

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, April 27, 2025

9:30 a.m.

**Second Sunday of Easter
The Noisy Offering**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* David Schelat

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

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

PEOPLE: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: We have not seen the risen Christ,

**PEOPLE: but we see him in the lives of those transformed by
grace.**

Leader: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,

**PEOPLE: but we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose
love encourages us.**

Leader: We have not touched the wounds from the cross,

**ALL: but we have been called to bring healing to the wounds
of the world.**

(Thom M. Shuman, Playing Hopscotch in Heaven)

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

Source of Love, give us courage and grace to walk in the ways of peace. Inspire us to meet hatred with love. Give us wisdom to identify the structures of oppression and the strength to dismantle them so that we might be good news to those who are suffering. 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 INVOCATION:~unison

Alpha and Omega, our Beginning and End, we come to you this day with praise on our lips and joy in our hearts. We come to you with doubt in our minds and despair in our bones. From all sorts of places and with all kinds of thoughts, we come into your presence to offer you worship and praise. Breathe upon us with your Spirit, that we may receive the peace of your presence with us. 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 NOISY OFFERING

Karlee Etter

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karlee Etter

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 150

Page 575

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty firmament!

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound;

praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with tambourine and dance;

praise him with strings and pipe!

Praise him with clanging cymbals;

praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** "You Tell Me That the Lord Is Risen"

V185

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 20:19-31 Page 1259

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of

the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Who Is There, on This Easter Morning?*

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, (1926-2024)

Tune: French Traditional

Arr. Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

Sung by the Chancel Choir

Who is there on this Easter morning
runs not with John to find the grave?
Nor sees how, death's dominion scorning,
Jesus is risen, strong to save?
Who is there on this Easter morning
runs not with John to find the grave?
Who has not stood where Mary grieving
to that first Easter garden came;
for very joy but half-believing,
whose is the voice that calls her name?
Who has not stood where Mary grieving
to that first Easter garden came?
Who is there doubts that night is ended?
Hear from on high the trumpets call!
Christ is in triumph now ascended,
risen and reigning, Lord of all!
Who is there doubts that night is ended?
Hear from on high the trumpets call!

SERMON: “Breath of Life”

Cindy Stasko

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: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

V663

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* Charles Callahan

*Those who are able, please stand.

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We welcome the Rev. Cynthia Stasko as our guest preacher this morning. Ordained at the First Congregational Church of Meriden UCC in 2011, Rev. Cindy Stasko has been grateful for the privilege to serve congregations in Bridgeport and Durham, Connecticut in settled and interim ministry.

Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Scripture Reader** is Heather Mastracchio.

Greeters are.

Fellowship Hour is hosted by .

Easter lilies decorate the sanctuary in celebration of Easter.

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

In Our Prayers This Week are: Family of Tony Solecki, Family of Muriel Basilio (Dot Pierce’s sister), Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, Herb & Ann Schneider.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Meeting of the Congregation: Sunday, May 4th 10:45am

We will be holding a special meeting of the Congregation to discuss the transition planning for our new Pastor. This will be an informational meeting.

Pierpont Concert

We are delighted to host a special upcoming concert featuring young people with an abundance of talent! On Saturday May 3, 2025, 7:00PM, we are delighted to welcome back the United Girls' Choir. Last year's concert was thrilling, with numerous complex arrangements of beautiful choral music.

This concert will have amazing and inspiring music! Children are encouraged to attend and those children, under 12yo, are free admission. Students are \$10. Adults are \$15 and we are very grateful for that support.

The Annual Tag Sale will take place on May 10th, 9 a.m.to 2 p.m. We are accepting household items, small appliances (working condition), small pieces of furniture, glassware, home décor, etc. Items may be dropped off in Carroll Hall or the elevator entrance. Please be sure items are clean and in good condition! No clothing! We also will have spaces available if you would like to rent your own space. We will be serving hot dogs, burgers, chips, and soda for a minimal cost. Stop by and find the treasure you've been looking for or just stop by for lunch. Hope to see you there. We need your support!

