

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, September 21, 2025**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 20**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** *Interlude No. 2*

William Hine

**\*OPENING HYMN: "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" V559**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

**Leader:** We gather together to celebrate the joy in our lives.

**People:** **God's love fills our hearts to overflowing with laughter.**

**Leader:** We gather, in God's presence, to find comfort and hope for our pain.

**People:** **God's grace wipes away our tears and knits us together as one people.**

**Leader:** We gather together, in God's presence, to worship God in faith and truth.

**All:** **Alleluia! Amen.**

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

**We pray to the great Spiritual Power in which we live and move and have our being. We pray for social justice, for the alleviation of the crippling poverty that condemns millions of people around the world to lives of misery - hungry, sick, and utterly without hope. We pray for the victims of violence and war, for those wounded in body and for those wounded in mind. We pray for the multitudes of refugees, forced from their homes to alien places through war or through the utter destruction of their environment. We pray for these things with humility; we pray because of the hope that is within us, we pray because of our love for Creation, and because of our trust in God. We pray, above all, for peace throughout the world.## Amen.**

**Prayer for World Peace**

**- Dr. Jane Goodall**

**\*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**

**God of heaven and earth, though we often go astray, we seek your love and mercy; though we abide with fools who say in their hearts, “There is no God,” our hearts belong to you. Be our Shepherd, and guide our ways, for we are weary of wandering lost and afraid, and long to be welcomed home. Amen.**

**\*\* 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**

### **THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 113**

**Page 555**

#### **Psalm 113: God the Helper of the Needy**

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD;  
praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> Blessed be the name of the LORD  
from this time on and forevermore.

<sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
the name of the LORD is to be praised.

<sup>4</sup> The LORD is high above all nations  
and his glory above the heavens.

<sup>5</sup> Who is like the LORD our God,  
who is seated on high,

<sup>6</sup> who looks far down  
on the heavens and the earth?

<sup>7</sup> He raises the poor from the dust  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

<sup>8</sup> to make them sit with princes,  
with the princes of his people.

<sup>9</sup> He gives the barren woman a home,  
making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the LORD!

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

**\* HYMN:** “For the Healing of the Nations”

V678

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 Page 699

The Prophet Mourns for the People

<sup>18</sup> My joy is gone; grief is upon me;  
my heart is sick.

<sup>19</sup> Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people  
from far and wide in the land:

“Is the Lord not in Zion?  
Is her King not in her?”

(“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,  
with their foreign idols?”)

<sup>20</sup> “The harvest is past, the summer is ended,  
and we are not saved.”

<sup>21</sup> For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken,  
I mourn, and horror has seized me.

<sup>22</sup> Is there no balm in Gilead?  
Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of the daughter of my people  
not been restored?

9 <sup>[a]</sup> O that my head were a spring of water  
and my eyes a fountain of tears,  
so that I might weep day and night  
for the slain of the daughter of my people!

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

**GIFT OF MUSIC:** There is a Balm in Gilead      arr. Theron W. Kirk  
(1919-1999)

Sung by the Chancel Choir

**SERMON:** “When God’s Heart Breaks”

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**

## **GREETING OF PEACE ~unison**

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

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” V364

## **\*THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Sonata: Minuet and Trio*

Joseph Haydn

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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

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**Deacon** is Peter Hall. **Greeters** are Dave Nelson & Barbara Joslyn.  
**Today's flowers** are given with love by Nancy and Ken Mahoney to Muriel Tiedemann in celebration of her 98th birthday! With love and hugs, Nancy and Ken Mahoney.

**Please join us for A Pancake Breakfast in Carroll Hall immediately following the service.**

**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.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Carol Lacobelli 09/21, Greg Brenner 09/22, Patience Benassi 09/23, Jennifer Coulston 09/23, Linda Simonson 09/23, Brooklyn Mastracchio 09/23, Raj Rose 09/26, Barbara Scheidecker 09/27, Jillian Russo 09/27, Sarah Struk 09/28.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** John & Rhonda Masnato 09/21.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Pancake Breakfast, TODAY, following the service!**



### **Jesus & Women Bible Study**

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them". Matthew 18:20

On Monday September 15th three women gathered in the Library to begin a Bible Study using the book "Jesus & Women In the First Century and Now". This study uses seven video teaching sessions and seven follow up discussion sessions. The videos sessions were recorded at a presentation by Kristi McLelland, a speaker, teacher and college professor who has completed her Masters of Arts in Christian Education at Dallas Theological Seminary. She has dedicated her life to discipleship, to teaching people how to study the Bible themselves, and to writing about how God is better than we ever knew by explaining the Bible through a Middle Eastern lens.

