



*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:

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But 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.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"Come, Join the Dance of Trinity"

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Chancel Choir

*Call to Worship

Chuck Samson

In the holy habitation God is the father of orphans and protector of widows,

God gives the desolate a home to dwell in, and leads to the prisoners to prosperity

In your goodness O God you provided for the needy

Wonderous is God in the sanctuary the God of Israel who gives power and strength to the people

Sing God's glory above the heavens

Praise God's name in all the earth

Amen

*Opening Prayer

Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty,

and restore all things in glory through the victory of Jesus Christ.

We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured

by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed,

the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace,

to the glory of your name. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise

"God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale"

UMH#122

*Passing of the Peace Of Christ

Chuck Samson

Children's Message

Chuck Samson

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Chuck Samson

Almighty and gracious God, Your love is everlasting and filled with patience. In our sinfulness, we run away, yet You seek after us. We make foolish choices in spite of the fact that You teach us a

better way. We hurt You and others, and, instead of hurting us back, You forgive us.

Words of Assurance

Chuck Samson

Centering Song:

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

TFWS#2158

*Epistle Reading

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Chuck Samson

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

(Musical Interlude)

*Gospel Reading

John 17:1-11

Chuck Samson

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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### Missions Moment

#### \*Scripture Reading

James 1:27

Jerry and Kay Jones

"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world".

**Kairos**

Chuck Samson

**Mozambique**

Jerry and Kay Jones

### Prayers of the People

**Invitation of the Offering**  
**Offertory Anthem**

**“People Need the Lord”**  
by Greg Nelson & Phill McHugh

Chuck Samson  
Chancel Choir

**\*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

UMH #95

**Offering Prayer**

Faithful Father, thank you that you give the gift of abundant, eternal life. You have said that you are a Good Father who gives us good gifts. Your generosity overflows to us. Everything we have is a gift from you. As we bring our offerings to you, we give back to you from the abundant blessings you have given us. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord our God. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, and power and strength, be unto you our God forever and ever. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Chuck Samson

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

**\*Sending Hymn**

**“How Shall They Hear the Word of God”**

UMH#649

**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



**\*2016 Missions Team**

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Lay Speaker, Chuck Samson | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams  
Liturgist – Chuck Samson | Acolyte – Josiah Thomas | Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*



\*Photo from Mozambique, given by Jerry and Kay Jones

# Seventh Sunday of Easter

## 5.21.2023 | 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.**