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 7th, 6 p.m. B I N G O

is coming to NHCC Carroll Hall for an evening filled with great prizes—6 designer handbags or \$100 gift cards. Door prizes, raffle gifts, 50/50 raffle, and lots of fun! All proceeds will be donated to the Parking Lot Paving Project! For more information, please see Dot Pierce or call 203-634-6695. Come and join the fun! Dot Pierce, Women's Fellowship

Food Panty – Items needed - pasta sauce, baked beans, soup, and canned fruit. Please bring these items to the church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Rhonda Masnato 05/01, Robin Rose 05/04.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Kevin & Cheryl Studley 04/30, Carla & Michael Hill 05/01.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	4/27	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Second Sunday of EASTER
Monday	4/28	9:30 a.m. 10:30 1:00 p.m. 4:30 6:00	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Food Pantry Ukelele (DBL) New Haven Camera Club (CH)
Tuesday	4/29	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 12:00 p.m. 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) 10-11:30 Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Library) United Girls' Choir (CH, K, Sanct) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	4/30	 9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00 p.m. 2:30 4:30	WINDOW DEADLINE Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Danish Sisterhood (K) CHURCH SAFETY (L) Ukulele (DBL)
Thursday	5/1	7:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m. 4:30 6:30 7:00	Community Prayer Breakfast Food Pantry Council (CH) Ukulele (DBL) Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	5/2	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 7:00 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon Area (CH)
Saturday	5/3	7:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 11:30 3:00 p.m. 7:00	MENS FELLOWSHIP (CH) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Rhythm Kids (DBL) Tibetan American (K, CR) UNITED GIRLS CHOIR CONCERT
Sunday	5/4	9:30 a.m. 10:45 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP: Second Sunday of EASTER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Pastoral Search Information Session Birthday Party (CH)

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

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

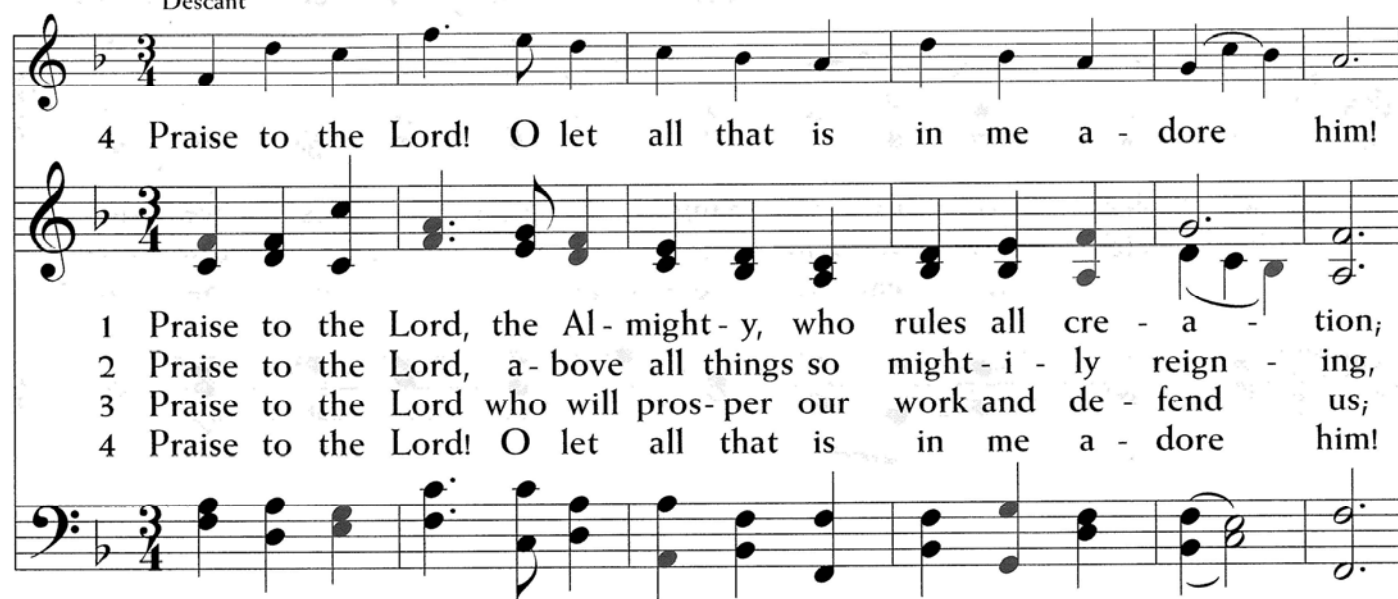
We:

- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.

