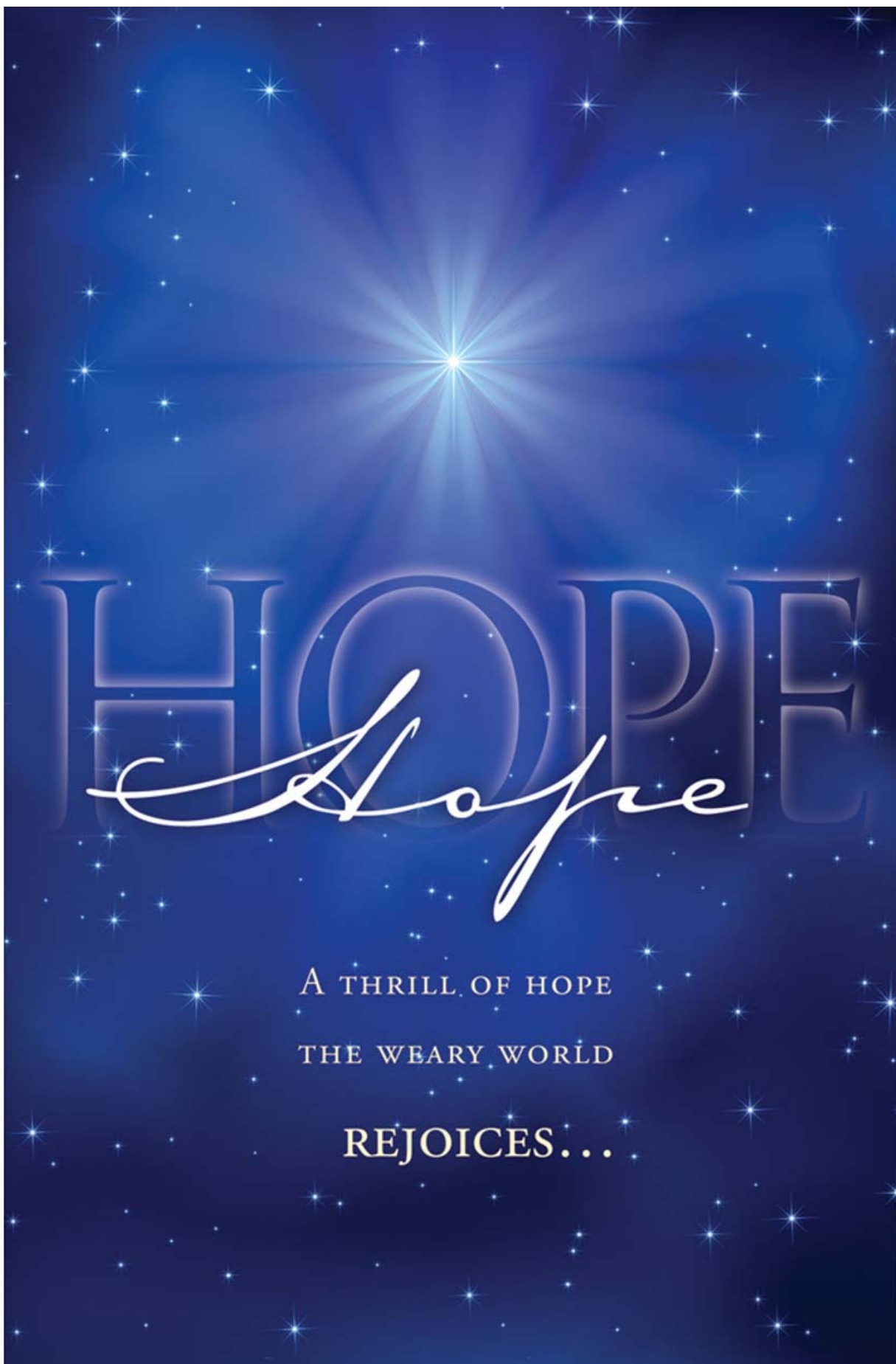


FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, November 30, 2025

9:30 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Prelude: G Major Andante Mosso* by J. S. Bach

***OPENING HYMN:** “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” V2

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING:**

Sandy Carter and Kathy Harple

Leader: God of justice and of peace, you color the world with mercy and kindness.

