

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Imagine
Together

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, October 13, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 23

The Sacrament of Christian Baptism

Neighbors In Need Special Offering

The Season of Generosity

Family Sunday

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: C Minor *Mosso*

C. Grasso

CHORAL INTROIT: *May Lamb and Lion Lie Down Together*

Round by Lorraine Lee Hammond

May Lamb and Lion lie down together,
joy and wonder never cease. Hallelujah, hallelujah, grant us peace.

***OPENING HYMN:** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" V326

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We, who are thirsty, long for water.

PEOPLE: God will cause water to spring up for us.

Leader: We, who are weak, long for strength.

PEOPLE: God will strengthen our hearts and bodies.

Leader: We, who are broken, long for restoration.

PEOPLE: God will bring the pieces of our world together.

Leader: Let us Imagine Together:

ALL: A World Made Whole**

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

O Great Spirit, God of all people and every tribe,
through whom all people are related;

Call us to the kinship of all your people.

Grant us vision to see through the lens of our Baptismal Covenant,
the brokenness of the past;

Help us to listen to one another,

in order to heal the wounds of the present;

And give us courage, patience, and wisdom to work together

for healing and hope with all of your people, now and in the future.

Mend the hoop of our hearts and let us live in justice and peace

through Jesus Christ, the One who comes to all people

that we might live in dignity. ^{##} Amen.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Port Royal VA

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

God of healing and hope, we hear your challenge to *Imagine Together*. But, *Imagining* can be a difficult task for those over the age of six; and *together* is even more challenging. We don't do much *together* in our society right now. Without imagination and without togetherness, we are lost and broken. Holy One, we need your radical strength, so that miracles may happen in our midst; that people may come together across divides, and that the very earth itself may be made whole. 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 BAPTISM OF JACK WILLIAM KIRK**AND HENRY SCOTT KIRK****THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Psalm 126

Page 564

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.*** HYMN:** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

V333

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 35:1-7

Page 652

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: I want to Walk as a Child of the Light
Words & Music: Kathleen Thomerson (b.1934)
Sung by the Chancel Choir

SERMON: “Come Home with Shouts of Joy” 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:** “Give Thanks for Life” V706

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: C Major *Andante* C. Ett

*Those who are able, please stand.

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A Prayer for Healing and Hope, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Port
Royal VA; <https://buildfaith.org/prayers-for-native-american-day/>
retrieved 10/10/2024

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Deacon is Joan Bennett. **Scripture Reader** is Jim Bennett.

Fellowship Hour will be in Carroll Hall immediately following service.

Today's flowers are given by Peter Hall, In memory of Robert Hall (Father).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Gary Czajkowski 10/16, Kim Natoli 10/18, Nancy Mahoney 10/19, Elizabeth Anderson 10/20.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Meg Adams, Herb & Ann Schneider, and Sarah.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be The Help Until Help Arrives!

Emergencies happen anywhere and at any time. Rescuers respond as soon as possible, but sometimes it's too late. Your help can save the life of a loved one or a friend. The church is offering a class called "Stop the Bleed and Hands Only CPR." The class is two hours long and is open to everyone age 11 and older and in good health. Please join us on Thursday, October 17th at 7:00pm. The cost is \$5 per person and pre-registration is required since the class size is limited. Please register by email with Ed Collett , ecollett54@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, November 2, 2024 Women's Fellowship (church) Fair, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Your help is needed!

We are accepting donations for "Grandma's Attic," "Nearly New Room," and "Christmas Room." Items can be dropped off in the elevator entranceway during office hours or after Sunday service until October 27. Please mark donations "Women's Fellowship."

We also need bakers for the "Bakery Table"—pies, cakes, cupcakes, breads, or any other baked goods you like to make. "Cookie Walk" needs lots of cookies to fill the L O N G table. Items for the "Jewelry Table" are needed. We will also need help sorting and setting up, as well as help during and after the fair!

