

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven Congregational Church

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, August 24, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 16

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***OPENING HYMN: “We Praise You, Creator”**

V293

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Before we got up this morning and decided to come to church,

PEOPLE: God was waiting for us, to welcome us with grace.

Leader: When we are unsure of what to do; when we falter before the next step,

PEOPLE: we come to listen to God’s voice, to learn from the One who teaches us all we ever need to know.

Leader: When we are surrounded by cruelty and injustice; when our fears cripple our souls,

All: God delivers us with steadfast love and we are set free to be God’s children.

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

Circle me, Lord. Keep protection
near And danger afar.

Circle me, Lord. Keep light near
And darkness afar.

Circle me, Lord. Keep hope within.
Keep doubt without.

Circle me, Lord. Keep peace
within. Keep evil out.

David Adam, Vicar 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

Holy God, we thank you that you receive us not according to our failing goodness, but according to your overflowing grace. You receive us as we are. You show us what we can be, through Jesus Christ, who came to share our common lot and reconcile us to yourself. Sweep over us with your Spirit, and change us by your love that we may sing with joy before you, and live to your glory in the world.** 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: Psalm 71

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Prayer for Lifelong Protection and Help

- ¹ In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
- ² In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.
- ³ Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
- ⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
- ⁵ For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
- ⁶ From my birth I have leaned upon you,
my protector since my mother’s womb. ^[b]
My praise is continually of you.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

*** HYMN: “Jesus’ Hands Were Kind Hands”**

V570

Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman

¹⁰ Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

Organ Interlude

SERMON: “Set Free”

Rev. Cindy

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

Rev. Cindy

GREETING OF PEACE ~unison

May the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you always!

***CLOSING HYMN: “Here I Am, Lord”**

V509

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able, please stand.

** Thom Shuman

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Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Scripture Reader** is Susan Compton.
Greeter is Beth Anderson. **Today’s flowers** are given by Beth
Anderson to celebrate the beauty of the summer.

**Please join us for Fellowship Hour in Carroll Hall immediately
following service.**

In Our Prayers This Week are: The family of Betsy Gumbart, Lee
Guckert and her Family, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene
Bellonio, Meg Adams, Herb & Ann Schneider, Charlotte Shea, and the
Family of Curtis Andrews, Sr..

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry needs

The Food Pantry is in need of canned meals: Beefaroni, Spaghettio’s,
Beef stew, Chili and Chili with beans. Please bring to the church.

Covenant to Care – Today is the Deadline to return backpacks

Thank you to all who are supplying the backpacks for children in need,
all the names were taken last week! Please return the filled backpacks
with the child’s name on it today. If you forgot to bring it with you
please contact Kathy Harple. Thank you for your support!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	8/24	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Monday	8/25	1:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Tuesday	8/26	10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 7:00 7:00	Al-Anon (K) PLP (Library) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) PASTORAL TRANSITION (Zoom) Music Under the Stars (Green)
Wednesday	8/27	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	WINDOW MAILING FOOD PANTRY OPEN Danish Sisterhood (K)
Thursday	8/28	7:00 p.m.	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	8/29	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN HOST: Matsiko Choir
Saturday	8/30		HOST: Matsiko Choir
Sunday	8/31	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Alexis Dubail 08/24, Ella Tolisano 8/27, Catherine Welch 08/28, Barbara Massey 08/29.

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 Cindy Stasko, Bridge Pastor

Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children

Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music

Heather Meachen, Organist

Julie Schweickert, Office Manager

Dave Nelson, Sexton

*OPENING HYMN: "We Praise You, Creator"

V293

1 Les cieux et la ter - re cé - lè - brent en chœur
 2 C'est lui qui nous don - ne le prin - temps joy - eux,
 1 We praise you, Cre - a - tor, in earth, sea, and sky:
 2 Each spring - time the blos - soms bloom frag - rant once more;

la gloi - re du Pè - re, du Dieu cré - a - teur.
 les fruits de l'au - tom - ne, l'é - té ra - di - eux.
 our Rul - er, our Mak - er, our Sov - ereign most high.
 each sum - mer and aut - umn brings forth its rich store.

Qu'il est re - dou - ta - ble dans sa ma - jes - té!
 Lar - gesse in - fi - ni - e que rien ne ta - rit!
 Each new gen - er - a - tion lifts voic - es in praise;
 With wit - ness com - pel - ling our praise and our prayer,

Qu'il est ad - mi - ra - ble dans sa cha - ri - té!
 Sa main ras - sa - si - e tout ê - tre qui vit.
 how good your cre - a - tion, how gra - cious your ways!
 cre - a - tion is tell - ing of your faith - ful care.

3 Your wondrous works teach us,
 Creator, to trace
 the limitless reaches
 of your love and grace.
 Your grace dwells among us,
 your love goes before:
 from eldest to youngest
 we praise and adore.

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 2/4. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support through chords and single notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some lines having two parts (1 and 2) for different vocal parts or a choir.

1 Je - sus' hands were kind hands, do - ing good to all, heal - ing pain and
2 Take my hands, O Je - sus, let them work for you, make them strong and

sick - ness, bless - ing chil - dren small, wash - ing tir - ed feet, and sav - ing
gen - tle, kind in all I do; let me watch you, Je - sus, till I'm

those who fall; Je - sus' hands were kind hands, do - ing good to all.
gen - tle too, till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

*CLOSING HYMN: “Here I Am, Lord”

V509

Unison

GAmG C/GG D/F#

1

I, the Lord of sea and sky,

I have heard my peo - ple cry.

2

I, the Lord of snow and rain,

I have borne my peo - ple's pain,

3

I, the Lord of wind and flame,

I will tend the poor and lame,

GEmAm7CAm(F/G)DD/C

All who dwell in deep - est sin

my hand will save.

I have wept for love of them;

they turn a - way.

I will set a feast for them;

my hand will save.

GAm/GGC/GGD/F#

I who made the stars of night,

I will make their dark-ness bright.

I will break their hearts of stone,

give them hearts for love a - lone.

Fin-est bread I will pro-vide

till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

GEm7Am7Am/CAmG/BAm7/C Dsus-D

Who will bear my light to them?

Whom shall I send?

I will speak my word to them.

Whom shall I send?

I will give my life to them.

Whom shall I send?

Refrain

D/F# G Gsus G G/B Am7 G C/E D7 G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have

heard you call-ing in the night. I will

G Am G Am/C C Dsus D/F# D7

go, Lord, if you lead me. I will

hold your peo - ple in my heart.

G Gsus G Am/G G C D7 G

hold your peo - ple in my heart.

hold your peo - ple in my heart.

G C/G G Am7 C/D D G C/G D.C. G Fine

hold your peo - ple in my heart.