We will meet in the Library at 4:00 on Mondays and watch the videos together on a laptop followed by a brief discussion. The following Monday we will meet to discuss the video we saw using questions from the book. With the purchase of the book you will have access to the

videos which then can be viewed at your convenience. The book has readings, study guide questions and pages for notes. Ladies are still welcome and encouraged to join in this study. If anyone is interested but would prefer to join by Zoom, please contact Priscilla Noriega, Carol Mitchell or Cathy Welch and we will get them the link.

## **PIERPONT CONCERT NEWS**

Please mark your calendars now for a very special occasion in early December. BRASS, the inaugural group of the Pierpont Concert Series (and NHCC “fan favorites”) will be returning to host an evening in December of their luscious full sound and spectacular brass arrangements! Concerts are at 7:00PM on Saturdays. See this promotional photo from well over ten years ago with added correct date for 2025! The personnel might be a tad different but young North Haven, Drew Mazurek (fresh faced, all the way to the left in the photo) will be bringing his 2025 Lineup!

## **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

The Food Pantry is in need of canned meals: Beefaroni, Spaghettio's, Beef stew, Chili and Chili with beans. (October: AppleSauce, Canned Fruit, Green Beans, Baked Beans, Canned Soup (no Chicken Noodle) Please bring to the church.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS\***

|                  |             |                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>9/21</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br><br>10:30<br>2:00 p.m.                               | <b>WORSHIP:</b> Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost<br>PANCAKE BREAKFAST (CH)<br>Tibetan American (K,CR)                                                          |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>9/22</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>1:00 p.m.<br>4:00<br>6:00                            | <b>Music Together (DBL)</b><br>FOOD PANTRY OPEN<br>BIBLE STUDY (L)<br>New Haven Camera Club (CH)                                                                |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>9/23</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>10:00<br>10:30<br>12:00 p.m.<br>3:30<br>4:30<br>6:00 | <b>Music Together (DBL)</b><br>Al-Anon (K)<br>Music Together (DBL)<br>PLP (Library)<br>United Girls Choir (CH, K, Sanct)<br>Ukulele (DBL)<br>BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>9/24</b> | <br>9:30 a.m.<br>10:00<br>7:00 p.m.                                      | <b>WINDOW MAILING</b><br>Music Together (DBL)<br>FOOD PANTRY OPEN<br>Danish Sisterhood (K)                                                                      |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>9/25</b> | <b>4:30 p.m.</b><br>7:00                                                 | <b>Ukulele (DBL)</b><br>CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>9/26</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>10:00<br>10:30                                       | <b>Music Together (DBL)</b><br>FOOD PANTRY OPEN<br>Music Together (DBL)                                                                                         |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>9/27</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br>10:30                                                | <b>Music Together (DBL)</b><br>Music Together (DBL)                                                                                                             |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>9/28</b> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br><br>11:00<br>2:00 p.m.                               | <b>WORSHIP:</b> Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost<br><br>Catholic Church Food Delivery<br>Tibetan American (K,CR)                                                |

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

**V559**

D A D G D A7 D

1 Come, O Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
 2 Here I pause in my so-journ-ing, giv-ing thanks for hav-ing come,  
 3 O, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I am drawn a-new!

streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceas-ing call for songs of end-less praise.  
 come to trust, at ev-ery turn-ing, God will guide me safe-ly home.  
 Let that grace now, like a fet-ter, bind my wan-dering heart to you.

Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove.  
 Je-sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God,  
 Prone to wan-der, I can feel it, wan-der from the love I've known:

Praise the mount; I'm fixed up-on it, mount of God's un-fail-ing love.  
 came to res-cue me from dan-ger, pre-cious pres-ence, pre-cious blood.  
 here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for your ver-y own.

