

North Haven Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

FOUNDED 1716

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

Sunday, August 9, 2026

9:30 a.m.

*** = Please stand in body or in spirit.**

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: May the Living God, the source of life and love, be with you!

C: And also with you.

L: Friends, this is Christian worship!

C: Which means it is a celebration of God's love for all,
and a training center for living as disciples of Jesus
Christ today.

L: The indwelling and enlivening Spirit has brought us
together,

All: So let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

VU 315

CALL TO, AND PRAYER OF, RENEWAL

All: Merciful God, today we offer not so much a
confession, as a mess of questions: what does it mean,
O God, to grow closer to you? To Jesus? What does
it mean to deepen our personal faith? We often see
our faith primarily as our commitment to your
church, even simply to this church - and we trust you
value that. But is there more to it? Something that

**remains communal, but is still also more personal?
Without falling for the individualism or easy
“spirituality” of our society, how can I deepen my faith?
Confessing that my faith wavers, like Peter upon the
waters, I pray relying on a rescue from Jesus. Amen**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS & THE CANDLE OF PEACE

***GREETING OF PEACE**

L: The peace of Christ be with you!

C: And also with you!

L: Please share the peace of the Living Christ with others,
with one saying, “The peace of Christ be with you,” and
the other responding, “And also with you.”

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

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 FOR OPENNESS AND UNDERSTANDING

All: God of truth and light, fill our hearts and guide our
steps by the ancient and holy words we are about to
hear. May we all, preacher and congregation, be
open to your Word, with all its challenge and
comfort, its call upon us, and its enlivening Spirit in
us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Kings 19:9-18

Barbara Massey

Matthew 14:22-33

Mike Solberg

SERMON “Make Scripture Interesting Again”

Mike Solberg

***HYMN** “Oh Christ, the Word Incarnate”

VU499

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Gracious and loving God, we make our offering to you now, not because we need to earn your approval, but because we know that such sharing connects us more deeply to you. It even teaches us to see Jesus at the center of our lives, and the center of the world. May we, like all the faithful, be known for loosely holding what we have, ready to let it go for the work of repair, and for the spreading of your love and good news to all. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** “May the God of Hope Go with Us”

VU424

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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The Deacon/Liturgist is Sandy Carter.

The Scripture reader is Barbara Massey.

The Guest Organist is Haley Bracken.

The Greeter is Beth Anderson.

The flowers are provided by Carol Mitchell in loving memory of her brother, James Berg-Johnsen, 7/15/57-8/6/26. You are missed.

The Camera operator is Joan Bennett.

Join us for Fellowship Hour in Carroll Hall following worship!

Church Staff: All the Members, Ministers for the World

Donna Carpenter, Office Administrator

Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children

Brianne Goldfuss, Nursery Attendant

Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music

Heather Meachen, Organist

Dave Nelson, Sexton

The Reverend Mike Solberg, Interim Minister

In Our Prayers This Week are: Merrilee Gladkosky, The Rev. Deb Ruotolo, Lee Guckert, Melanie Howlett, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, Charlotte Shea, Paula Diehl and Carol Mitchell and family on the loss of her brother, James Berg-Johnsen, who died on August 6th.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Heather Meachen 08/10, Michele Lynch 08/10, Daniel Kirk 08/11, Gressa Quinn 08/11, Priscilla Bradford, Jeanne Mecca 08/13, Mary Ellen Adams 08/15.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Michele & Richard Lynch 8/12.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER WORSHIP: Children will remain in worship with their families during the summer months through September 6th. Regular Church School resumes September 13th.

RUN THE LIVESTREAM CAMERA ON SUNDAY MORNING!

The livestream of our worship service is very important to church members who live far away or cannot attend in-person. The camera operator controls the camera in the church office, shifting the camera angle to provide close-ups at various points in the service. It's a pretty simple process to set up the camera and the livestream, and it's lots of FUN!. This is a good way to get high school community service credits! Just ask Sue Cifelli, or Kaitlyn or Damon Quinn, or Joan Bennett! We're looking for volunteers! Please speak with Jeff Hutchins.

WINDOW INFORMATION

The Window Deadline is August 19th for the September issue.

FAIR CRAFT WORKSHOP

August 11th at 1:15 p.m. in the Koinonia room. Helpers needed to work on simple assembly of crafts for the November 7th Harvest Fair. All are welcome, helping hands needed.
Carol Mitchell and Cathy Welch

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	8/9	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Tibetan American (K, CR)
Monday	8/10	7:00 p.m.	Sons & Daughters of Italy (CH)
Tuesday	8/11	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00 p.m. 1:15 4:30	Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Parking lot or CH) Fair Craft Workshop (K) Music Together (DBL)
Wednesday	8/12	9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
Thursday	8/13		
Friday	8/14	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	8/15	8:30 a.m. 9:30	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	8/16	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Tibetan American (RR,CR)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

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.*