



***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:

As we turn away from the tomb, we encounter the risen Jesus.

As we look in wonder, Jesus calls us by name. Life, not death, is the deepest truth—God's word for all creation.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"Holy Manna"

arr. Susan E. Geschke

Bell Choir

***Call to Worship**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day that sees Christ rise.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day of new beginnings, for Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Rosaura Frias

***Opening Prayer**

God of hope, in the midst of death,
you call forth life.

When all hope seemed gone,
you raised Jesus from the grave.

We come before you today,
longing for your life-giving presence.

God of new life,
raise us up with all your people.

Lift us from the tombs of our despair and doubt,
that we may rejoice in your power over death.

God of joy, fill our hearts with alleluias
as we sing your praises.

Glory to God. Amen!

***Hymn of Praise**

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today (v1-4)"

UMH#302

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Rosaura Frias

God of life and love, like Peter,

we gaze into the empty tomb and see only death.

Like Mary, we stand weeping over loss.

We so often feel hopeless.

We don't recognize any possibility for joy.

Surprise us with your work in the world.

May we dry our tears,

as we dance into new life. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Preparation

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

UMH#618

Scripture Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Rosaura Frias

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Musical Interlude

"Our Savior Lives"

Singing Choir

By John Purifoy

***Gospel Reading**

John 20:1-18

Rosaura Frias

The Resurrection of Jesus

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. **2** So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." **3** Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. **4** The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5** He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. **6** Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, **7** and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. **8** Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; **9** for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. **10** Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look^[a] into the tomb; **12** and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. **13** They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord,

and I do not know where they have laid him.” **14** When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. **15** Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” **16** Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew,^[2] “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). **17** Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” **18** Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Reflecting on God’s Message “But, Pastor.” Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People Pastor Ed

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory anthem “Hallelujah Chorus” Chancel Choir
by George Frideric Handel

Offering Prayer Pastor Ed

Living God, you give us the greatest gift of all, the gift of new life.
Grateful for this gift, we bring our offerings, the work of our hands.
Use our gifts to share your word of hope, your promise of forgiveness,
and your blessings with all creation.
Grateful for your love, we offer ourselves, that we might walk with our neighbors into your garden of love.
Amen.

***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

COMMUNION

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

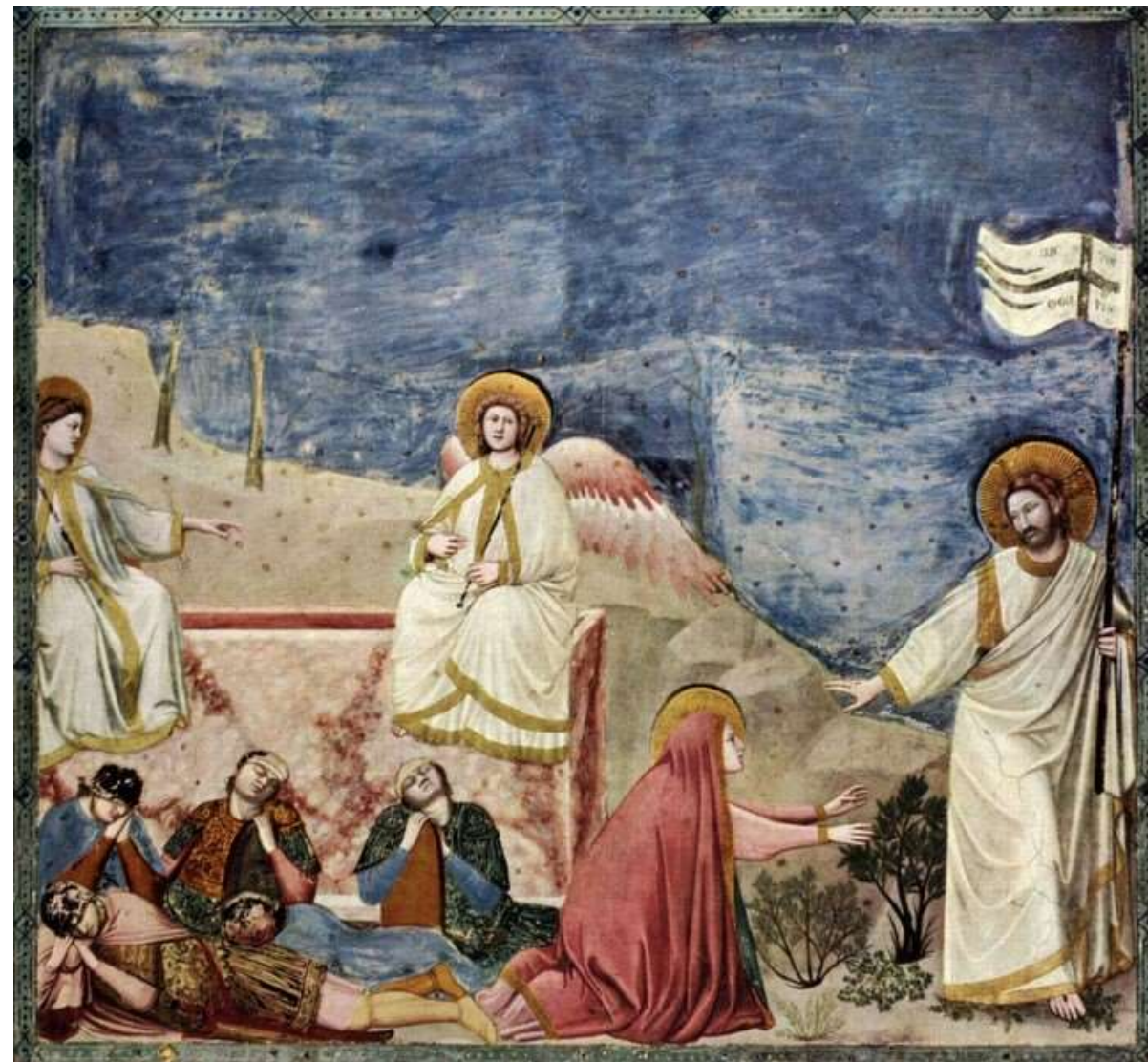
***Sending Hymn** “Alleluia, Alleluia” UMH#162

Benediction (responsive)

Christ is risen!
Alleluia!
The tomb is empty.
Alleluia!
Go with joy to meet the risen Christ.
Alleluia! Amen!

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 – Rosaura Frias | Acolyte – Gabriel
Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC



*Bondone, Giotto di, 1266?-1337. The Risen Christ and Noli Me Tangere

Easter Sunday | 4.9.2023 | 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.