

FOUNDED 1716  
*North Haven*  
*Congregational Church*  
United Church of Christ



**Sunday, May 25, 2025**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Sixth Sunday after Easter  
Memorial Day Sunday  
Family Sunday**

North Haven, Connecticut  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

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

**Sunday, May 25, 2025**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Sixth Sunday after Easter  
Memorial Day Sunday  
Family Sunday – Noisy Offering**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** *Praeludium*

Simon Sechter

**\*OPENING HYMN:** “God of Grace and God of Glory”

P366

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Sometimes worship is a parade, a celebration, a gathering of people expressing their joy.

**PEOPLE: Sometimes worship is an adventure, a quest, a gathering of people searching for meaning.**

Leader: Sometimes worship is a funeral, a fast, a gathering of people seeking comfort in their grief.

**PEOPLE: Among us today are people who have come to march,  
people who have come to search,  
People who have come to weep ...**

Leader: Yet we have all come to acknowledge God and to touch each other. Come with open minds, open hearts, open arms;

**ALL: that we all might find that for which we have come and that, as well, we all might be surprised.\*\***

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

Where there is peace in the heart, there is peace in the home.

Where there is peace in the home, there is peace in the community.

Where there is peace in the community, there is peace in the nation.

Where there is peace in the nation, there is peace in the world.

May peace begin here, right now, in each of our hearts.## 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**

New every morning is your mercy, O God; your faithfulness is as boundless as the heavens. We gather to worship you, thankful for all your gifts. We thank you that Jesus, in dying and rising for us, has delivered us from the power of sin and death. Free us to accept the new life Christ offers us, through your presence among us. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.\*\* 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

## **THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:** John 14:23-29

Page 1253

Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.

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

\* **HYMN:** “Shall We Gather at the River”

V710

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

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

**GIFT OF MUSIC:** *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Text: Jill Jackson-Miller

Sung by the Chancel Choir

Music: Sy Miller

Catherine Welch, Carol Mitchell, Sopranos

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;  
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant  
to be.

With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk  
with each other in perfect harmony...

**[1<sup>st</sup> time, repeat to top:]**

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take, may this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace  
eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin  
with me.

**[Repeat “To take each moment...”]**

# A MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

**SERMON:** “The God Box”

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:** “The Church of Christ in Every Age”

V601

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Voluntary* [in G Major]

Samuel Jackson

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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

**In Our Prayers This Week are:** Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, Herb & Ann Schneider.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Sunday, June 1 is Heritage Sunday**

On Heritage Sunday we take the opportunity to celebrate long-time members of the Church. Heritage Members are those who have been members of NHCC for 50 years...or more! Just imagine: with perfect attendance that's at least 2600 Sundays! It is a special occasion to recognize long-time members. We will also recognize those who have been church members in several different churches for 50 years or more.

### **Sunday, June 8 is Confirmation Sunday**

We will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, June 8. This is a very special occasion for the Confirmands, their parents and families, and for our congregation. It is customary to celebrate the sacrament of communion on Confirmation Sunday.

### **Sunday June 15 is Choir Appreciation Sunday**

We will celebrate our choirs – the Chancel Choir, the Children's Choir, and the Chime Choir – and our talented and dedicated music staff – Organist Heather Meachen and Director of Music Jeffrey Hutchins, on Sunday, June 15. This will be our opportunity to thank all of these fine people for their commitment, their generous spirit, and their great work!

### **Sunday June 15 will be a Celebration of the Church!**

We will celebrate the last 30 years of the church. We have installed an elevator, a new steeple, and drainage in the parking lot. There have been mission trips for youth, and for adults! We have joined ecumenical services at Thanksgiving and in celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in January. There have been Pierpont Concerts, an expanding Food Pantry, and Abraham's Tent. Committees have become Mission Teams and the Church Council is now the Ministry Leadership Board! What do you remember and celebrate? Do you have some pictures to share?

### **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 Pantry – Items needed** – Please bring canned vegetables and canned fruit and mayonnaise and place them in the basket in the Narthex.

## **6th Annual On-Line Fundraising Auction**

Sunday June 22 is the date for bringing items to church to donate to our 6th annual On-Line Fundraising Auction.

After worship on June 22, items can be brought to the chapel. The auction will go live on-line on July 7 and close July 14.

**We have already received generous donations including 14 karat gold rings, necklaces and bracelets, Lenox cake plates, a lovely set of china, a Hitchcock rocking chair, a kayak and two paddle boards!**

In preparation for the auction, please send photos of items you could donate to Patience. Items needed include mid-century modern items, just about anything teak, record albums, receiver, lift chair in good condition, sterling silver items, kayak, antiques, small occasional table, anything unusual. Items that have done very well in our first five auctions includes a canoe, Thule car-top carrier, antique license plate, fur coats, fly rods, turntable, liftchair, Karastan rugs, antique wagon, sought-after pyrex, turquoise, unique large dollhouse, ceramic Christmas tree, fine jewelry, oil painting, captain's chairs. If you know a neighbor or relative downsizing, please ask if they have something they would donate. Funds raised go to this year's church budget as voted at our annual meeting (fundraising income). Contact a member of the B Team with any questions: Patience Benassi, Martin Benassi, Priscilla Bradford, Martha Butterworth.