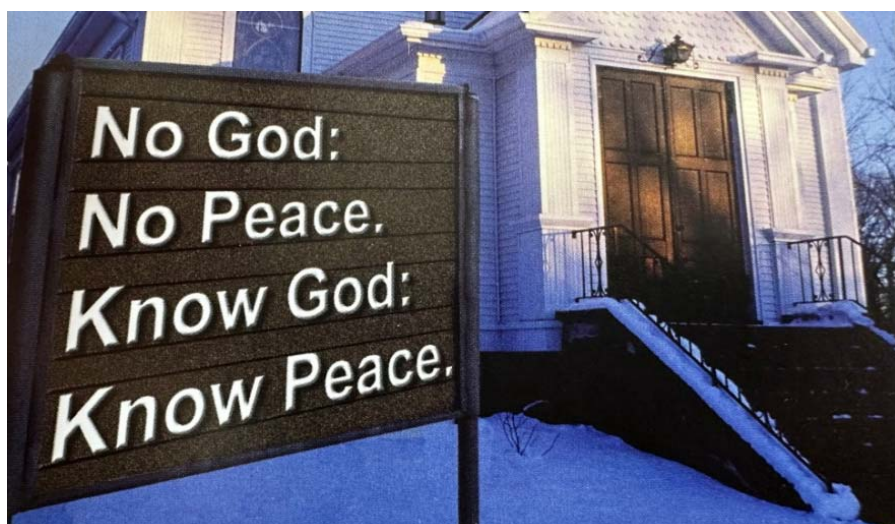
Sorting will begin on Monday, October 28, at 10:30 a.m., and setup will be every day through Friday, November 1. Please see Carol Mitchell to sign up! Thank you in advance for your help in making OUR Church Fair a success!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	10/13	9:30 a.m. 10:45	WORSHIP: In Person/Live Stream NEWCOMER DISCUSSION (K)
Monday	10/14	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 1:00 p.m. 4:30	Music Together (Dbl) AA (K) Music Together (Dbl) Food Pantry Open Music Together (Dbl)
Tuesday	10/15	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 11:00 12:00 p.m. 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) Music Together (Dbl) Music Together (Dbl) Endowment (H) PLP United Girls Choir (CH, K, Sanct) Bible Study (Zoom)
Wednesday	10/16	10:00 a.m. 10:00 5:15 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY Music Together (Dbl) COMMUNICATIONS (Zoom)
Thursday	10/17	4:30 p.m. 7:00	Music Together (Dbl) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	10/18	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30	Music Together (Dbl) FOOD PANTRY Music Together (Dbl)
Saturday	10/19	7:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30	MENS FELLOWSHIP (CH) Music Together (Dbl) Music Together (Dbl)
Sunday	10/20	9:30 a.m. 10:45 2:30 p.m.	WORSHIP: In Person/Live Stream FAITH FORMATION MT (H) Music Together – Annual Halloween Hoot (CH)

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

Quote of the day:
Church Chuckles



**THE SACRAMENT
OF
CHRISTIAN BAPTISM**

October 13, 2024

Jack William Kirk and Henry Scott Kirk



**THE NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
28 Church Street
North Haven, Connecticut 06473**

+

The Reverend Scott G. Morrow, Minister

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism is a moment in the Christian community when we recognize the grace of God living in each newborn creation.

INTRODUCTION

Minister: People were bringing little children to Jesus that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them:

PEOPLE: “LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, DO NOT STOP THEM; FOR IT IS TO SUCH AS THESE THAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS. TRULY, I TELL YOU, WHOEVER DOES NOT RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD LIKE A LITTLE CHILD WILL NEVER ENTER IT.”

Minister: And Jesus took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

PEOPLE: JESUS SAID; “UNLESS WE ARE BORN ANEW, WE CANNOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD; UNLESS WE ARE BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT, WE CANNOT ENTER GOD'S NEW ORDER”.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

***QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION**

(The Congregation will please stand)

Deacon: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, gathered as family and friends, receive these children, Jack William Kirk and Henry Scott Kirk, into the Christian family of faith, giving thanks for his life? Will you offer heartfelt prayers that this family will convey them from the love of this congregation to a Christian congregation in their own community, where they may be loved and nurtured in the way of Christ? If so, please respond, "We do."

PEOPLE: WE DO.

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BAPTISM

NAMING OF THE CHILD AND THE BAPTISM

PRAYER OF PRAISE FOR THE BAPTIZED

BENEDICTION: (Unison) ... JACK WILLIAM KIRK AND HENRY SCOTT KIRK, MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU. MAY THE LORD'S FACE SHINE UPON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS UNTO YOU. MAY THE LORD'S COUNTENANCE BE LIFTED UP UPON YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE.

