

North Haven Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



*Philippians 2:6-7
(Made with Gemini A.I.)*

North Haven, Connecticut

An Open & Affirming Congregation

FOUNDED 1716

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

Sunday, September 27, 2026

9:30 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

“Prelude in C Major”

Lemmens

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** “See the Morning Sun Ascending” VU406

CALL TO, AND PRAYER OF, RENEWAL

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have often not followed the direction of love, and thus have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and guide what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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."

(During the Greeting of Peace and the Gloria Patri, we invite the children to gather with Karlee at the front left - by the piano - and then pause for a moment as we give each other a mutual blessing before they depart for their Christian formation time.)

***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.

***MUTUAL BLESSING WITH CHILDREN**

Congregation: God be with you there.

Children: And God be with you here.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

One Foot/Lead with Love

Words & Music by Melanie DeMore

Led by Jeff, Heather, and Chancel Choir

Sung by All!

*"You gotta put one foot in front of the other,
and lead with love! Put...*

*One foot in front of the other,
and lead with love!"*

(repeat all 4 lines)

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 Matthew 21:23-32 Barbara Massey
Philippians 2:1-11 Mike Solberg

SERMON Mike Solberg

***HYMN** “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name PH195

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, the source of life and birth,
Praise God, the Word who came to earth,
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame,
All glory, honor to God’s name! 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 lets us share in your enlivening work in 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** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”
VU575

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE “Christ the King!” Bouman

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The deacon/liturgist is Joan Bennett

The scripture reader is Barbara Massey.

The greeter is Beth Anderson.

The flowers are provided by Beth Anderson in memory of her mother, Catherine Anderson.

The camera operator is Damon Quinn.

Join us for a pancake breakfast 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, Sue Tibor, Lee Guckert, Melanie Howlett, Marlene Bellonio (for 5 years since the death of her husband, David), Meg Adams, Charlotte Shea, Paula Diehl and for Lori Perillo (Heather Tolisano’s mother).

BIRTHDAYS Joyce Manzo, 9/30

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Cans of Beans (Baked, Kidney, Black), Cans of Broth, Cans of Fruit, Jars or Peanut Butter and Jelly, Jars of Gravy, Mayonnaise, Boxes of Rice, Boxes of Cake Mix/Brownie Mix, boxes of Cereal, Boxes of Pasta, Coffee, Tea, Pamalat Milk, and Juice

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.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION WITH REV. MIKE:

Starting today, Rev. Mike will lead a class following worship, starting with a six-week series on the Lord's Prayer - but you've likely never heard it like this before! We often say Lord's Prayer without really considering what we are praying, and what it meant when Jesus first taught it to his disciples. The class will be each Sunday from 10:45 - 11:45, and each week will "stand alone," so come when you can. See, or email, Rev. Mike with questions.

IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY (non-church events):

"Honor Them with a Flag" is a fundraiser to benefit the American Legion Post 76. It is a way to salute to our country's military personnel, veterans and first responders, among others. All are invited to participate by purchasing a U.S. flag dedicated to a member of the military, first responder, or anyone else close to your heart. A ceremony honoring veterans and first responders has been scheduled for Sunday, November 8, at 12:00 p.m. on the North Haven Town Green. All are welcome to participate in this ceremony. The flags are \$10 each and the deadline for purchases is Wednesday, October 21, 2026. Please email snm1986@yahoo.com or call 203-430-0411 for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9/27	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:00	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Re-Gathering Day Tibetan American (K, CR) Food Delivery
Monday	9/28	1:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Tuesday	9/29	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00 p.m. 3:00 4:30 6:00	Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Parking lot or CH) United Girl's Choir Music Together Bible Study (Zoom)
Wednesday	9/30	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:00	WINDOW MAILING FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Danish Sisterhood (K & Kitch.)
Thursday	10/1	7:00	Chancel Choir
Friday	10/2	10:00 a.m. 9:30 10:30	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	10/3	9:30 10:30	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	10/4	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Tibetan American (RR,CR)

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.*

OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH!! SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11th is “PINK SUNDAY”

You are ALL encouraged to wear your pink!!!!

Join us for a special coffee hour with “pink desserts.”
Proceeds will once again be donated

to “After the Storm” ART BRA, supporting and celebrating
breast cancer survivors!!

