

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, December 29, 2024

9:30 a.m.

**First Sunday after Christmas
Family Sunday**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *I Wonder as I Wander* arr. Keith D. Rowley

***OPENING HYMN:** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” V35

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: People seem fond of saying: Christmas is for children.

PEOPLE: Christmas is also for people of age and experience.

Leader: Elizabeth, Mary’s cousin, and Zechariah, the priest,
received new birth breaking all their familiar patterns.

**PEOPLE: Simeon the singer and Anna the prophet hoped for
years to see the Messiah and then recognized the gift
in a poor couple’s baby.**

Leader: How then shall we respond to Christ’s promised coming?

**ALL: With flexibility for change, patience in long waiting,
silence and singing, and by recognizing Christ in the
least likely brothers and sisters.**** *Maren C. Tirabassi*

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

God of short days and long nights,
God of deep darkness and numbing cold,
howling wind and silent stars, we are cold and numb.
Yet still...You come, dancing and exuberant,
filling us with hope, bringing us back to life...
bringing Your peace!### Amen.

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

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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 sultry stable air, God of frosty wind and snow, we come to you this wintry day, yearning to be swaddled against the raw chill of separation, loneliness, lovelessness. Thaw within us whatever keeps us from echoing the angels' praise. Warm our moaning with the shine of your glory, as you fill the empty stable in our hearts with your outpouring of home and love.*** 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CAROL: "Away in a Manger"

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THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2:41-52

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Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

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THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Colossians 3:12-17 Pg 1344

Therefore, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Lovely Child, Holy Child*

Folk Carol

Arr. David N. Johnson (1968)

SERMON: “Put On Your Christian Pants”

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:** “Angels From the Realms of Glory”

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***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

arr. Eugenie Rocherolle

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Scripture Reader** is Carol Amico.

Greeter is Beth Anderson.

Poinsettias decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas Season.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Edward Collett 12/29, Elfie Hummel 12/30, Tanner DiVito 12/30, Alec DiVito 12/30, Bill Rose 12/31, Evan Schweickert 01/01, Genoveive Doyon 01/01, Lily Corcoran 01/02, Kimberly Noel 01/05, Karlee Etter 01/05.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Urgent Need: Clothing Items for Columbus House.

Thank you for your donations of essential clothing items for the Columbus House donated in November. Our Congregation gave six large bags of socks and men's and women's underwear. The North Haven Rotary Club also donated six large bags of these items. Twelve large bags were brought to the Columbus House on November 27th and it was greatly appreciated by Sheree, the contact at Columbus House. The need for these items is very great at this facility. We will continue to collect the socks and underwear through the month of December at the Church.

The Ministry Leadership Board thanks everyone who has contributed during this season of generosity. Jesus taught us to care for our brothers and sisters and our Congregation and Rotary Club Members have given to those less fortunate.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	12/29	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: First Sunday After Christmas
Monday	12/30	1:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Tuesday	12/31	9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) PLP (CH) Girl Scout Troop 60071 BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	1/1		New Years Day: OFFICE CLOSED
Thursday	1/2	6:30 p.m. 7:00	Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	1/3	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Al-Anon Area (CH)
Saturday	1/4	7:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m.	MENS FELLOWSHIP Tibetan American (K, CR)
Sunday	1/5	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Second Sunday After Advent

*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

1, 2, 3 Good Chris- tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and

voice! Give ye heed to what we say: News! News!
voice! Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Joy! Joy!
voice! Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace!

Je - sus Christ is born to - day. Ox and ass be -
Je - sus Christ was born for this! He hath o - pened
Je - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and

fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, The lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord



Je - sus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love thee, Lord Je - sus, look



down where he lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.



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.