D A D G D A7 D

\* HYMN: "For the Healing of the Nations"

V678

Descant

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The score consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system includes a 'Descant' label above the piano line. The lyrics are as follows:

4 You, Cre - a - tor - God, have writ - ten your great name on

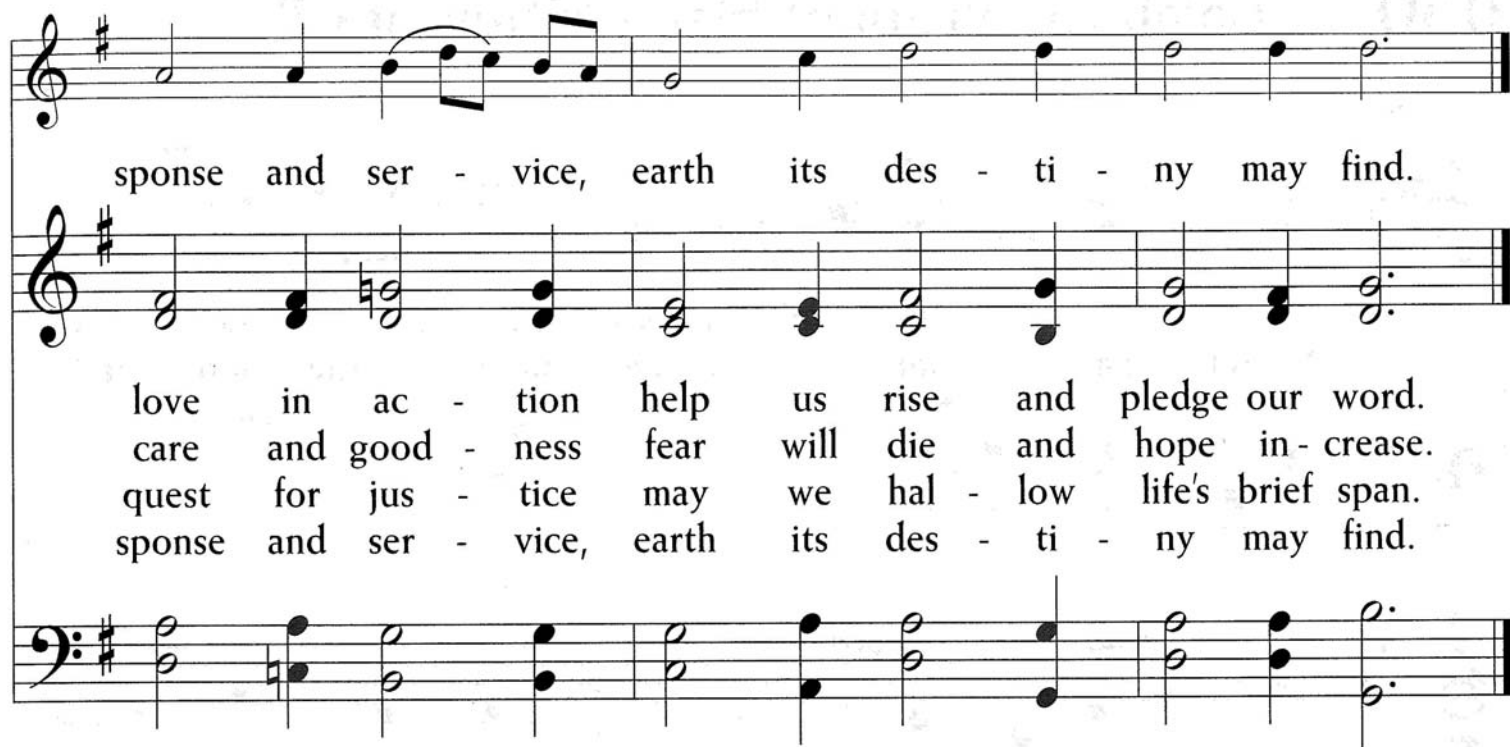
1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, God, we pray with  
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom, from de - spair your  
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the  
 4 You, Cre - a - tor - God, have writ - ten your great name on

hu - man - kind, for our grow - ing in your like - ness

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing  
 world re - lease; that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,  
 earth be banned: pride of sta - tus, race or school - ing,  
 hu - man - kind, for our grow - ing in your like - ness

bring the life of Christ to mind; that, by our re -

of the things that earth af - fords. To a life of  
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through  
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon  
 bring the life of Christ to mind; that, by our re -



