



***The order of service is subject to change at the leading of the Holy Spirit.**

Italicized Bold print invites congregational response in unison.

*Means you are **invited to stand** if able and comfortable.

Large print hymnals, large print bulletins, service script, pew cushions, and Listening Assistance Devices are available at the entry of the Sanctuary

You're encouraged to check-in at New Milford UMC on Facebook & share our livestream.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude Harlan Otter

Words to Ponder:

Return to God, no matter how long you've been away. Come home, no matter how far you've wandered. But if you don't return on your own, don't be surprised if God comes and finds you anyway. That's what we call grace.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Sanctuary" Chancel Choir
by John Thompson & Randy Scruggs

***Call to Worship** Rosaura Frias

From our wanderings and wonderings,
we are welcomed home by God.
Lost on the highway or trapped on a cliff,
God comes to rescue and return us to safety.
Come to be found,
for all are welcome here.

***Opening Prayer**

Shepherding God, gather us into your presence, as we come to worship this day. Transform us into your people through the mighty power of your Spirit. Rescue us with your endless patience, that we may become instruments of mercy and grace to help others find their way home. In your mercy and grace, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** "God of Great and God of Small" TFSW#3033

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ** Pastor Ed

Children's Message Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison) Rosaura Frias

Loving Shepherd, pour your grace upon us this day. Seek those who are wandering and lost, for they too need your grace. For you know when we are wandering, and you know when we are lost. You know when we have sinned, and when we have forsaken your call. Forgive us, and bring us

home. Reclaim us and make us your own. For you are our shepherd and we are the sheep of your pasture. For this grace and mercy, we are ever grateful. Amen.

Words of Assurance Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response "Come Thou First" UMH#400

Scripture Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Rosaura Frias

Gratitude for Mercy

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, **13** even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, **14** and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me^[a] with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. **15** The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. **16** But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. **17** To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible,^[b] the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.^[c] Amen.

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading** Matthew 18:21-35 Rosaura Frias

Forgiveness

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven^[a] times.

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother

or sister from your heart.”

Reflecting on God’s Message

Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Pastor Ed

Invitation of the Offering

Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem

"People Need the Lord"
by Greg Nelson & Phill McHugh

Chancel Choir

***Doxology**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly Host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen

UMH # 95

Offering Prayer

Pastor Ed

Thank you, generous God of grace, for pouring your love and abundance so freely upon us. Pour this same love and abundance upon the gifts we now return to you, that they may become signs of grace and instruments of love to bring the world back home to you. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn**

“Just as I Am”

UMH#357

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.
Do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude

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Pastor Ed Dayton - 860.354.4596 | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams
Liturgist – Rosaura Frias

Ministers:

All members of the New Milford UMC



*Hand of God, from Art in the Christian Tradition

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost | 9.11.2022 | 9:30 am

You are invited to worship with us in the quiet of prayer, in the joy of song, and in the desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of our LORD Jesus Christ. Part of our mission is to be a place for all people. All are welcome here! Whatever your gender identity, age, race, religious background, economic status, sexual orientation or condition of ableness, we greet you as a beloved child of God.