People: We stand in awe and wonder before your marvelous artistry.

Leader: God of promise and of love, you illuminate the skies with rainbow and sun-ray.

People: We rejoice in the majesty of your creation. The spectrum of your love reveals light all around. The hues of your love warm our spirits. The vibrancy of your love saturates us with hope.

Leader: Blessed is the God of love whose art expressed in Christ we anticipate.

People: We light this candle in abundant hope that the radiance of you, O God, will shine in our hearts, coloring us with hope, as we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ,

Leader: We who wait on the Lord are filled with hope.

(The candle of Hope is lit, and the congregation sings:).

Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

Refrain: When God is a child
there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first
and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

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

God of hope, who brought love into this world, be the love that dwells between us. God of hope, who brought peace into this world, be the peace that dwells between us. God of hope, who brought joy into this world, be the joy that dwells between us. God of hope, the rock we stand upon, be the centre, the focus of our lives always, and particularly this Advent time. ## 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

See Insert

HYMN: “Baptismal Benediction”

V 454

"May God who creates you give you light; may God who sustains you make you wise; may God who protects you give you joy, may God who surrounds you give you peace."

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5 Page 621

The Lord’s mountain

2 This is what Isaiah, Amoz’s son, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In the days to come
the mountain of the Lord’s house
will be the highest of the mountains.
It will be lifted above the hills;
peoples will stream to it.

³ Many nations will go and say,
“Come, let’s go up to the Lord’s mountain,
to the house of Jacob’s God
so that he may teach us his ways
and we may walk in God’s paths.”

Instruction will come from Zion;
the Lord’s word from Jerusalem.

⁴ God will judge between the nations,
and settle disputes of mighty nations.

Then they will beat their swords into iron plows
and their spears into pruning tools.

Nation will not take up sword against nation;
they will no longer learn how to make war.

⁵ Come, house of Jacob,
let’s walk by the Lord’s light.

HERE ENDS THE READING.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

ANTHEM: “Call To Advent”

J. Jerome Williams

Chancel Choir

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 24:36-44 Pg 1173

The Necessity for Watchfulness

³⁶ “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

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

SERMON: “Hope as Resistance”

Rev. Cindy

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

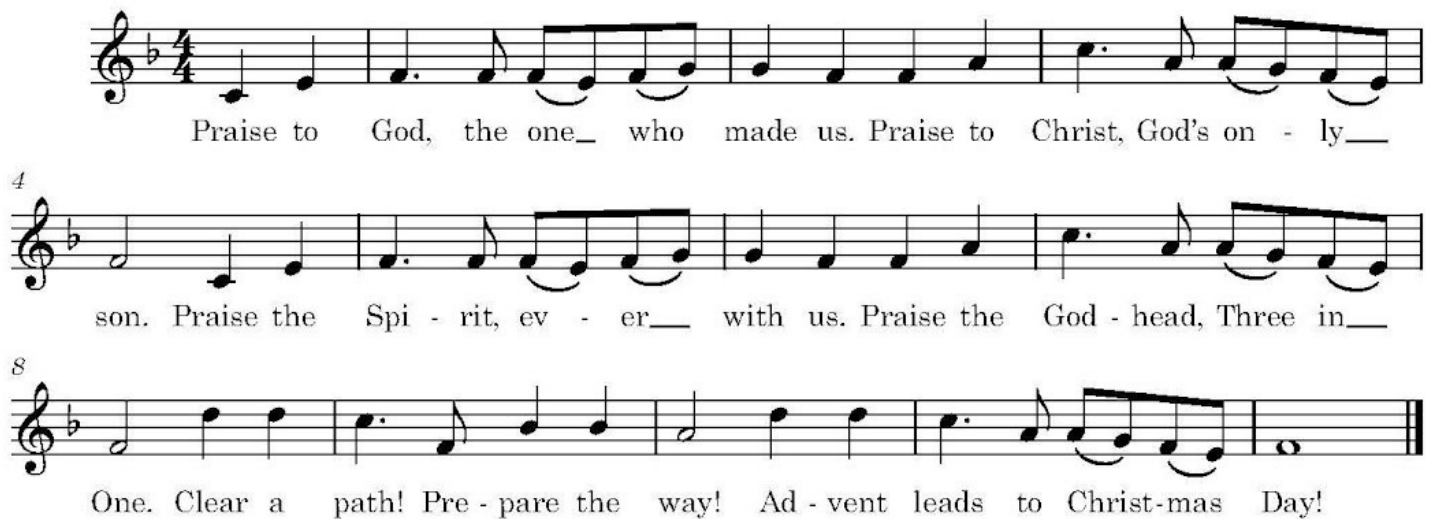
PASTORAL PRAYER Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY

