



*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:

Come and see . . . water gushing from a rock.

Come and see . . . someone who knows you through and through.

Come and see . . . hope alive, right here, right now.

Come and see . . . then give God thanks and praise.

We come to worship the God of life and love.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

“Praise God For This Holy Ground”

Chancel Choir

By John L. Bell

***Call to Worship**

O come, let us sing to our God and make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

We lift our hearts and voices in joy and thanksgiving for being here together in the presence of our beloved God.

Come, let us worship this amazing God, for we belong to God.

We will listen for God’s word and live in the hope it inspires.

***Opening Prayer**

Loving and caring God, we come this morning in hope—hope that will sustain us in our trying times, our lonely times, our doubting times.

Refresh us this morning with the living water of your presence and love.

Open us to the possibilities of friendship—the possibilities of encountering you

in unexpected ways, the possibilities of seeing the miraculous in everyday life. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

“Guide Me, O Great Jehova”

UMH#127

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Ed Dayton

Children’s Message

Ed Dayton

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Rosaura Frias

Patient and ever-faithful God, we come to you this morning confessing that we can be a grumpy and unsatisfied people.

When things are not perfect in our eyes, we murmur and complain, We lose hope in the people around us and, even worse, we lose hope in you.

We challenge instead of accept.

We put you to the test rather than trust your caring love.

Forgive our doubts and complaining.

Forgive our loss of hope.

Let your healing, life-giving waters pour over us.

Restore our souls. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Ed Dayton

Hymn of Response

“Great is the Lord”

TFWS#2022

Scripture Reading

Psalm 95:1-3

Rosaura Frias

A Call to Worship and Obedience

1 O come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

3 For the LORD is a great God

and a great King above all gods.

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

John 4:5-42

Rosaura Frias

5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. **6** Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” **8** (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) **9** The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)^[a] **10** Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” **11** The woman said to him, “Sir,^[a] you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? **12** Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” **13** Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, **14** but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” **15** The woman said to him, “Sir,^[a] give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” **16** Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” **17** The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ **18** for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” **19** The woman said to him, “Sir,^[a] I see that you are a prophet. **20** Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you^[a] say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” **21** Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you^[a] will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. **22** You^[a] worship what you^[a] do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. **23** But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. **24** God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” **25** The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” **26** Jesus said to her, “I am he,^[a] the one who is speaking to you.”

27 Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” **28** Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, **29** “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah,^[a] can he?” **30** They left the city and were on their way to him. **31** Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” **32** But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do

not know about.” **33** So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” **34** Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. **35** Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. **36** The reaper is already receiving^[k] wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. **37** For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ **38** I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

39 Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” **40** So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. **41** And many more believed because of his word. **42** They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Reflecting on God’s Message “You CAN Walk, Boy!” Ed Dayton

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Ed Dayton

Offertory anthem “The Cross Was His Own” Chancel Choir
By Tom Fettke

***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 Ed Dayton

Life-giving God, we offer you ourselves and our resources.
Use us and our gifts, that we may be water bearers to a world thirsty for love, for meaning, for justice, and for hope.
May all your people encounter fullness of life through the love of Christ, which lives within us. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” UMH#89

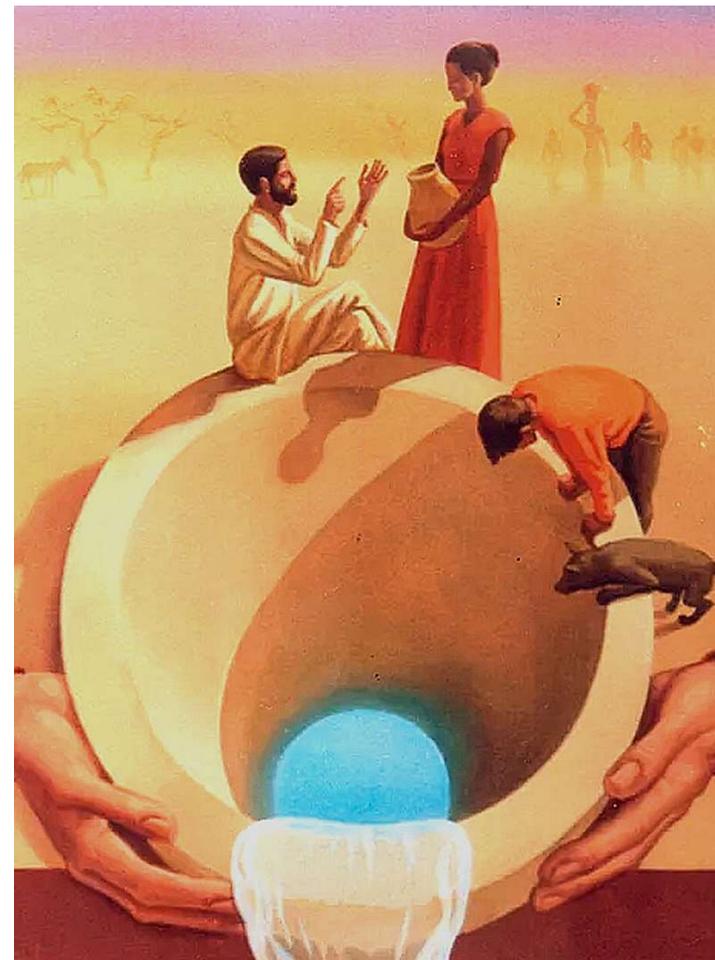
Lord’s Prayer

**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 | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams
Liturgist – Rosaura Frias | Acolyte – Marcos Lora
Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC



* Koenig, Peter. Christ at the Well, from Art in the Christian Tradition

Third Sunday in Lent

3.12.2023 | 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.