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
GENEROSITY SUNDAY

Sunday, November 8, 2026 **9:30 a.m.**

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

PRELUDE Choral by Rameau

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, today, the first day of the week, was the day Jesus was raised to new life. It is also known, therefore, as the eighth day of creation - the day God re-created us, and the world, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
C: So we celebrate God's love for all today, and we seek to learn what it means to be Christ's faithful disciples.
L: The indwelling and enlivening Spirit has brought us together,
All: So let us worship God!

***OPENING** "Come Now Almighty King" VU314

CALL TO, AND PRAYER OF, RENEWAL

All: Merciful God, we confess that we 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."

***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.

THE EARLY WORD AND NOISY OFFERING

(At this time, we invite the children to gather with Rev. Mike at the front for the Early Word [a.k.a. Children's Message] and our Noisy Offering. Following the Early Word, please join in the mutual blessing before the children depart for their Christian formation time.)

MUTUAL BLESSING WITH CHILDREN

Congregation: God be with you there.
Children: And God be with you here.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

"Shine on Me"
Trad. Spiritual
arr. Rollo Dilworth (b.1970)
Sung by the Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING John Tibor

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

Amos 5:18-24 — John Tibor
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 — Mike Solberg

SERMON "Lead with Love" Mike Solberg

CHORAL RESPONSE

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.

***HYMN**

One Foot in Front of the Other (Lead with Love)
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)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING & THE OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

***LITANY OF DEDICATION**

Leader: Gracious and generous God, source of every good and perfect gift, we come before you today in deep gratitude. All that is belongs to you, and you allow us to participate in your abundance.

People: For the grace shown us in Christ, for the simple gifts of each day, for the caring of this community, and for your constant faithfulness in our lives, we thank you.

Leader: Lord, we make our offering to you now, our pledges for the year to come. This is part of our response to your love and to your call to faithfulness.

People: We ask you to bless these offerings of our financial resources, as well as all we give of our time, our talents, and our attention.

Leader: Use all of this to connect us to each other, to you, and to those who suffer: people who are hungry, lonely, brokenhearted, without hope - people who need our prayers, but also need us to let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

People: Accept these offerings, O Lord, not as mere transactions, but as symbols of our devotion. Align our hearts with your heart, and guide our church family through 2027 with wisdom, courage, and joy. May we, like all the faithful, be known for leading with love, 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 Dialogo per Organo Banchieri

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The deacon/liturgist is Sandy Carter.
The scripture reader is John Tibor.
The greeter is Beth Anderson.
The flowers are provided by the flower team.
The camera operator is Damon Quinn.

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL GENEROSITY SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR IN CARROLL HALL AFTER THE SERVICE!!

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: Sue Tibor, Melanie Howlett, Meg Adams and Charlotte Shea.

BIRTHDAYS: Bette DeMayo and Peter Hal and Cheryl Solecki, 11/8, Annette Grant, 11/10 and Ted Manzo, 11/13.

ANNIVERSARY: Melissa and Carmen DeLuca, 11/9, William and Mary Adams, 11/10, Jim and Joan Bennett and George and Flo Coulston, 11/14.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DONATIONS OF NEW MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CLOTHING NEEDED Last Wednesday nine bags of clothing were donated to Columbus House. The staff person was grateful for all the clothing. In addition to the request for new underwear, socks and sweat pants and shirts, I was informed that gently used men's and women's winter jackets and coats, winter boots or shoes are needed and would be accepted. A box is located in the narthex for donations. Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Columbus House. Your generosity in helping others in need is an expression of our caring for our brothers and sisters. Collection of clothing will continue through December.

SERMONS FOR THE TAKING
There are folders out in the narthex with Mike's written sermons in them. We have just updated through November 1st and will add sermons each week.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS
Through the efforts of the North Haven Rotary Club and a program of Liberty Bank we have an opportunity to greatly enhance our financial support of the Food Pantry. Any cash donations made to the Food Pantry and deposited to Liberty Bank between now and November 15th will be given a 25% additional donation from Liberty Bank. That means every $1 grows to $1.25; $100 grows to $125! So, if you are considering a monetary gift to the Food Pantry, this is an ideal time to really make a difference. Contributions by check should be made to payable to NHCC, noting Food Pantry in the memo line. The accumulated funds will then be deposited at Liberty Bank in the designated account. Many thanks from the Food Pantry Council.

FALL CLEAN UP
Fall clean-up will be next *Saturday, November 14,* from 8:00 am to whenever all is finished. Many hands make light work.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	**11/8**	9:30 a.m. 10:45 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Adult Bible Study Tibetan American (K, CR)
Monday	**11/9**	1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Sons & Daughters of Italy (CH)
Tuesday	**11/10**	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00p.m. 3:00 4:30 6:00	Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon (CH) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Parking lot or CH) United Girls' Choir Music Together (DBL) Bible Study (Zoom)
Wednesday	**11/11**	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) MLB (Library)
Thursday	**11/12**	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Garden Club (CH)
Friday	**11/13**	10:00 a.m. 9:30 10:30 6:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Sons & Daughters of Italy (CH)
Saturday	**11/14**	9:00 a.m. 9:30 10:30	Scouts Food Delivery (K) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL)
Sunday	**11/15**	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Adult Bible Study (K) Tibetan American (RR,CR)

NORTH HAVEN LIONS' SECOND SATURDAY PROJECT

From April through November, with a couple of possible exceptions, members of the North Haven Lions Club staff a table on church grounds (sometimes under an enclosure) from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on the second Saturday of the month and collect non-perishable foodstuff donations from the public, along with pet supplies and used eyeglasses.

On Saturday, November 14th, we are asking people to please consider donating a frozen turkey (or two)…

…in addition to whatever other foodstuffs they wish to contribute. The Lions have provided turkeys to the annual Ecumenical Churches Thanksgiving Food Boxes distribution for more than thirty years. It remains one of our very special service projects, and one we have pledged to continue this year. We were able to provide 85 turkeys in each of the past two years. With your support, we will meet that goal again in 2026.

Thank you in advance for your support.
Jim Bennett, Secretary/Treasurer, North Haven Lions Club

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTICE:



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

We will have a special Congregational Meeting on November 15, 2026, immediately after the worship service. This meeting concerns our pastoral transition process. We are entering a new phase of the process and this will be an important meeting to learn about the next steps of, and the timeline for, selecting our next settled pastor – and to learn about your important involvement in this process!

This is an exciting time in our church and your input is essential. We will have a brief presentation and a question and answer period. Immediately following the meeting, coffee and dessert will be served in Carroll Hall. Please mark your calendar for this exciting event.

Sandy Carter, Moderator

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.*

SAVE THE DATES:

November 14	Fall Clean Up 8:00 a.m. until finished
November 15	**ALL CONGREGATION MEETING AFTER CHURCH (see announcement above)**
November 22	Noisy Offering Sunday
December 5	Christmas Brass Concert at 7:00 p.m.
December 13	Advent Celebration: 11:00 -1:00 (Please note time change). More information coming in November.
December 20	Annual Christmas Pageant during worship. More information in November.
December 24	Christmas Eve service at 7:00 p.m.

FOOD DRIVE

THANKSGIVING -- Pack boxes: Nov. 19 & 20
Pick-up & Deliver: Nov. 21

CHRISTMAS -- Pack boxes: Dec. 17 & 18
Pick-up & Deliver: Dec. 1