

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, April 19, 2026

9:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Easter

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Greet the Rising Sun - arr, J. Wayne Kerr Pilgrim #486

***OPENING HYMN:** "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord"
V179

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Jesus Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Leader: Like the disciples who met the risen Christ,

People: we come hoping for unexpected appearances of God's love.

Leader: We come with our questions and doubts, yearning for Christ to appear in our midst saying:

People: "Peace be with you."

Leader: We hear the stories of God's love in the Scriptures,

People: and we know that God is still speaking!

Leader: We look around at our neighbors and guests, and see the power of the risen Christ at work in their lives, offering peace, offering hope, offering courage.

All: We are witnesses to the miraculous love of Jesus! Come, let us worship!#

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

Creator God, Thank you for the gift of beautiful planet earth.

May we share it as one global family and together commit to its holy healing.

Give us compassion and peace;

...among nations

...within communities

...and in our families.

We are the earth become conscious!### 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

Holy One, we wait for your presence to stir among us this day. As we walk toward faith, may we open our eyes and place our trust in you. Together, we come with joy to praise and worship you, knowing that your love is ours to receive. ** 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

Rev. Cindy

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19

Page 556

Thanksgiving for Recovery from Illness

¹ I love the Lord because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

² Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

³ The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.

⁴ Then I called on the name of the Lord,
“O Lord, I pray, save my life!”

¹² What shall I return to the Lord
for all his bounty to me?

¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord;

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful ones.

¹⁶ O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the Lord.

¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord!

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** “O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”

V658

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 24:13-35 Page 1234

The Walk to Emmaus

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹ He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” ²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us^[f] while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: On the Journey to Emmaus

Tune: Columcille, Gaelic, arr. Marty Haugen

Text: Marty Haugen

Sung by the Chancel Choir

SERMON: “Always In Our Midst”

Rev. Cindy

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

V658

O Joy, that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY Hymn of Promise

arr, John Carter

*Doxology

Tune: Lasst uns erfren

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! &&

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Cindy

***CLOSING HYMN:** “This Joyful Eastertide”

V177

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Little Prelude in F

J. S. Bach BMW 556

*Those who are able, please stand.

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&& Tune: Text; Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978.

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Today we are pleased to welcome guest organist, Gail DeBoer.

Thank you for sharing your musical gifts with us!

Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Scripture Reader** is John Tibor.

Greeter is Beth Anderson.

Please join us for Fellowship Hour in Carroll Hall following worship.

Today’s flowers are given by Barbara Massey in celebration that “In all things there is something of God’s marvelous creation.” Adapted from Aristotle. Happy adventuring this Spring.

Church Staff: All the Members, Ministers to the World

Rev. Cindy Stasko, Bridge Pastor

Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children

Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music

Heather Meachen, Organist

Carol Mitchell, Bridge Administrator

Dave Nelson, Sexton

In Our Prayers This Week are: The Rev. Deb Ruotolo, Lee Guckert, Melanie Howlett, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, Ann Schneider, Charlotte Shea, Michael Hill and the family and friends of Tim Peiffer.

179 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks

Descant

Unison (C) F Dm Gm C

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah. Give thanks to the ris - en Christ,

hal - le - lu - jah, praise to God's name.

F A Dm Gm C7 F

hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Give praise to God's name.

F Dm Bb C

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth,
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ,
 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

Words: Donald Fishel 1971, alt.

Music: Donald Fishel 1971, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987, alt., desc. Betty Pulkingham


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ALLELUIA NO. 1


Irregular

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go


658




1 O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my
 2 O Light that fol-lowest all my way, I yield my
 3 O Joy that seek-est me through pain, I can-not
 4 O Cross that lift-est up my head, I dare not




wea-ry soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe,
 flick-ering torch to thee; my heart re-stores its bor-rowed ray,
 close my heart to thee; I trace the rain-bow through the rain,
 ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo-ry dead,

that in thine o-cean depths its flow may rich-er, full-er be.
 that in thy sun-shine's blaze its day may bright-er, fair-er be.
 and feel the prom-ise is not vain that morn shall tear-less be.
 and from the ground there blos-soms red life that shall end-less be.



Words: George Matheson 1881
 Music: Albert Lister Peace 1884

ST MARGARET
 8 8 8 8 6

This Joyful Eastertide

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
 2 My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a sea - son
 3 Death's flood has lost its chill, since Je - sus crossed the

sor - row! My love, the cru - ci -
 slum - ber, till trump from east to
 ri - ver: lov - er of souls, from

fied, has sprung to life this mor - row.
 west shall wake the dead in num - ber.
 ill my pass - ing soul de - liv - er.

Refrain

Had Christ, who once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day pris - on,

Words: George R. Woodward 1894, alt.

Music: J. Oudaen's David's Psalmen, Amsterdam 1685, harm. Charles Wood 1902

Harmony copyright © Mowbray.

VRUECHTEN

6 7 6 7 with refrain

our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ a - ris - en,

a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Lauren Campos 04/22, Larry Ballantyne 04/22, Brody Mickolyzck 4/24, Brian Compton 04/24, Paula Diehl 04/26.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Merrilee & George Gladkosky 04/19, Bryant & Sara Munson 04/23.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Need a new reusable shopping bag? Our food Pantry has been chosen by the North Haven Stop and Shop for the month of April to receive a donation of \$1.00 for each \$2.50 bag purchased. This is a good way to support the Food Pantry and reduce the use of paper and plastic bags.

The Pierpont Concert on May 2 at 7:00 p.m. will feature the United Girls' Choir, a very talented group of young singers. Tickets are available now. Help will be needed with refreshments

North Haven Community Prayer Breakfast will be held on May 7th at the Clarion Inn, 201 Washington Ave. from 7:30 -9:00 a.m. The theme this year is *Prayer and the Shaping of a Nation*. A full breakfast will be served and it will be a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together in unity, encouragement, and faith. Reserve your seat soon. This event is free to our community, and seating is limited. Contact Hope Christian Church for information.

Women's Fellowship Craft & Tag Sale – May 9 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Help is needed. Spaces available for your personal craft or tag sale. Contact the church office or sign up in Carroll Hall after worship.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	4/19	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 6:30	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Tibetan American (K, CR) AA (CH)
Monday	4/20	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 6:00 7:00	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) CT Record Club (CH) Sons & Daughters of Italy (K)
Tuesday	4/21	9:30 a.m. 9:30 12:00 p.m. 12:00 3:30 4:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) BUILDING & GROUNDS (Library) PLP (Parking Lot/Library) United Girls' Choir (CH, DBL, S) Music Together (DBL) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	4/22	9:30 a.m. 10:00 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	WINDOW DEADLINE Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Danish Sisterhood (K) ENDOWMENT MEETING (L)
Thursday	4/23	7:00 p.m.	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	4/24	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	4/25	8:30 a.m. 9:00 9:30 10:30	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	4/26	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 6:30	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Tibetan American (K, CR) AA (CH)

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

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.