*Advent Doxology Tune: Irby

Advent Doxology

Tune: Irby



Praise to God, the one_ who made us. Praise to Christ, God's on - ly_

4
son. Praise the Spi - rit, ev - er_ with us. Praise the God - head, Three in_

8
One. Clear a path! Pre - pare the way! Ad - vent leads to Christ-mas Day!

*Prayer of Dedication

***CLOSING HYMN** “People, Look East”

V9

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Postlude: Sonata* by Domenico Cimarosa

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Scripture Reader** is Victor Maldonado.

Advent Candle lighting by Kathy Harple. **Greeter** is Beth Anderson.

Camera Operator is Damon Quinn.

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

In Our Prayers This Week are: The Family of Ann Schneider, The Rev. Deb Ruotolo, Lee Guckert and her Family, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, and Charlotte Shea.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Womens Fellowship Annual Christmas Party!

Date: Monday, December 8th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Koinonia Room

Pot Luck Dinner—bring your favorite dish to share!

Bring a “GRAB BAG GIFT” (funny, different, odd, used, etc)

This is a night filled with good food, lots of laughs, and of course great fellowship! All women (members or not) are encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP to Cheryl Bogert at ca.bogert48@gmail.com

Hope to see some new faces there!



Covenant to Care

Now that Thanksgiving is in the rear view mirror, it's time to look ahead to Advent and Christmas.

Our church will again this year supply gifts for children less fortunate than ourselves. The Angel

Tree will be in Carroll Hall at fellowship hour on

Sunday December 7th, 2025. Children's names and

ages and a “wish list” will be on ornaments on the tree. If you would like to participate, please select a child and write your name and the child's name on the provided sign up sheet. Please have your wrapped gifts to the church by Monday, December 22nd, 2025.

If you would like to give a monetary gift, please submit a check to the church office with “Angel Tree” written in the memo line. The money will be used to supply other gifts for children.

This has been a beloved project in our church for many years. Let's provide a little joy in a child's heart at this beautiful time of year.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	11/30	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	WORSHIP: First Sunday of Advent Tibetan American (K,CR, RR)
Monday	12/1	1:00 p.m. 1:00 4:00 5:30	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Retired Federal Employees (CH) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) New Haven Camera Club (CH)
Tuesday	12/2	10:00 a.m. 10:00 12:00 p.m. 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) FOOD PANTRY OPEN PLP (Library) United Girl's Choir (CH, K, RR) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	12/3	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Lions Club (CH)
Thursday	12/4	2:30 p.m. 4:30 6:30 7:00	Food Council (CH) Ukelele (CH) Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR REHERSAL
Friday	12/5	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Al-Anon Area (CH)
Saturday	12/6	7:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	MENS FELLOWSHIP (CH) PIERPONT CONCERT (BRASS)
Sunday	12/7	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	WORSHIP: First Sunday of Advent Tibetan American (K,CR, RR)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Doris Ferner 12/01, Gerard Adinolfi 12/05,
Robbie Juliano 12/07, Susan Baldino 12/07.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Edward & Mary Ellen Collett 12/06.