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

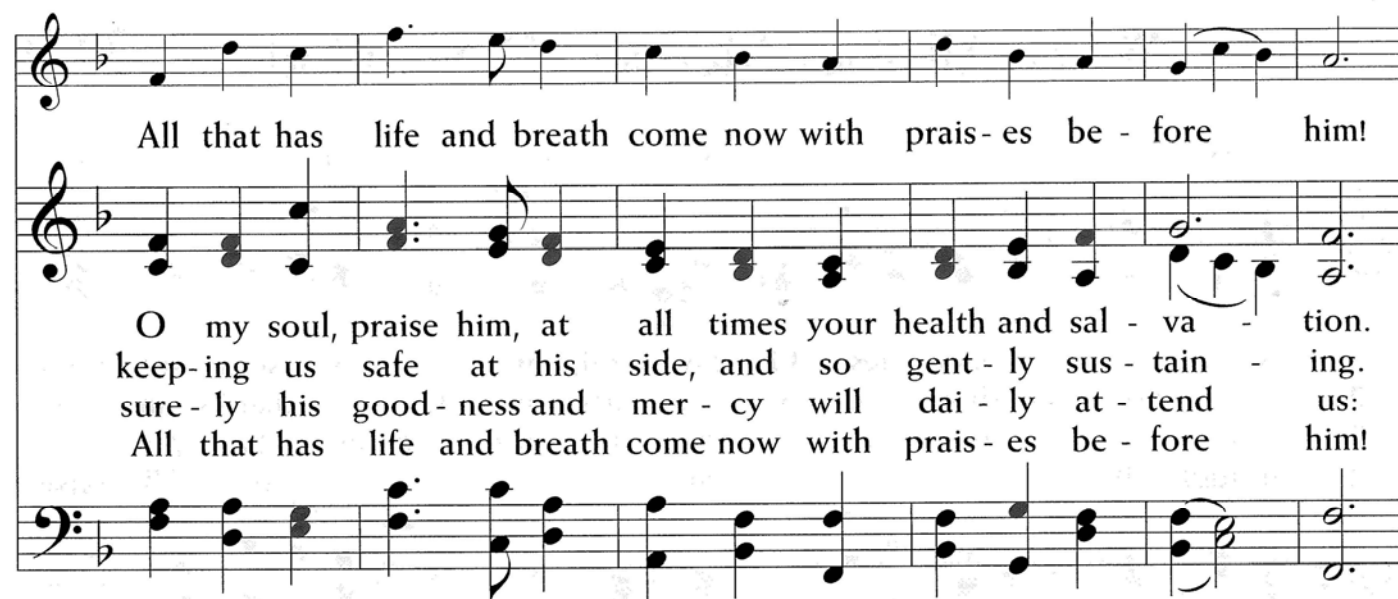
V220

Descant



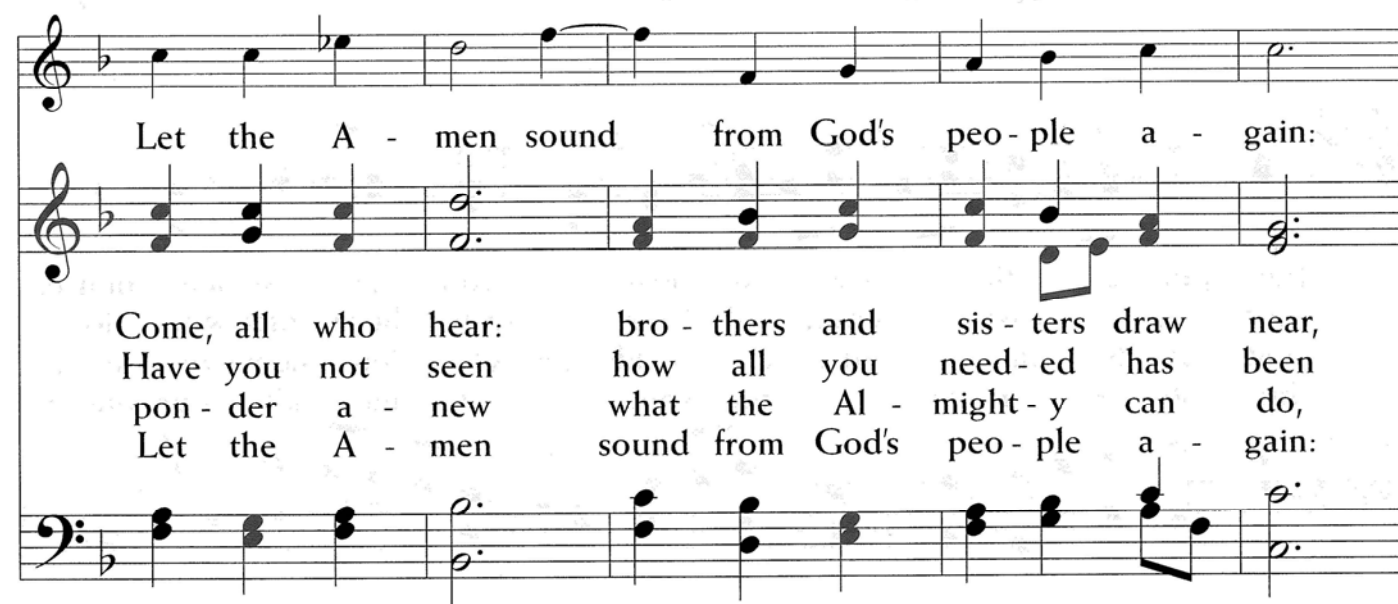
4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him!