1 On this day earth shall ring With the song
 2 His the doom, ours the mirth; When he came
 3 God's bright star, o'er his head, Wise men three
 4 On this day an-gels sing; With their song

chil-dren sing To the Lord, Christ our King, Born on earth to
 down to earth, Beth-le-hem saw his birth; Ox and ass be-
 to him led, Kneel-ing low by his bed, Lay their gifts be-
 earth shall ring, Prais-ing Christ, heav-en's King, Born on earth to

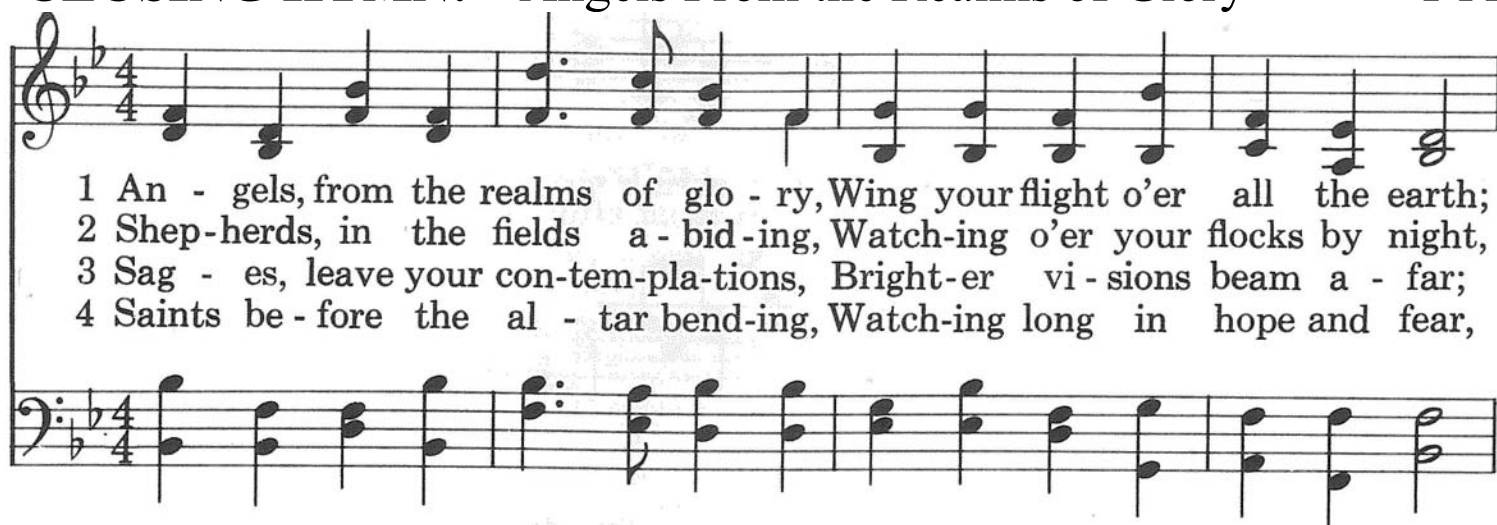
REFRAIN

save us; Him the Fa-ther gave us.
 side him From the cold would hide him. Id-e-o-o-o,
 fore him, Praise him and a-dore him.
 save us. Peace and love he gave us.

