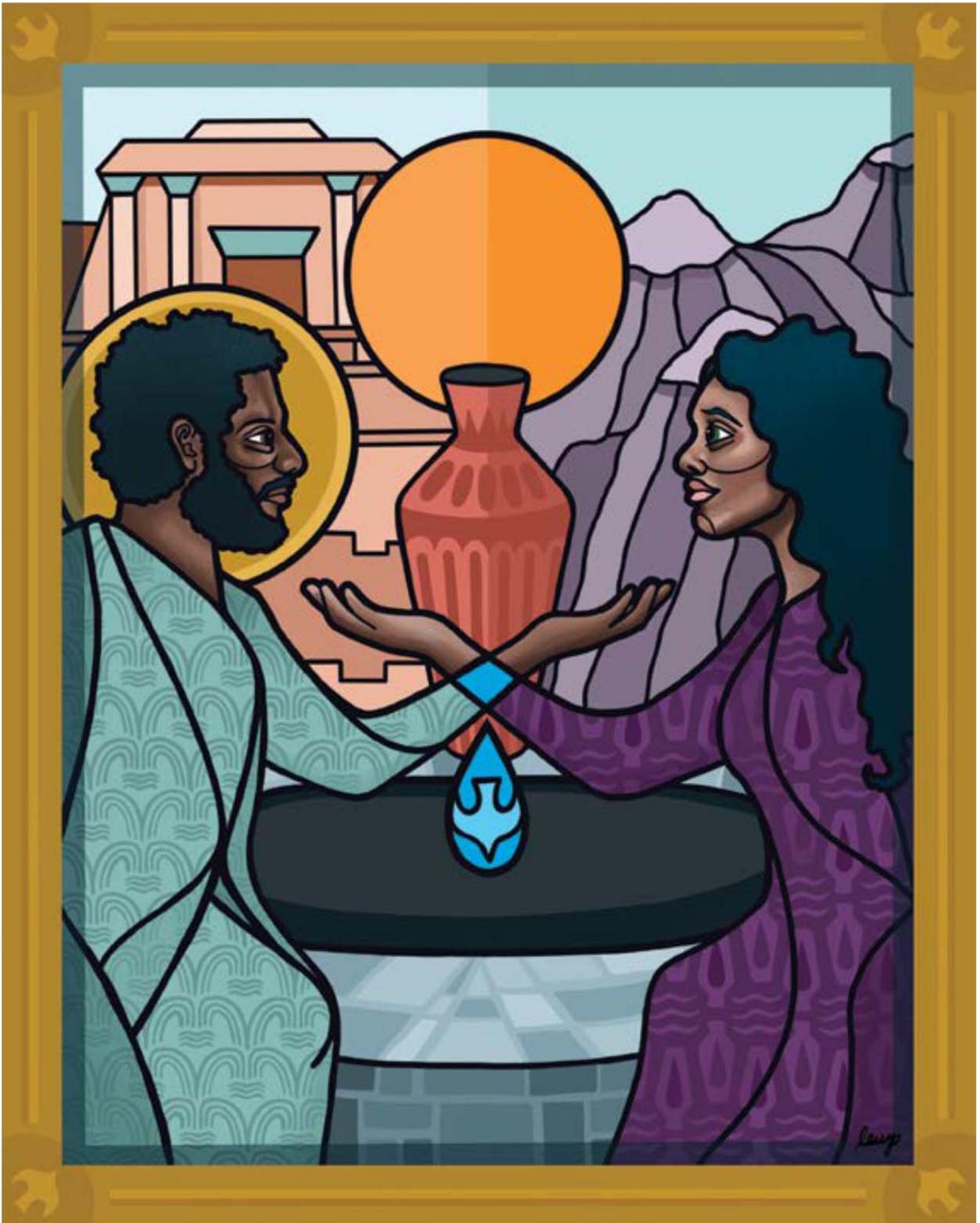


FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Living Water
By Lauren Wright Pittman

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, March 8, 2026

9:30 a.m.

3rd Sunday in Lent

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE What Wondrous Love Is This by Charles Callahan

***OPENING HYMN:** “Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing” V 223

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Leader: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

People: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it; for his hands formed the dry land.

People: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

All: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

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

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love; where there is injury, your healing power, and where there is doubt, true faith in you. Grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul. 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.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION ~ Unison**

God of mercy, in your presence, we confess those times when we have cherished anger toward people and places which somehow gave us offence. Forgive us our own hardness of heart which leads us to give up on the power of mercy to create new beginnings. In these times when distrust and anger color the world stage and deepen divisions, we pray that you will call neighbors and nations to repent of their anger and turn from dangerous, divisive action. Inspire us to trust in your mercy and seek to live it out in our own relationships and attitudes for the sake of Christ, Mercy Incarnate. 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.

