



*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:

All the doubt in the world cannot wash away our inheritance from God—
an inheritance of love, refuge, and strength.

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Chris Prause

Come into God's presence with joy.

In God, we have an inheritance that is imperishable.

Come into God's presence with hope.

In Christ, we have an inheritance that cannot be defiled.

Come into God's presence with longing.

In the Spirit, we have an inheritance that never fades.

Come into God's presence with love.

In God, we have an inheritance that brings new life.

***Opening Prayer**

God of signs and wonders, breathe new life into us this day, that our spirits may awaken to the joy and the hope of our glorious inheritance through the living Christ.

Clear our vision, Holy One, that we may see the promise of Easter in the stirrings of this precious earth and in the life energy flowing through our bodies.

Help us find the faith to believe where we have not seen, that others may see, in our living and our loving, the glory of the risen Christ. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

"Be Thou My Vision"

UMH#451

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Chris Prause

Merciful God,

you come offering us peace, but we hold onto our fears;

you come offering us faith, but we cling to our doubts;

you come offering us a future filled with promise, but we retreat to pleasant memories of the past.

We want to believe that you offer us an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.

We want to see ourselves as you see us.

We want to live as you would have us live.

We want to believe that life is stronger than the death we see all around us.

Help our unbelief, O God, that we may truly know and live your gift of resurrection. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

"In Christ There is no East or West"

UMH#548

***Scripture Reading**

Act 1:8

Chris Prause

⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

Luke 10:1-3

Chris Prause

The Mission of the Seventy-Two

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two^[a] others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. **2** He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. **3** Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.

Reflecting on God's Message

"Mission Sunday #1."

Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering

Pastor Ed

***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

O God, our refuge and our strength, we rejoice that you are our chosen portion, you are our cup that overflows to eternal life.

As we celebrate your Easter miracle of bringing life out of death, we express our gratitude and

joy for the new life budding within us and all around us.
Bless the gifts of our time, our talents, and our tithes we offer you this day, that they may bring hope and new life to a world that clings even now to the illusion of death's victory over the Lord of Life. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*Sending Hymn

"To God Be the Glory"

UMH#98

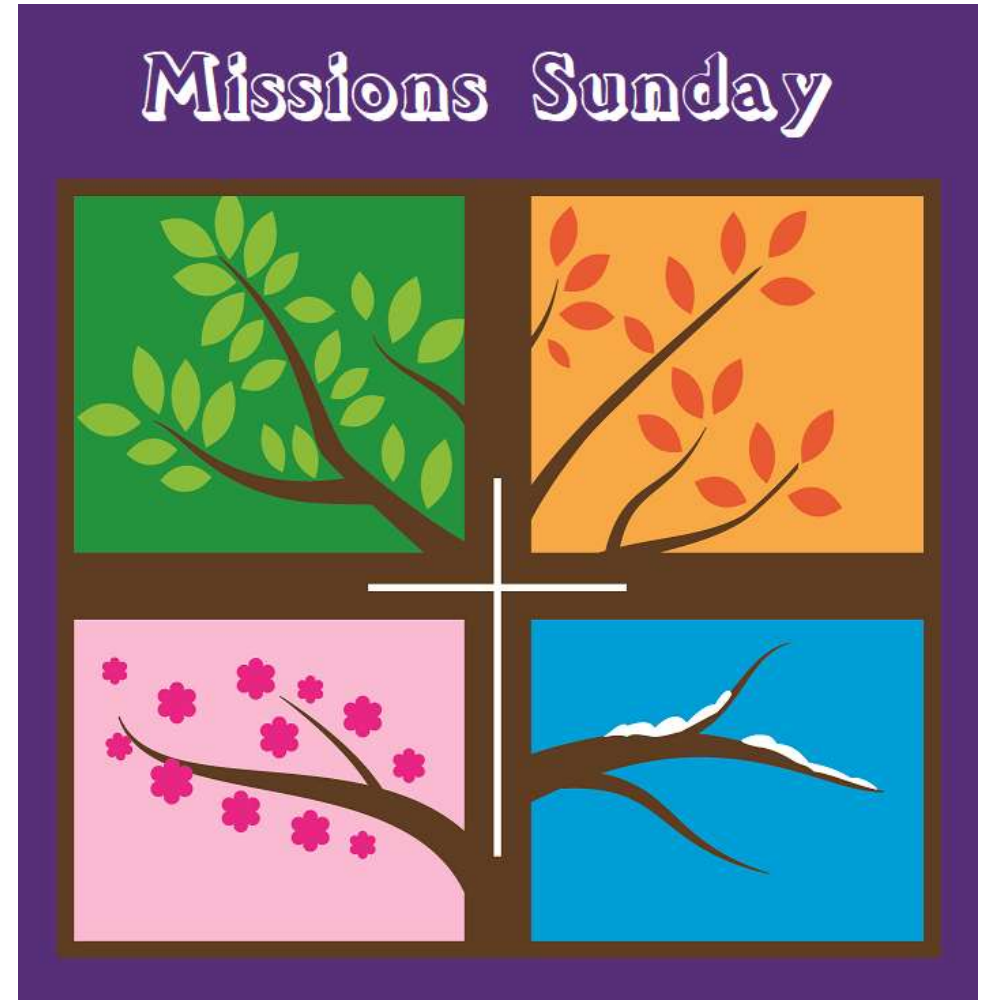
Lord's Prayer

**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



Second Sunday of Easter

4.16.2023 | 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.**

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Pastor Ed Dayton | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams
Liturgist – Chris Prause | Acolyte – Bella O'Rourke
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*