



+*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 NMUMC on Facebook & share our livestream.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Harlan Otter

Words to Ponder:

You are far more talented than you give yourself credit for. Be faithful in what you have been given, and God will bless you with more. But be unfaithful in what you have been given, and God will take it away. May we, who are asked to give an accounting of our talents, be found faithful.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

“Sanctuary”

Chancel Choir

by John Thompson & Randy Scruggs

***Call to Worship**

Amanda Thomas

Is God not in Zion? Is there no ruler to lead us?

Search for the Lord, for God waits where we least expect it.

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no healer to help us?

Cry out to the Lord, for God hears our pleas.

Is there no hope left to be found? Is there nowhere to turn?

Place your trust in the Lord, whose compassion comes speedily to meet us.

Come, worship the one who hears our pleas.

We will enter God's gates with hope and gladness.

***Opening Prayer**

Elusive One, the scoffers say, “Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?” Why do you tarry when your people need you? Why do you hide your face when our need is great? Speed your compassion to our side, for our souls have become wellsprings of sorrow, and our eyes have become rivers of tears. Help us, O God of our salvation, for in you alone do we find our strength to revive our souls; in you alone do we find nourishment to meet the needs for the journey. Come speedily to us once more, that we may see your glory and know where our true help lies. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

“Take, O Take as I Am” (x3)

TFWS#3119

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Amanda Thomas

Holy One, in the midst of life's travails, be once more the balm in Gilead that makes the wounded whole; become for us the healing balm that heals the sin-sick soul. For we are weary in body and tired in soul, as we strive to live faithfully as children of light— children who are wise in the ways of your kingdom. Too often, we neglect the talents you give us, and act less shrewdly with your true riches than the unscrupulous do with the dishonest wealth of this world. As you search our hearts and ways, may we be found faithful in a little, that you will entrust us to be faithful in much. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

“Come Now O Prince of Peace” (v1,2&4)

TFWS#2232

Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Amanda Thomas

Instructions concerning Prayer

2 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, **2** for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. **3** This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, **4** who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. **5** For there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,

6 who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time. **7** For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth,^[a] I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

(Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

Luke 15:1-10

Amanda Thomas

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

15 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. **2** And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

3 So he told them this parable: **4** “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? **5** And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. **6** And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ **7** Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

The Parable of the Lost Coin

8 “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? **9** And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had

lost.' **10** Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Reflecting on God's Message "Have You Seen My Glasses?" Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem "Let There Be Light" Chancel Choir
UMH#440

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH #95
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

Offering Prayer Pastor Ed

Source of every good gift, you call us to be wise with the true riches of your kingdom May this offering show such wisdom, that having been found faithful in a little, you will trust us to be faithful in much. We offer you these gifts in gratitude for your love, that they may bring healing and light to those who need your balm of Gilead. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** "Forth in Thy Name O Lord" UMH#438

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 Harlan Otter

68 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT 06776 | www.newmilfordumc.org | 860.354.4596
Pastor Ed Dayton - 860.354.4596 | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams
Liturgist – Amanda Thomas
Ministers:
All members of the New Milford UMC



* Alves, Nelly Romeo. Motherhood

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9.18.2022 | 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.