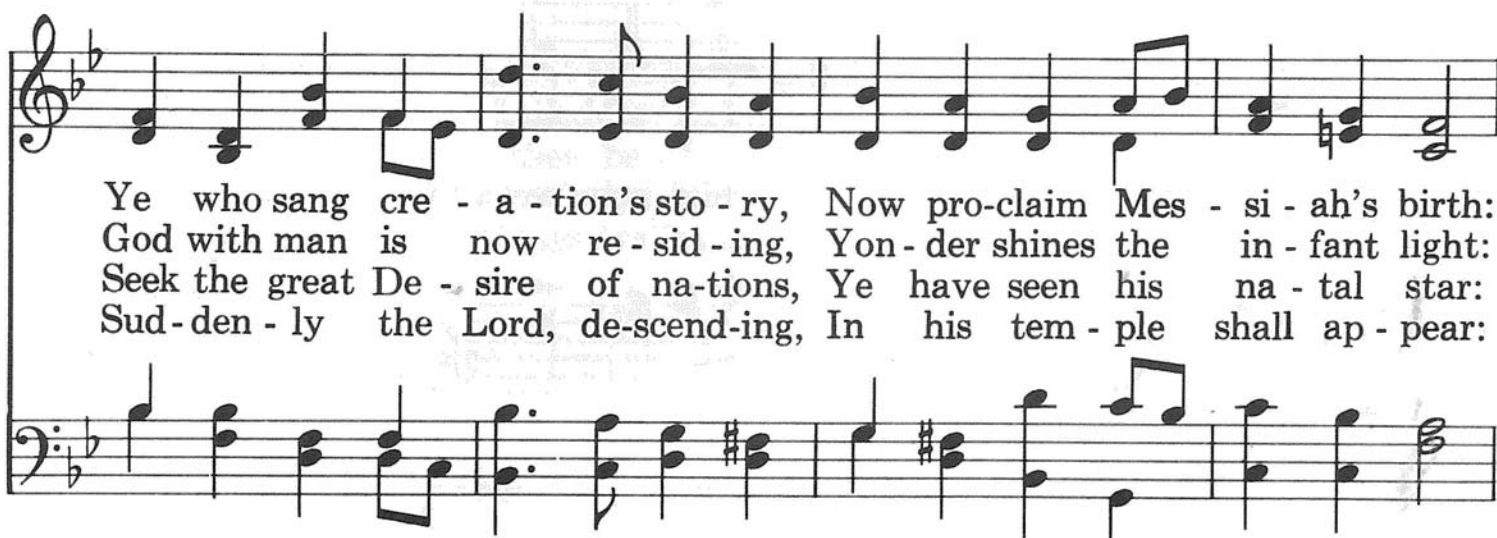
R.H.
 R.H. L.H.

BIRTH

Id-e-o-o-o, Id-e-o glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o!

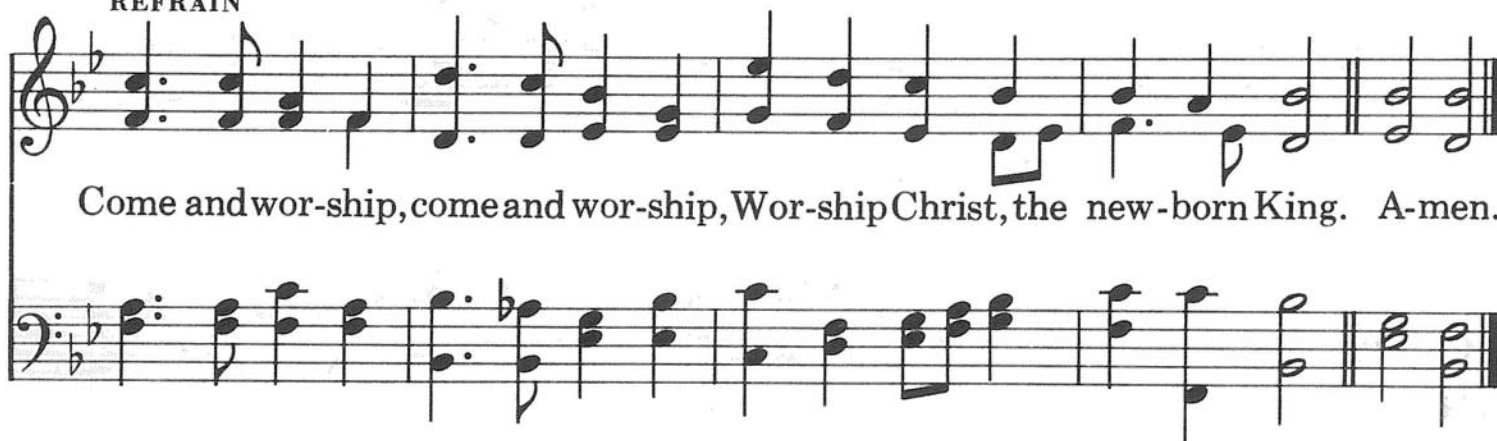


1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in hope and fear,



Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with man is now re - sid - ing, Yon - der shines the in - fant light:
Seek the great De - sire of na - tions, Ye have seen his na - tal star:
Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, In his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

REFRAIN



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King. A - men.

