

Youth Sunday and Teacher Appreciation

May 17, 2026



Isaiah 41:10

Do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you; I will help you;
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
An Open & Affirming Congregation

Sunday, May 17th, 2026

9:30 a.m.
Seventh Sunday of Easter

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Prelude on "Simple Gifts"

19th Century Shaker Song, arr. Sam Fleming

***OPENING HYMN:** "I Will Come To You" Insert

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Holy One, today we remember that when life is hard we can pray.

Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum ba yah! O Lord, Come by me!

Holy One, when the world feels like it's spinning out of control, we can call on you.

Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum ba yah! O Lord, Come by me!

Holy One, whenever we feel alone or frightened we can invite you to:

Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum ba yah! O Lord, Come by me!

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

When your calm is disrupted by the winds of change, peace be with you.

When you fear that you are not enough, peace be with you.

When daytime worries threaten the quiet slumber of your nights, peace be with you.

In the broken heart and risen body of Christ, peace be with you. 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*

Creator God, Eternal Parent, and Defender of the Weak, as we gather, we ask for your calming presence, a refuge from the storms of worry and anxiety. Heal our anxious spirits and broken hearts, refresh our weary minds, and let your glory fill this space. May we feel your presence, strong and nurturing. Amen.

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Rev. Cindy

GIFT OF MUSIC: "This Little Light of Mine"

Traditional African American Spiritual –"LATTIMER"

Traditional African American Spiritual

Arr. by Horace Clarence Boyer, adapted by Nolan Williams

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

Choral Amen

Choral Amen

American Sign Language

Steve Simonson and Youth

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

HYMN

Water, River, Spirit, Grace

Troeger / Harrison

Water, River, Spi-rit, Grace, sweep o-ver me, sweep o-ver me. Re-carve the depths your
fin-gers traced in sculpt-ing me in sculpt-ing me

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Water, River, Spirit, Grace'. It consists of two staves of music in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, and the second staff covers the second line. The lyrics are: 'Water, River, Spi-rit, Grace, sweep o-ver me, sweep o-ver me. Re-carve the depths your fin-gers traced in sculpt-ing me in sculpt-ing me'.

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 16

Brianna and Preston

Song of Trust and Security in God

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
 - ² I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.”^[a]
 - ³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones
in whom is all my delight.
 - ⁴ Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;^[b]
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.
 - ⁵ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
 - ⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
 - ⁷ I bless the LORD, who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
 - ⁸ I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
 - ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
 - ¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
 - ¹¹ You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
- HERE ENDS THE READING. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

HYMN: “Water, River, Spirit, Grace”

LESSONS AND REFLECTIONS

REST

Colton and Tyler

Genesis 2:1-3 Common English Bible

² The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. ² On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. ³ God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation.

Exodus 20:8-11

⁸ Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. ⁹ Six days you may work and do all your tasks, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is living with you. ¹¹ Because the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

And so, God established a rhythm of work and rest and this was so important to God that it was included in the 10 Commandments that God gave to Moses to help the Israelites live well with God and each other.

HYMN: “Water, River, Spirit, Grace”

PRAYER

Patty

Mark 1:35 ³⁵ Early in the morning, well before sunrise, Jesus rose and went to a deserted place where he could be alone in prayer.

Luke 11:1-4 Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

² Jesus told them, “When you pray, say:

‘Father, uphold the holiness of your name. Bring in your kingdom.

³ Give us the bread we need for today.

⁴ Forgive us our sins,

for we also forgive everyone who has wronged us.

And don’t lead us into temptation.””

Jesus’ friends noticed the close relationship he had with God. They wanted to be close to God too, so they asked him to teach them to pray. There are many ways to pray: spending quiet time with God, journaling, drawing, walking, spending time in nature, 5 finger prayer, gratitude and praise.

HYMN: “Water, River, Spirit, Grace”

ASK FOR HELP

Sienna

Matthew 11:28-30

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Put on my yoke, and learn from me. I’m gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves. ³⁰ My yoke is easy to bear, and my burden is light.”

Self-care is letting others help carry the burden with you. Jesus understands all of our struggles and how heavy life can be for us, because he struggled and carried heavy burdens too. Jesus called disciples to follow him because he knew he needed help and he sent them out two by two to help each other.

HYMN: “Water, River, Spirit, Grace”

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

Response: “Lord, hear our prayers.”

THE OFFERTORY

*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 and Thanksgiving

Receive our humble offerings, O Lord, for your work in the world. Bless those who give, those who send, and those who will receive these gifts. May our offering sow seeds of hope and bear the fruit of love wherever they are sown. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:** "I've Got Peace Like a River" Insert ***THE BENEDICTION**
POSTLUDE Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring J.S. Bach

*Those who are able, please stand.