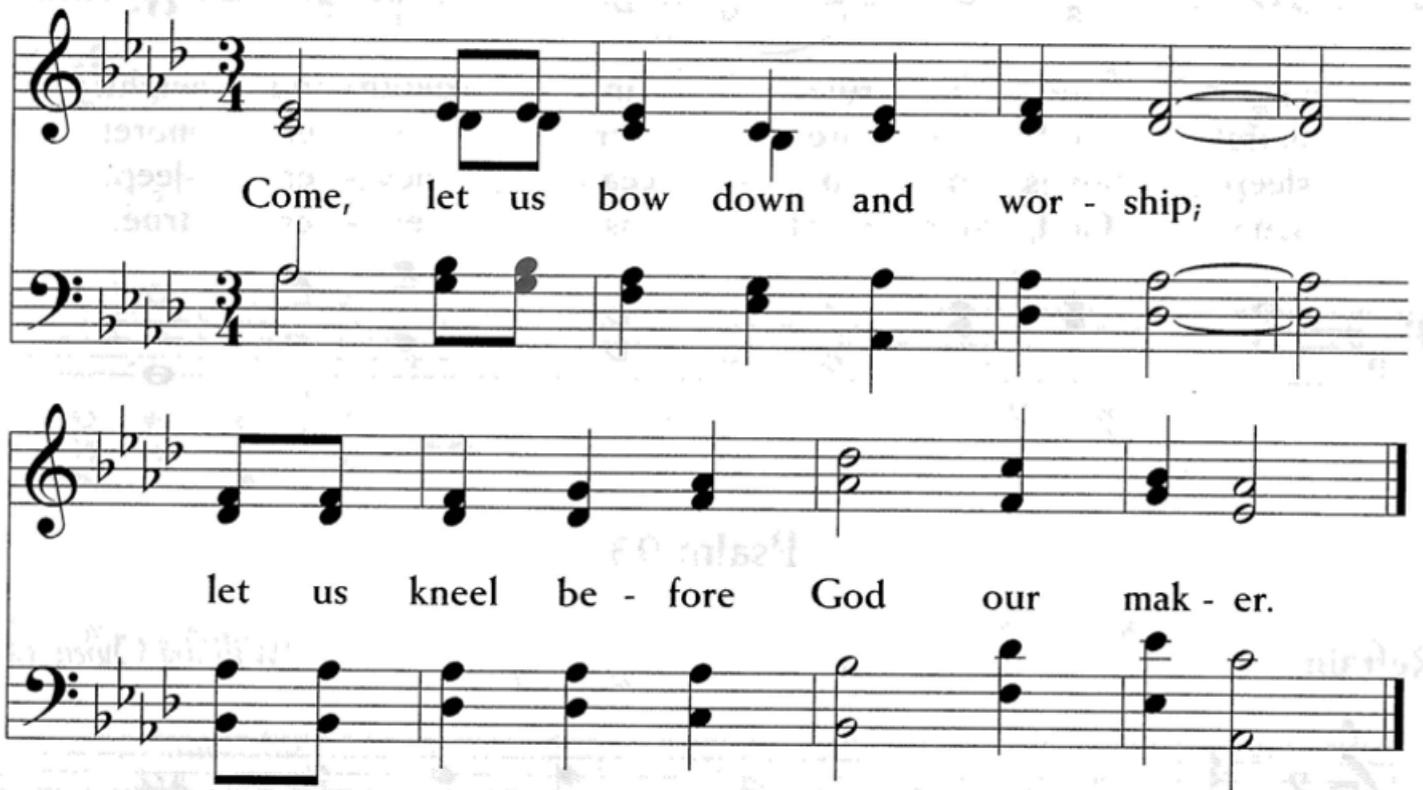
NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



Refrain

R. Gerald Hobbs 1993



Come, let us bow down and wor - ship;
let us kneel be - fore God our mak - er.

Music copyright © 1993 R. Gerald Hobbs

Part One (1-7)

O come, let us sing to God,
let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyously shout to God with songs of praise. R

For you are a great God,
high sovereign above all gods.
In your hand are the depths of the earth;
to you belong the heights of the mountains.
The sea is yours, for you made it;
your hands also formed the dry land.

You are indeed our God;
we are your people, the flock that you shepherd. R

Part Two (8-11)
(may be read by one or all)

O that today you would listen to God's voice;
"Do not harden your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the wilderness;
when your forebears tried me, and put me to the test,
though they had seen my works.
Forty years I loathed that generation, and said,
'They are a people whose hearts are perverse,
for they give no heed to my ways.'
Then, I vowed in my anger:
they shall not enter my rest." R

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Exodus 17:1-6 Page 63

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Reph'idim; but there was no water for the people to drink.

Therefore the people found fault with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you find fault with me? Why do you put the LORD to the proof?"

But the people thirsted there for water, and the people murmured against Moses, and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?"

So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel; and take in your hand the rod with which you struck the Nile, and go.

Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

HERE ENDS THE READING

THANKS BE TO GOD

THE GIFT OF MUSIC: "River in Judea"

Words: Linda Marcus

Music: Jack Feldman

arr. John Leavitt

Sung by the Chancel Choir

SERMON: "Living Lessons from Two Women" Rev. Steve Peterson

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:**

V368

Holy Spirit, joy divine gladden now this heart of mine.

In the desert ways I sing; spring, O living water, spring!