2024 POINSETTIA FUND

Donations Provided By

Beth Anderson: In loving memory of my husband Philip DiPeri and parents Robert & Catherine Anderson

Joyce Bellonio: In loving memory of Anthony & David Bellonio, Edith & Frank Prentice and Eugene & Bertha Allen.

Jim and Joan Bennett: In loving memory of Jean Bennett and Ethel Hall.

Cheryl Bogert: In loving memory of my parents, Joan & Al Bogert.

Sandy Carter: In loving memory of my parents Richard & Carmel DeCola, my Niece Cindy Henniger, and my beloved grandson Jack Viele.

Wendy Civitello: In loving memory of Nina & Papa Collett.

Ed & Mary Ellen Collett: In loving memory of Charles & Barbara Collett.

Corcoran Family: In loving memory of Betty DiCarlo.

Carl & Lillian Flodquist: In loving memory of our son, David Thomas Flodquist.

Merrilee Gladkosky: In loving memory of Wilmer & Jean Taylor.

Tom & Wendy Glynn: In loving memory of Wendy's dad, Richard Jahoda, and brother, Tom Jahoda, and Tom's mom, Helga Glynn.

Susan Guckert: In loving memory of my husband, Gary Heffernan, and my parents George & Agatha Guckert.

Ellie & Kathy Harple: In loving memory of Warren & David Harple.

Carla Hill: In memory of my family members who watch over me/us from above with our Lord God: Mother - Cindy James, Father - Phillip James, Brother - Brian James, Maternal Uncle - Charles Gedney, Paternal Aunt - Marcia Carthaus, In-laws - Barbara & Paul Hill.

Melanie J. Howlett: In loving memory of Winston & Hilda Howlett.

Bernie and Elfie Hummel: In loving memory of Bernie and Elfie's parents, Paul & Irmgard Hummel and Martin & Adelheid Dimmlich.

Linda Lacobelli: In loving memory of Anthony Lacobelli (husband), Tony Lacobelli (son), Mr. & Mrs. Frank Prentice and Mr. & Mrs. Lucien Lacobelli.

Barbara Massey: In loving memory of Barbara's parents, David & Gert Diana.

Joyce & Ted Manzo: In loving memory of Joyce's brother, John Petzel.

Heather, Drew, & Brooklyn Mastracchio: In loving memory of Arlene Elmo.

Billy & Jeanne Mecca: In loving memory of Maria Mecca, Marylou Lampe & Susan Gooley.

Mickolyzck & Conley Family: In loving memory of Phyllis Pugliese & Chip Whalen.

Carol Mitchell: In loving memory of Jörn & Mary Berg-Johnsen and William S. Dawless.

Scott Morrow and Carol Amico: In loving memory of Robert & Marylou Morrow, Anthony & Frances Amico and Robert Amico.

Sara & Bryant Munson: In loving memory of Philip Munson.

Mabel & Stephen Peterson: In loving memory of Charlotte and Byron Liske (Mabel's sister and brother-in-law), and Stewart LaRocque (Mabel's brother-in-law), Donald Mark Peterson (Stephen's brother).

Dot Pierce: In loving memory of Greg & Stephen Pierce.

Peter & Victoria Struk: In loving memory of Melanie Struk.

Catherine Welch: In loving memory of my beloved parents Henry & Martha Griffis.

Donations from:

Cynthia Boerma Campos

Sue Cifelli

Doris Ferner

Raymond Filip

Peter & Cheryl Hall

Rob & Lynne Nielsen