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!



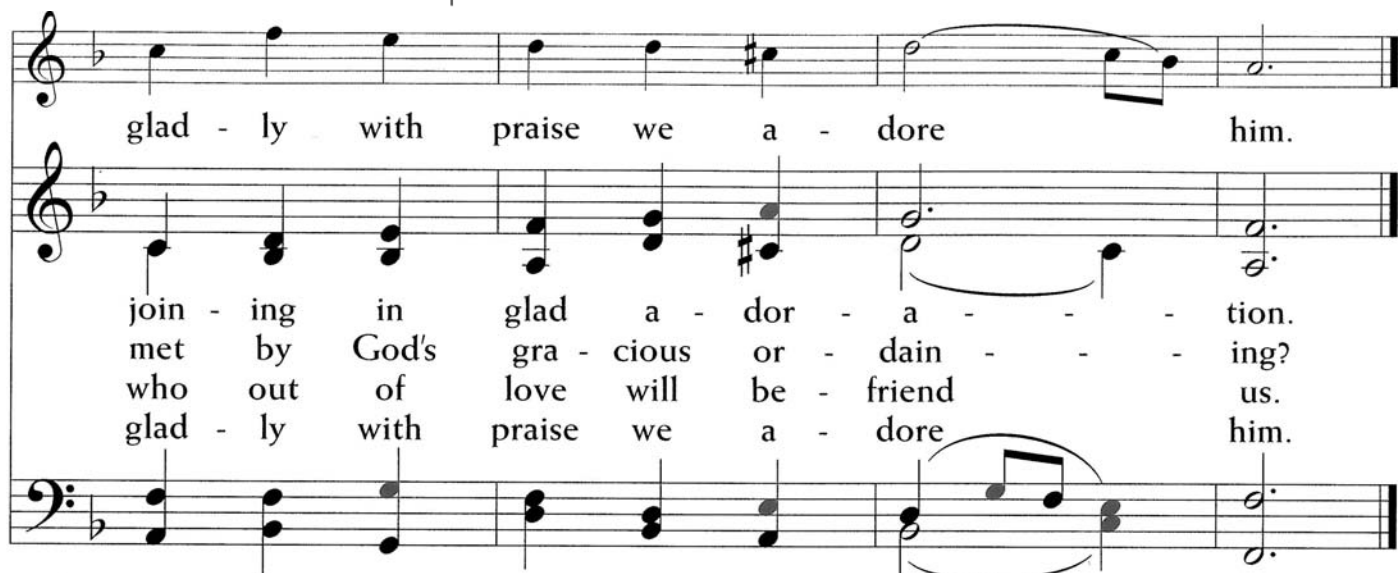
All that has life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him!

