



*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:

On the back of a donkey, Jesus came to save us.

On the road to Jerusalem, Jesus came to heal us.

In the joy of laughing children and the shouts of loud hosannas, Jesus came to show us the way.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"Hosanna! Hosanna!"

Chancel Choir

by Cathy Townley

***Call to Worship**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing. It is marvelous in our eyes.

Line the festival procession with branches.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***Opening Prayer**

Blessed One, our hearts sing with the children when we see you ride into Jerusalem on a donkey.

Our lips shout your praises, as you empty yourself to become servant of all.

Open our hearts to the depth of your love, that we might walk faithfully with you during the long week ahead. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

"Who is He?"

W&S#3082

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Patty Dayton

Righteous One, we often ignore the desire of our hearts.

We long to sing hosannas with a cheering crowd, but we turn aside at the sight of an angry mob.

We yearn to dine lovingly at your table, but we retreat into the courtyard shadows.

We hope to defend the one we love, but we succumb to the limits of our strength.

It is so easy to betray you with a kiss.

Forgive our fickle faith and heal our hesitant hearts, for our spirits ache to be found worthy. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

"Tell Me the Story of Jesus"

UMH#277

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

Patty Dayton

5 Let the same mind be in you that was^[a] in Christ Jesus,

6 who, though he existed in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be grasped,

7 but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

8 he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God exalted him even more highly

and gave him the name

that is above every other name,

10 so that at the name given to Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

(Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

Matthew 26:14-30

Patty Dayton

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

14 Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests **15** and said,

"What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. **16** And from

that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

The Passover with the Disciples

17 On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want

us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" **18** He said, "Go into the city to a certain

man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house

with my disciples.' " **19** So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the

Passover meal. **20** When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve disciples,^[a] **21** and while

they were eating he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." **22** And they became greatly

distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" **23** He answered, "The

one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. **24** The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.” **25** Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

The Institution of the Lord’s Supper

26 While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it^[2] he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” **27** Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, **28** for this is my blood of the^[3] covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **29** I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

30 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Reflecting on God’s Message “Give it Up.” Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem "Out of the Shadows" Chancel Choir
By John Purifoy

***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

Thank you, O God, for coming to us in Christ Jesus.
Work through these gifts, that the world might know the breadth of your mercy and your grace.
Bless our very lives, that we might be faithful disciples and stewards of your love.
With gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen.

COMMUNION

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** “I Will Enter His Gates”(x2) TFWS#2270

Benediction

Postlude Harlan Otter

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Pastor Ed Dayton - 860.354.4596 | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams
Liturgist – Patty Dayton | Acolyte – Marcos
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*



* Swanson, John August. Entry into the City

LITURGY OF THE PALMS

4.2.2023 | 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.