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

**May we not keep our blessings, but give them away:
so that others might learn new dance steps,
so children might be fed, so bridges might be built
and so grace may flow to all in your world.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.###**

***CLOSING HYMN** "Forth in You Name, O Christ"

V 416

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Praise to the Lord Our God

by Lani Smith

Attributed to St. Francis.

Nancy Cocks, from In Love With the Life of Life.

Thom Shuman, from The Same Old Way.

Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Greeter** is Beth Anderson. **Please join us for Fellowship in Carroll Hall immediately following the service.**

In Our Prayers This Week are:

The Rev. Deb Ruotolo, Lee Guckert, Melanie Howlett, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, Ann Schneider, and Charlotte Shea.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

One Great Hour of Sharing collection is scheduled for March 15

**SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, MARCH 15th!!!! 2:00 p.m.
ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER!!!!**

Tickets on sale after church in Carroll Hall, through March 8th!!

\$18.00 per person, Children 12 and under FREE!!

Take Out Dinners available, payable in advance!!

Covenant To Care

Our church be providing Easter baskets again this year as part of our Covenant to Care commitment. The Easter Tree will be in Carrol Hall today after worship. If you wish to participate, select a child's name and fill a basket. The baskets will need to be brought back to the church by March 29th. If you wish to give money send a check to the church with Covenant to Care on the memo line.

Safety Mission Team

In order to make our church safer for members and visitors, beginning on April 12, we will be locking all doors on Sunday morning 15 minutes after the service has started. There will be a sign on the main front door instructing anyone who arrives after 9:45 to ring the doorbell at the elevator entrance to be let in. Thanks for your cooperation. We all want our church to be a safe place.

Cheryl Bogert, for the Safety Mission Team

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	3/8	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	WORSHIP: Third Sunday in Lent Tibetan American (K,CR, RR)
Monday	3/9	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 7:00	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) Son's & Daughters of Italy (CH)
Tuesday	3/10	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) BUILDING & GROUNDS (H) United Girls' Choir (CH, K, Sanct) Music Together (DBL) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	3/11	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN MLB (L)
Thursday	3/12	7:00 p.m. 7:00	Garden Club (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	3/13	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 6:00 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Comedy Night (CH)
Saturday	3/14	9:30 a.m. 11:30	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	3/15	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 2:00	WORSHIP: Third Sunday in Lent ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER (CH) Tibetan American (K,CR, RR)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Amy Mears 03/12, Ryan Weiss 03/12, Patricia Jennings 03/13.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Kerry & Eben Stewart 03/08.

*OPENING HYMN: "Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing"

V 223

G C Am D G D7 G

1 E - ter - nal, Un - chang - ing, we sing to your praise:
2 A - gain we re - joice in the world you have made,
3 We praise you for Je - sus, our Mas - ter and Lord,

G C Am D G D7 G

your mer - cies are end - less, and righ - teous your ways;
your might - y cre - a - tion in beau - ty ar - rayed,
the might of his Spir - it, the truth of his word,

G D G (Em) D G D

your ser - vants pro - claim the re - nown of your name
we thank you for life, and we praise you for joy,
his com - fort in sor - row, his pa - tience in pain,

G C Am D G D7 G

who rules ov - er all and is ev - er the same.
for love and for hope that no power can de - stroy.
the faith sure and stead - fast that Je - sus shall reign.

1 Je - sus, u - ni - ted by your grace, and each to each en - deared,
 2 Help us to see in each a friend, each o - ther's cross to bear;
 3 Up un - to you, our liv - ing head, let us in all things grow,
 4 Drawn by the lode-stone of your love, let all our hearts u - nite;

with con - fi - dence we seek your face, and know our prayer is heard.
 let all their friend - ly aid ex - tend, and feel the oth - er's care.
 till you have made us free in - deed and faith - ful here be - low.
 let us to - ward each oth - er move, and move to - ward your light.

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.



1 Forth in your name, O Christ, we go, our
 2 The task your wis - dom has as - signed here
 ♦ 3 You may we set at our right hand, whose
 4 Help us to bear your eas - y yoke, in
 5 Then with de - light may we em - ploy all



dai - ly la - bour to pur - sue, you, on - ly you, re -
 let us cheer - ful - ly ful - fil, in all our works your
 ♦ eyes our in - most se - crets view, and la - bour on at
 ev - ery mo - ment watch and pray, and still to things e -
 that your boun - teous grace has given, and run our earth - ly



solved to know in all we think, or speak, or do.
 pres - ence find, and prove your good and per - fect will.
 ♦ your com - mand and of - fer all our works to you.
 ter - nal look, and hast - en to that glo - rious day.
 course with joy, and close - ly walk with you to heaven.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of grace and God of glory, On your people pour your power;
Crown your ancient church's story; Bring her bud to glorious flower.

**Response: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour.**

Lo! The hosts of evil 'round us Scorn your Christ, assail his ways! Fears
and doubts too long have bound us;

Free our hearts to work and praise.

**Response: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days.**

Cure your children's warring madness, Bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,

Rich in things and poor in soul.

**Response: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; Let the search
for your salvation

Be our glory evermore.

**Response: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving you whom we adore.**

Adapted from H. E Fosdick, "God of Grace and God of Glory." VU
686.