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:

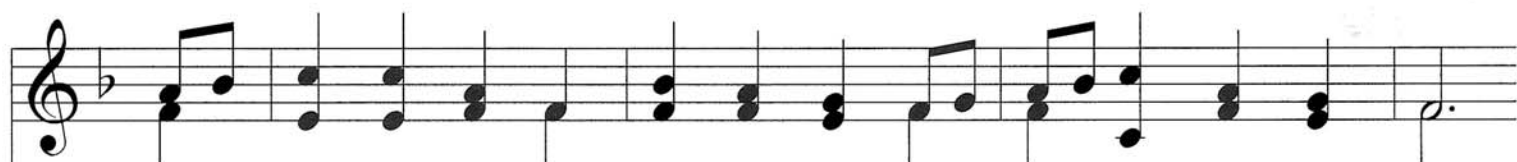


glad - ly with praise we a - dore him.

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.



1 You tell me that the Lord is risen, that you have seen his face.
 2 You claim a res - ur - rec - tion here, that God has bro - ken death.
 3 "Now peace be with you. Come, my friend, my wound - ed bod - y see.
 4 "How blest are they, how for - tu - nate who know with - out the sight.



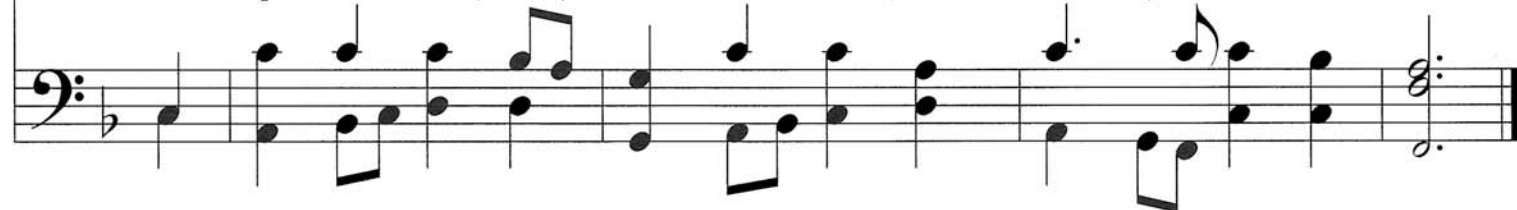
Then tell me why you crouch in fear and hide with - in this place.
 No eas - y words like these will soothe the pain that tears my breath.
 Let the rich cour - age of your doubt bring you to fresh be - lief.
 But Thom - as, you are fa - voured too, for search - ing yields its light."



You say that he spoke words of peace and stood just as be - fore.
 How well do I re - call his face, com - pas - sion, strength in fear.
 Fear not to won - der at the Word, to search the depths of grace.
 So may each pil - grim in the Way, each road to Christ be blest,



But 'til I touch his ve - ry flesh I will not trust your joy.
 How deep my grief that he should die. Spare me your words of cheer!
 Reach out and touch, here is my hand. Re - ceive the gift of faith."
 'til lips de - clare, "My Lord and God!", Christ's bod - y one at last.



***CLOSING HYMN: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"**

V663

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of
 2 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a -
 3 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my

Cal - va - ry, Sav - iour di - vine. Now hear me
 round me spread, be thou my guide, bid dark - ness
 faint - ing heart, my zeal in - spire. As thou hast

while I pray; take all my guilt a - way.
 turn to day; wipe sor - row's tears a - way;
 died for me, O may my love to thee

O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
 nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.

BUILDING COMMUNITY, PAVING THE WAY FOR OUR FUTURE

North Haven Congregational Church

1 Corinthians 12:7
To each is given the
manifestation of the
Spirit for the common
good



Food Pantry



Defibrillator and
commercial-grade
dishwasher



Front Steps Repairs



Parking Lot
Restoration

