

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 31, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 17

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Suite Four Fuga Prima by J.C.F. Fischer

***OPENING HYMN: "When Morning Gilds the Skies"**

V339

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We come to worship our God, to listen to the One who calls us here.

People: We come trusting God to lead us in the coming days, as surely as were our grandparents in the faith.

Leader: We come to worship our God, to shout with joy to the God of all people.

People: We come to the Creator of all things, to be bathed in the waters of life.

Leader: We come to the Feast of God's faithful,

All: to be fed by the One who never forsakes us.

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

O God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth; Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust; Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let your peace fill our hearts, our homes, our world, our universe. Amen. Satish Kumar

***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

Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet where the last may be first, and the humble and the mighty trade places. Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity; let us greet strangers as angels you have sent! Send your Spirit now so that we may find a place at your table and welcome others with radical hospitality. In the name of Jesus, Guest at all our tables, we pray.

**** 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 112

Page 555

Blessings of the Righteous¹ Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

² Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.³ Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.⁴ They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.⁵ It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.⁶ For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.⁷ They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.⁸ Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.⁹ They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.¹⁰ The wicked see it and are angry;
they gnash their teeth and melt away;
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

*** HYMN: “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love” Verses 1 & 2 V593**

Humility and Hospitality

14 On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

HYMN: “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love” Verses 3 & 4 V593

SERMON: “Finding Your Place in the Kin-dom” 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: “O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing”** V326

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Mit Ganczem Willen Wunsch Ich Dir

“With All My Being I Wish You Well” by Conrad Paumann

***Those who are able, please stand.**

**** Thom Shuman, Bearers of Grace and Justice**

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Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Scripture Reader** is Jim Bennet.

Greeters are Cheryl Bogert.

Today’s flowers are given with love.

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

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry needs

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

Covenant to Care

Thank you to everyone who participated in our backpack project. We sent 21 children off to school with a backpack and supplies! Best wishes for a great year to all children, teachers, and parents.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	8/31	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Monday	9/01	Labor Day 9:30 a.m.	OFFICE CLOSED AA (K)
Tuesday	9/02	10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (K) PLP (Library) Music Under the Stars (Green)
Wednesday	9/03	10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Leos Club (CH) Lions Club (CH)
Thursday	9/04	6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Mothers of Twins CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL
Friday	9/05	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Mothers of Twins FOOD PANTRY OPEN CT Area Al-Anon (CH)
Saturday	9/06	7:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	MEN’S FELLOWSHIP (CH) Mothers of Twins (DBL)
Sunday	9/07	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	WORSHIP: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Mothers of Twins (DBL) Tibetan American (K,CR)

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Martin Benassi, Linda Lacobelli, Melissa DeLuca, and Colin Studley, all on 9/6.

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.