**THE SACRAMENT
OF
CHRISTIAN BAPTISM**

November 30, 2025

Weston Robert Mickolyzck



**THE NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
28 Church Street
North Haven, Connecticut 06473**

The Reverend Cindy Stasko, Bridge Minister

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism is a moment in the Christian community when we recognize the grace of God living in each newborn creation.

GREETING

Minister: Friends in Christ, we who are here in person and in Spirit gather today to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

People: **There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us. There is one Lord, one faith, one Baptism, one God and Creator of us all.**

ADDRESS

Minister: From the start of the Christian community centuries ago, people have been received into the church through baptism. Baptism is a sign that God loves each one of us individually. It shows and tells us that God's love encompasses and embraces us all and that God's grace works in and through our lives. The water we use in baptism is thus a seal of God's grace and reminds us of Jesus Christ, who was himself baptized, buried and raised that we might know life in all its fullness. The water is sprinkled, poured out – like God's Spirit – on us and for us all so we are reminded and assured that we are all God's children, that our future lies with God, and that the church, the family of God, is where we will be helped and equipped to serve God in the world.

Questions of the Parents and Godparents

Minister: Do you desire to have Weston baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents & Godparents: **We do.**

Minister: Will you encourage him to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents & Godparents: **We will, with the help of God.**

Minister: Will you teach him so that she may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents & Godparents: **We will, with the help of God.**

Minister: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Parents & Godparents: **We do, with the help of God.**

Minister: Do you promise, according to the grace given you to grow with Weston in the Christian faith, to help him to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that one day she may affirm this baptism?

Parents & Godparents: **We do, with the help of God.**

*** COMMUNITY ASSENT**

(Everyone will please stand as able)

Deacon: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Weston who is about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

People: **We promise our love, support, and care.**

BLESSING OF THE WATER

Minister: Let us pray.

Holy Spirit, you moved over the waters at the dawn of creation. Bless this water as we baptize Weston today. Jesus Christ, inviting us to follow you, bless this water as we baptize Weston into your church. Creator God, thank you for the gift of life and the invitation to grow in your love. Bless this water as Weston is baptized into your family.

ACT OF BAPTISM

Minister: By what name will your child be called?

Parents: **"Weston Robert Mickolyzck".**

Minister: Weston Robert Mickolyzck, you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

A BLESSING AT BAPTISM

Minister: Open your heart, O God, and pour out your gifts upon Weston.

Open your mouth, Lord Jesus, let your words sing in his soul.

Open your hands, Holy Spirit and cradle him in your love,
That he might reach out to receive every joy you have in store for him and be a blessing to all for evermore.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDLE

Deacon: Ashley and William, this candle is a symbol of the risen Christ alive in the world today. We ask you to receive this light and to share it with Weston as a sign of your pledge to guard and protect the light that is in him.

PRESENTATION OF THE CERTIFICATE

Moderator: Ashley and William, your child's Baptism will be recorded in the records of North Haven Congregational Church UCC as the local expression of Christ's universal church.

PRESENTATION OF THE BIBLE

Ministry Coordinator for Children:

Ashley and William, we promise to be your partners as you guide Weston's journey in faith.

We celebrate the baptism of:

Weston Robert Mickolyzck

Born: June 12, 2025

Parents:

Ashley and William Mickolyzck

Godparents:

Shelby Lynn Gaglio and Lundrim Dauti

Special Offering for the Christmas Fund

The Christmas Fund is a special offering of the United Church of Christ which has provided assistance to UCC clergy and lay employees for more than 100 years. The Christmas Fund provides pension supplementation of pension and health insurance to lower-income retired clergy and lay employees, as well as a modest Christmas “thank-you” gift check and emergency assistance grants to a small number of active clergy and lay employees. This offering will be received on Sunday, Dec. 22nd, and at the services on Christmas Eve. Please give prayerfully and generously!