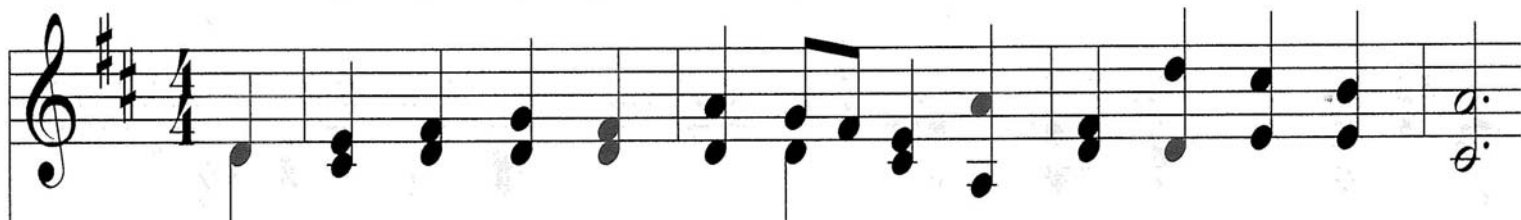
sponse and ser - vice, earth its des - ti - ny may find.

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.  
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.  
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.  
 sponse and ser - vice, earth its des - ti - ny may find.

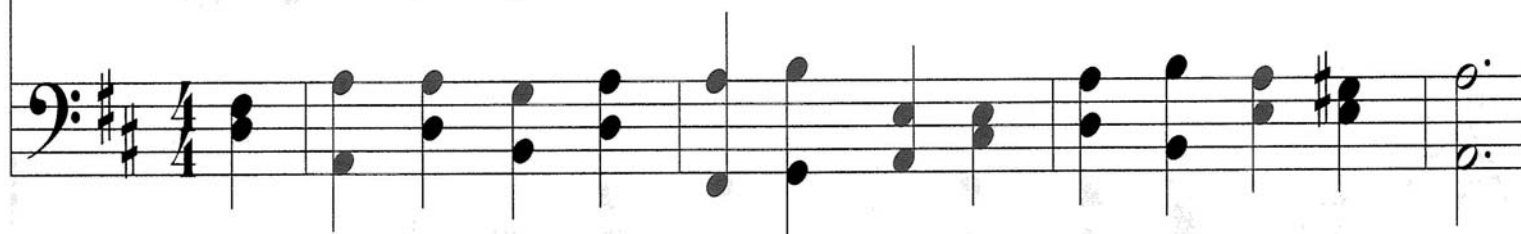
**\*CLOSING HYMN: "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"**

V364

D A D G D G A D Bm A E A



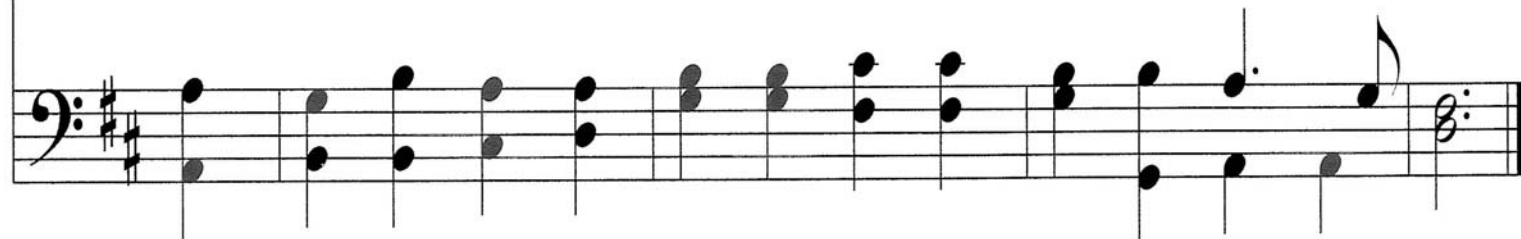
- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Christ, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 O cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



A G (A) D G Em F# G D A7 D



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
 that broods on wrongs, and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
 what triv - ial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!  
 then, bound to all in bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.



## **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