.

***SENDING HYMN: "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"**

insert



1. Rise up, O saints of God! Have done with less - er things;
2. Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom tar - ries long.
3. Rise up, O saints of God! The church for you doth wait,
4. Lift high the cross of Christ; tread where Christ's feet have trod;



give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.
Bring in the day of righ-teous-ness, and end the night of wrong.
with strength un-e-qual to the task; rise up and make it great.
come sis-ters, broth-ers in the faith, rise up, O saints of God.

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