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We celebrate the baptism of:

Jack William Kirk and Henry Scott Kirk

Born: May 20, 2020 **Born:** November 6, 2022

Parents:

Daniel and Vanessa Kirk

Sponsors:

Maria Isabel Preciado
and Benjamin Wolf

Sponsors:

Morgan Smigler
and Joseph Ramos



North Haven Congregational Church
Celebrates
Rev. Scott Morrow and Carol Amico
for their 30 years of service

Please join us:

November 17, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship Service
(guest preacher: The Rev. Lucia Jackson)

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Reception
Carroll Hall - Light lunch

R.S.V.P. to churchoffice@northhavenucc.org or 203-239-5691.

Scott came to North Haven Congregational Church (NHCC) in November of 1994 from the Orange Congregational Church where he was the Associate Minister for five years. While at NHCC, he has become integral to the community supporting organizations beyond our congregation.

Carol is a physician associate specializing in HIV care who has worked at Hospital of St. Raphael, Yale New Haven Hospital, and now Yale School of Medicine. She is active in the chancel choir and the New Haven Chorale.

Their children, Jesse and Amy, grew up in the church and are now living in Brooklyn, New York and Portland, Maine respectively.

North Haven Congregational Church 28 Church Street North Haven, CT 06473

30 YEARS **ANNIVERSARY**

***OPENING HYMN: "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

V326

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing". It is written in G major and 3/4 time. The score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are arranged in five numbered lines. Chord symbols (G, D, G, Em, D, G, D7, C) are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are: 1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my; 2 Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that; 3 He speaks, and lis - tening to his voice, new; 4 Hear him, you deaf; you voice - less ones, your; 5 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - great Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my; bids our sor - rows cease; 'tis mu - sic in the; life the dead re - ceive, the mourn - ful bro - ken; tongues a - gain em - ploy; you blind, be - hold your; sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the; God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace; sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace; hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve; Sav - iour comes, and leap, you lame, for joy! earth a - broad the hon - ours of your name.

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

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
 bless - ing, 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.

***CLOSING HYMN: "Give Thanks for Life"**

V706

Unison

The Unison section consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system begins with a whole rest in the treble staff, followed by a series of chords and a melodic line in the bass staff. The second system continues with similar chordal textures and a more active bass line. The third system features more complex chordal structures and a melodic line in the bass staff. The fourth system concludes with a final chord and a melodic line in the bass staff.

Harmony

The Harmony section consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system begins with a whole rest in the treble staff, followed by a series of chords and a melodic line in the bass staff. The second system continues with similar chordal textures and a more active bass line. The third system features more complex chordal structures and a melodic line in the bass staff. The fourth system concludes with a final chord and a melodic line in the bass staff.

1 Give thanks for life, the measure of
our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that
decays,
yet sing to God our hope, our love,
our praise,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

2 Give thanks for those who made
their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame,
bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who burned
for what is right,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

3 And for our own, our living and our
dead,
thanks for the love by which our life
is fed,
a love not changed by time or death
or dread,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

4 Give thanks for hope, that like the
wheat, the grain
lying in darkness does its life retain
in resurrection to grow green again,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

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.



Imagine Together: A World Made Whole

**The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus
it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and shouting.** (Isaiah 35: 1-2)

Isaiah 35 reflects on the intricate relationship between human activity and the environment, drawing parallels between the biblical narrative and contemporary ecological challenges. The passage emphasizes the profound impact of human actions on the landscape, illustrating how the expansion of deserts and ecological mismanagement contribute to famine and wildfires. Despite technological advancements, the text contends that human greed, indifference, and hopelessness impede necessary environmental healing. The theme of "A World Made Whole" calls for a collective responsibility to address ecological crises, urging a shift from destructive practices to stewardship.

Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull observes, "The apostle Paul pointed out once that 'hope that is seen is not hope' (Rom 8:24). If this is true, it is also true that hope that is left unseen, unimagined, undared, is not hope either...Underlying Isaiah 35's dramatic imagery, hope is being expressed not simply for divine acts, but for those the prophet seeks to inspire from a small band of Judeans who could recultivate the burned land and push back the chaos, and thus strengthen their own weak hands, feeble knees, and fearful hearts."

How can we Imagine Together A World Made Whole? Can we be physicians of the environment? Caregivers of the land? Our collective stewardship and generosity can be healing. Together we can actively recreate healthy environments in our yards, churches, and towns. It is our collective effort that instills order in chaos and fosters hope in hearts that may be steeped in despair.