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

Adapt. © 1989, The United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-719615. All rights reserved.

Deacon is Jim Bennett.

Scripture Readers are Brianna, Colton, Patty, Preston, Tyler, and Sienna.

The Greeters today are members of the Jennings Family.

Today's cover art is a collage made from coloring pages completed by our youth from "Self Care: 31 Calming Designs for Colorists of all ages."

Today's flowers are given by Sandy Carter in memory of my parents Richard and Carmel DeCola, my niece Cindy Henninger, and my beloved grandson Jack Viele. You are forever in my thoughts and prayers.

Join us for Fellowship Hour in Carroll Hall following worship.

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
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, Charlotte Shea, Michael Hill, the family and friends of Tim Peiffer and the family and friends of Ann Schneider,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Dot Pierce May 22, Jody Gallagher May 22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember the Memorial Day Parade on Saturday, May 23rd. The church will not participate in the parade this year and we encourage you to come to the church lawn to watch.

Heritage Sunday will be celebrated on June 7 this year. If you joined the North Haven Congregational Church in 1976 or have been a member for 50 years or more please let church office know so we can update the list.

It is with great sadness that we share news of Ann Schneider's passing on 5/11/2026. A Celebration of Life will be on Friday, June 26, 2026 at 11:00 am for Ann and her son Neal. **All are welcome to attend.** Cards may be sent to her daughter, Carol Castro, 35 Anvil St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday Youth Sunday	5/17	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Tibetan American (K, CR) AA (CH)
Monday	5/18	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Music Together FOOD PANTRY OPEN

		4:00 p.m. 6:00 7:00	WOMENS' BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) CT Record Club (CH) Sons & Daughters of Italy (K)
Tuesday	5/19	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 12:00 p.m. 3:00 4:30 6:00	Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) PLP (PL,CH) United Girls' Choir (CH,DBL,S) Music Together (DBL) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	5/20	9:30 a.m. 10:00 1:00 p.m. 6:00 7:00 p.m.	WINDOW DEADLINE Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Danish Sisterhood (K&Kitchen) Bringing Joy – Mahjong Al-Anon (K)
Thursday	5/21	7:00 p.m.	CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	5/22	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 7:00 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Sons & Daughters of Italy (CH)
Saturday	5/23	8:30 a.m. 8:30	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday Pentecost (Red)	5/24	9:30 a.m. 1:00 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.

I Will Come to You

You Are Mine

All



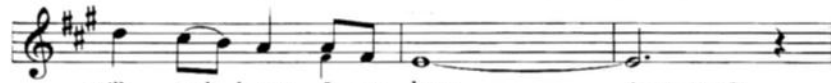
- 1 "I will come to you in the si - lence;
- 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less;
- 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
- (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom; I



I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice; I claim you as my choice. Be
shad - ows of the night, I will be your light. ?
All the blind will see; the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. (to stanza 2)
Come and rest in me. (to Refrain)
all will know my name. (to Refrain)
up, now walk and live! (to Refrain)

Refrain All



Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine." 4 "I

Presuming to speak in the voice of God, as this song does, can only be done with integrity if the singers understand their words as an expression of what they believe about God's nature and God's intentions. It is an occasion for affirming faith, not for wishful thinking.

Kum ba Yah

1 *Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba
 2 Some - one's cry - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some - one's
 3 Some - one's sing - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some - one's
 4 Some - one's pray - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some - one's

yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord,
 cry - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some - one's cry - ing, Lord,
 sing - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some - one's sing - ing, Lord,
 pray - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some - one's pray - ing, Lord,

kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

*Come by here

This African American spiritual, first recorded in the 1920s, seems to have originated somewhere in the southern United States. It enjoyed renewed popularity during the folk revival of the 1960s and became a standard campfire song, eventually traveling throughout the world.

I've Got Peace Like a River

*Isa. 66:12; 1 Pet. 1:8-9; 1 John 4:7-12**African-American spiritual*

1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an
 4 I've got faith like an an - chor, I've got faith like an

1
 riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, in my
 an - chor, I've got faith like an an - chor, in my

2
 soul. I've got riv - er in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean in my soul.
 soul. I've got an - chor in my soul.

Congregations or individuals may wish to add additional verses of their own making.

Most of the spirituals that drew from biblical stories and images used the Hebrew scriptures, rather than the New Testament, as their inspiration. The imagery of "peace like a river" derives from the book of Isaiah.

Tune: PEACE LIKE A RIVER 7.7.10.D.
African-American spiritual

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.

