

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, February 8, 2026

9:30 a.m.

5th Sunday after Epiphany

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Chorale

Charles Sergisson

***OPENING HYMN:** “Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above” V216

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

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

People: Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Leader: They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

People: It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

Leader: For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

People: They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.

Leader: Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

People: They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

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

O God of many names, Lover of all nations, we pray for peace—in our hearts, in our homes, in our nation, in our world. For the peace you willed, we pray. 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*

Loving God, in whose mercy we find our peace, in whose presence we find our place, in whose world we find our calling: grant us grace to hear and accept your Word, that we may be faithful followers of your will and your way all our days. In Jesus' name 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.

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE GIFT OF MUSIC: "This little Light of Mine" Trad. Spiritual
arr. Horace Clarence Boyer / William Farley Smith

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 58:3-10 Page 677

"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

HERE ENDS THE READING.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Hymn: “When All Your Mercies, O My God”

V219

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Pg 1309

1 When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4 My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. 6 Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. 7 But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

SERMON: Salt or Light?

Steve Peterson

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

VU 376

**Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.**

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY

*Doxology

Old 100th

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One." (United Church of Christ version).

*Prayer of Dedication

Receive, merciful God, these our gifts of labor, loyalty, and love. And may the coming days find in us a faithful stewardship of all that we have and are. To the glory of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN “O Splendour of God’s Glory Bright”**

V413

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Marche Romaine

Charles Gounod

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Greeter** is Beth Anderson. **Camera Operator** is Sue Cifelli.

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Today After the service, Pancake Breakfast

Menu includes, Pancakes, sausage,

Fruit toppings, choice of juices,

Coffee, tea or hot chocolate!

ALL ARE WELCOME!! Free will offering accepted!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	2/8	9:30 a.m. 10:45 2:00 p.m.	WORSHIP: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany PANCAKE BREAKFAST (CH) Tibetan American (K,CR, RR)
Monday	2/9	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 7:00	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) Sons & Daughters of Italy (CH)
Tuesday	2/10	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00 p.m. 12:00 3:30 4:30 6:00	Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Library) BUILDINGS & GROUND (H) United Girls' Choir (CH, K, Sanct) Music Together (DBL) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	2/11	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN MLB (L)
Thursday	2/12	7:00 p.m. 7:00	Garden Club (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	2/13	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	2/14	9:30 a.m. 11:30	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	2/15	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	WORSHIP: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Tibetan American (K,CR, RR)

*Small print indicates non-Church function


Bold print starts new day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Emma Alden 02/08, Tom Glynn 02/09, Martin Gert 02/09, Daniel Mickolyzck 02/10, Hunter Conley 02/11, Joshua Peiffer 02/13, Richard Gherlone 02/14, Joy Gillen 02/14, Shayna DeLuca 02/14.


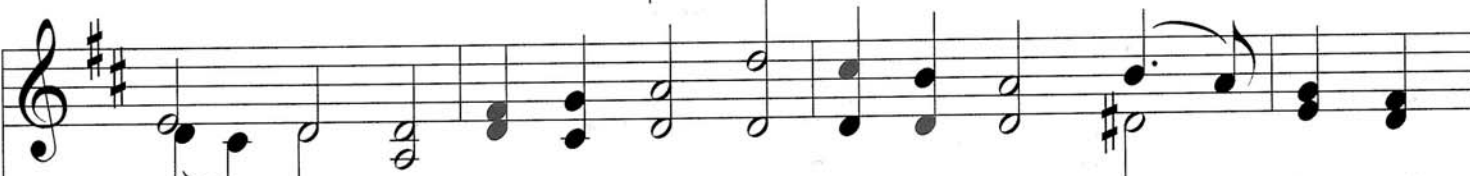
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Linda & William Tosetti 02/14.

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: "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" V216**




1 Sing praise to God, who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2 What God's al-might-y power hath made, God's gra-cious mer - cy
 3 Our God is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -
 4 Thus all my glad-some way a - long, I sing a - loud thy

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
 keep - eth: by morn-ing glow or eve-ning shade God's watch-ful
 tress - ing, an ev - er-pres - ent help and stay, our peace, and
 prais - es that all may hear the grate-ful song my voice un -

our sal - va - tion; with heal-ing balm my soul is filled, and
 eye ne'er sleep - eth; with - in the shel - ter of God's might, lo!
 joy, and bless - ing; as with a moth - er's ten - der hand, God
 wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in your God, my heart! Both




ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stilled:
 all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
 gent - ly leads the cho - sen band:
 soul and bod - y take your part:



Hymn: "When All Your Mercies, O My God"

V219

1 When all your mer-cies, O my God, my ris-ing soul sur-veys,
 2 Ten thou-sand thou-sand pre-cious gifts my dai-ly thanks em-ploy;
 3 Through ev-ery per-iod of my life your good-ness I'll pur-sue;
 4 Through all e-ter-ni-ty to you a joy-ful song I'll raise;

trans-ported with the view I'm lost in won-der, love and praise.
 nor is the least a cheer-ful heart that tastes those gifts with joy.
 and af-ter death, in dis-tant worlds the glo-rious theme re-new.
 but oh! e-ter-ni-ty's too short to ut-ter all your praise.

Chords: G C (D G Am) G C D Am G Em G D G

*CLOSING HYMN "O Splendour of God's Glory Bright"

V413

1 O splen-dour of God's glo-ry bright, from light e-
 2 come, Ho-ly Sun of heaven-ly love, pour down your
 3 O joy-ful be the pass-ing day with thoughts as
 4 O Christ, with each re-turn-ing morn your im-age

ter-nal bring-ing light; O light of life, light's
 ra-diance from a-bove, and to our in-ward
 clear as morn-ing's ray, with faith like noon-tide
 to our hearts is born; O may we ev-er

liv-ing spring, true day, all days il-lu-min-ing:
 hearts con-vey the Ho-ly Spir-it's cloud-less ray.
 shin-ing bright, our souls un-shad-owed by the night.
 see a-new our Sav-iour and our God in you!

Chords: A D G D A Bm E7 A D G D Em A D A D G A D