## **Recommendations for Silver Lake Conference Center**

The Southern New England Conference UCC has engaged a consulting group to consider the viability of Silver Lake Conference Center going forward and make recommendations. There are two opportunities to attend a listening session to learn and offer feedback: Sunday, May 25, 3-4:30pm at Southington Congregational Church, and Tuesday, May 27, 7-8:30m at First Congregational Church, Glastonbury. Please see the Conference website for more information.

**North Haven PRIDE Day** will be Saturday, June 14, from Noon-4pm. We anticipate opening up the Church once again as a calm space. We want to gather a group of members to sit outside the Church, share our new brochure and information about the Parking Lot Campaign, and welcome visitors. Please speak with Patience Benassi, Sandy Carter, or Scott Morrow if you'd like to join us. The PRIDE flag-raising will be Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, at 10am at the North Haven Memorial Library.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5/25</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>WORSHIP:</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter
<b>Monday</b>	<b>5/26</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 9:30 10:30 4:30 p.m.	<b>OFFICE CLOSED (Memorial Day)</b> <b>Music Together (DBL)</b> AA (K) Music Together (DBL) Ukulele (DBL)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5/27</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 9:30 10:30 12:00 p.m. 3:30 6:00	<b>Al-Anon (K) 10-11:30</b> Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Library) United Girls’ Choir (CH, K, Sanct) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>5/28</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 10:30 1:00 p.m. 1:30 4:30 7:00	<b>WINDOW DEADLINE</b> Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Danish Sisterhood (K) CHURCH SAFETY (L) Ukulele (DBL) SAFE CONDUCT MT (L)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5/29</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> 5:30 7:00	<b>Ukulele (DBL)</b> CONFIRMATION CHANCEL CHOIR
<b>Friday</b>	<b>5/30</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 10:30	<b>Music Together (DBL)</b> FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5/31</b>	<b>9:30</b> 10:30 11:30 12:00 p.m. 3:00 3:30	<b>Music Together (DBL)</b> Music Together (DBL) Rhythm Kids (DBL) Al-Anon District 3 (CH, Kitch) Tibetan American (K, CR) CONFIRMATION TO MASS
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6/1</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>   5:30 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP:</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter   CONFIRMATION CLASS (CH)

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Carter Mickolyzck 05/28, Martha Butterworth 05/31, Alessia Mickolyzck 05/31.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Kathi & Robert Mickolyzck 05/25.



\*OPENING HYMN: "God of Grace and God of Glory"

P366



The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line and a corresponding lyric line. The lyrics are arranged in five columns, with the first column containing the verse number (1-5) and the subsequent columns containing the lyrics for each voice part. The hymn concludes with a final Amen.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On thy pec - ple  
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn thy Christ, as -  
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to  
 4 Set our feet on loft - y pla - ces; Gird our lives that  
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils

pour thy power; Crown thine an - cient church's sto - ry; Bring her bud to  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us, Free our hearts to  
 thy con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, Rich in things and  
 they may be Arm - ored with all Christ - like gra - ces In the fight to  
 we de - plore; Let the search for thy sal - va - tion Be our glo - ry

glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, Grant us cour - age,  
 faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, Grant us cour - age,  
 poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, Grant us cour - age,  
 set men free. Grant us wis - dom, Grant us cour - age,  
 ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, Grant us cour - age,

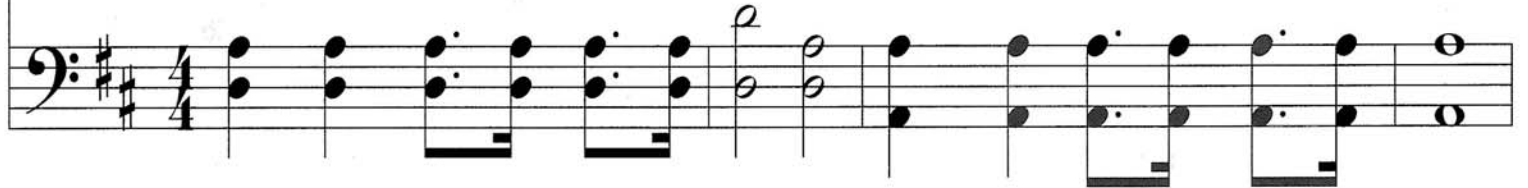
For the fac - ing of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
 For the liv - ing of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
 Lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, Lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
 That we fail not man nor thee, That we fail not man nor thee.  
 Serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, Serv - ing thee whom we a - dore. A - men.

\* HYMN: "Shall We Gather at the River"

V710



- 1 Shall we ga - ther at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod;  
 2 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;  
 3 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease,



with its crys - tal tide for ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.



*Refrain*



Yes, we'll ga - ther at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



ga - ther with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.



**\*CLOSING HYMN: “The Church of Christ in Every Age”**

V601

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are arranged in five systems, each with a diamond symbol (♦) indicating a specific part of the hymn. The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are as follows:

1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be -  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street the  
♦ 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a  
4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can  
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in  
set by change but Spi - rit led, must claim and test its  
vic - tims of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
♦ car - ing church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
cure the fev - er in our blood, and teach us how to  
full o - bed - ience to our Lord: to care for all with -  
her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
bread to eat, and nev - er live un - til they die.  
♦ sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
out re - serve and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

**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





## **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.