Special Music Collection For Musicians At Christmas

We are very grateful to those church folks who have given to our holiday special music collections in the past. This money goes directly toward funding guest musicians such as trumpeters, flutists, and string players on Christmas and Easter. We are hoping to hire a flutist and a cellist to augment the beauty of this year's 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service. If you can donate regularly to this ministry, we are most grateful, as it is a year round collection. The pink music collection envelopes will be in the pews during Advent. It is important that we compensate our guest musicians fairly and at current professional rates. Thanks again to all who have made this possible over the years.

Dreaming God's Dream

NO GIFT TOO SMALL, NO DREAM TOO BIG.

Elizabeth Anderson
Larry Ballantyne
Martin & Patience Benassi
Jim & Joan Bennett
Mark & Laurel Bessette
Cheryl Bogert
Priscilla Bradford
Elaine & Sonny Burr
Mark & Martha Butterworth
Sandy Carter
Suzanne Cifelli
Ed & Mary Ellen Collett
George & Florence Coulston
Susan Compton
Jim & Leslie Dockendorff
Ken & Ann Dubar
Doris Ferner
Carl & Lillian Flodquist
Sara & Brian Gannon
Merrilee & George Gladkosky
Nancy Gutowski,
Peter & Cheryl Hall
Eleanor Harple
Kathleen Harple
Vivian Harris
Susan Beth & Robert Higgins
Carla & Michael Hill
Linda Howe
Bernard & Elfie Hummel
Barbara Joslyn
Roberta & Bruno Juliano
Linda Lacobelli
Dan & Lynn Lafleur
Carol Lasse
Nancy & Ken Mahoney

Ted & Joyce Manzo
Rhonda & John Masnato
Barbara & Rick Massey
Carol Mitchell
Dave & Barbara Nelson
William Olmstead
Stephen & Mabel Peterson
Dot Pierce
Jeanne Reardon
Betsey Reid
Jane & Tom Romans
Robert & Barbara Scheidecker
Adam & Julie Schweickert
Cheryl Solecki
Peter & Vicky Struk Jr.
John & Sue Tibor
Doris Vigliotto
Catherine Welch

With Thanks from the
Generosity Mission Team: Joan
Bennett, Cheryl Bogert, Priscilla
Bradford, Sue Cifelli, and Mabel
Peterson



Pledges as of 11-25-25

*OPENING HYMN: “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

V2

C

F

Bb

C

F

C

F

Bb

C

F



1

Come, thou long - ex -

pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free:

2

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,

3

Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; born a child and yet a king;

4

By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



F

C

A

Dm

G

C

F

Bb

F

C

F



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.

born to reign in us for ev - er; now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



HYMN: "Hope is a Star" v1

Unison C

1 Hope is a star that shines in the night,

F C

lead - ing us on till the morn - ing is bright.

Dm7 Fmaj7 Gsus4 G

Refrain

Am F G C Am

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be

F G C Am F Dm7 C

first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a - fraid.

May God who cre - ates you give you light;

may God who sus - tains you make you wise;

may God who pro - tects you give you joy,

may God who sur - rounds you give you peace.

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

*CLOSING HYMN "People, Look East"

