



+*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:

God is the potter; we are the clay. Rest in gratitude on the potter's wheel, for we are being shaped according to God's purposes. We are being molded into vessels of great beauty and infinite worth.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "My Tribute" Chancel Choir
by Andrae Crouch

***Call to Worship** Mary Prause

When we try to hide,
God always finds us.
When we crawl into the darkness,
even there we don't escape God's eyes.
Are you tired of running from the one who loves you?
We are here at last, ready and eager to be made whole.
Let us worship the living God.

***Opening Prayer**
O Lord, you are the potter, we are the clay. Take our lives, O God, and remake us anew. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may be filled with living water. Fit us for your purposes, that we may be wholly yours. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** "All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine" (v1, 2 & 5) UMH#166

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

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison) Mary Prause

Holy God, we have sought to follow you without counting the costs, but our tanks are running empty and we are afraid we can't go the distance. We have hidden in the crowd, ignoring Christ's call to pick up our cross and follow him. We have hidden in the stories we tell

ourselves: that we will attend to our spiritual walk some day— just not this day. Help us assess our motives and intentions, even as we ponder our need for the journey. For only then will we know if we have what it takes to finish the course in faith. Amen.

Words of Assurance Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response "Make Me a Servant" TFWS#2176

Scripture Reading Psalm 139:1-6 Mary Prause

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

²You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

³You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.

⁵You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

(Interlude)

***Gospel Reading** Luke 14:1, 7-14 Mary Prause

Jesus Heals the Man with Edema

14 On one occasion when Jesus^[a] was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

Humility and Hospitality

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. **8** "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, **9** and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. **10** But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. **11** For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. **13** But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. **14** And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Reflecting on God's Message "Which is it?" Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Harlan Otter

*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

Offering Prayer Pastor Ed

Loving Potter, you are ever mindful of your people. You fashion us into vessels fit for your service, and transform our gifts and offerings, into vessels to serve your world well. You are worthy of our praise and glory. Amen.

COMMUNION

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*Sending Hymn "Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (v1, 2 & 7) UM#57

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 – Mary Prause
Ministers:
All members of the New Milford UMC



*Interior view of Yuriria Convent, founded in 1550, Yuriria, Guanajuato, Mexico

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9.4.2022 | 9:00 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.