V9



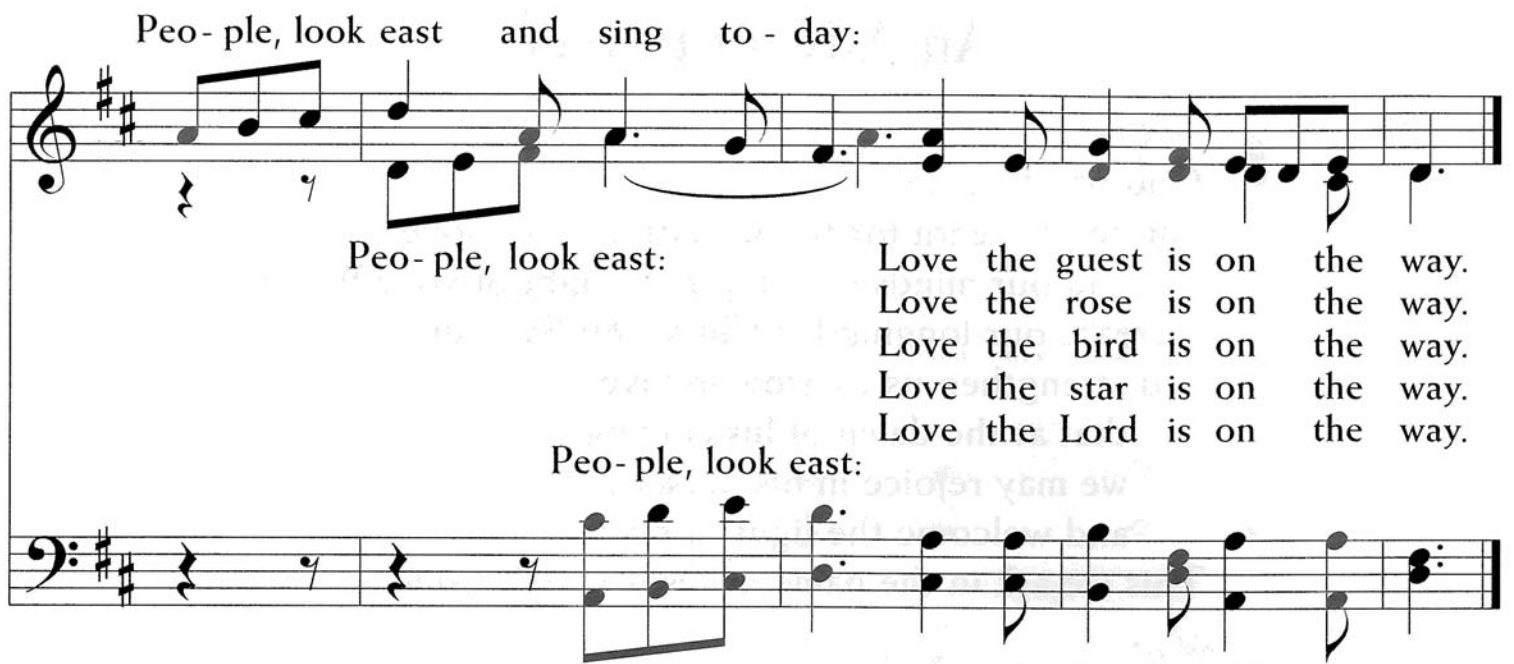
1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
 5 Ang - els, an - nounce with shouts of mirth

of the crown - ing of the year.
 one more seed is that plant - ed there:
 guard the nest that must be filled;
 one more light that bowl shall brim,
 Christ who brings the new life to earth.

Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 ev - en the hour when wings are fro - zen
 shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 that the in course and the flow - er may flour - ish.
 God for as fledg - ing time has flour - cho - sen.
 bright as the sun and the moon to - geth - er.
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

Peo- ple, look east and sing to - day:



Peo- ple, look east: Love the guest is on the way.
 Love the rose is on the way.
 Love the bird is on the way.
 Love the star is on the way.
 Love the Lord is on the way.

Peo- ple, look east:

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.



Pierpont Concert - Brass
Saturday, December 6, 2025
7:00 PM in the church sanctuary!

Welcome to our good friends, Brass!

Led by North Havener Drew Mazurek, BRASS is a quintet of professional musicians brought together by a love of virtuoso playing and the camaraderie generated by live performance. Brass goes back to the very beginning of the Pierpont Concert Series over 20 years ago! Since then, Brass has brought its particular brand of creative and innovative programming to the greater New Haven community.

Their musical arrangements are wonderful and full! The sound of a brass quintet at the holidays is very iconic and heart-warming. Their concert will feature special arrangements of Christmas and seasonal favorites. If you've never heard this brass quintet in our warm and welcoming space, this is a wonderful chance to experience this unique sound!

Tickets available! \$15 adults, \$10 students, under 12 free.

Tickets available at the door, by check, memo: Brass Concert Tickets, by online donation on our website under "Benefit Concert", or Venmo @NorthHavenCongregationalChurch

Special thanks to the Women's Fellowship and other church volunteers who help host the festive reception!

The Music Mission Team is grateful for your support.