



***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:

When we give ourselves fully to God, God transforms our lives. In this transformation, God connects us to others whose lives are being transformed, as they too give themselves fully to God.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit Harlan Otter

***Call to Worship** Patty Dayton

Our help is in God,
who calls us to worship.

Our hope is in love,
that calls us to care.

Come, let us bring our full selves to worship.

Let us bring our full love and care.

***Opening Prayer**

Gracious and loving God, bless us with your presence as we worship this day.

Bless us with your love as we grow in love and mature faith.

Bless us with your guidance as we give ourselves to you, to your church, and to your work in the world. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** "Here I Am, Lord" UMH#593

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ** Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison) Patty Dayton

Rock of ages, be our fortress and our shelter in troubled times.

Be our strength and our courage when we are afraid.

Be our grace and our forgiveness when we fall short.

Be our inspiration and our guide when we strive to serve you and your world fully.

In hope and gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance Pastor Ed

***Hymn of Response** "The Church's One Foundation"(v1,2&5)

UMH#545

***1st Reading** Psalm 124

Patty Dayton

Thanksgiving for Israel's Deliverance

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

1 If it had not been the LORD who was on our side
—let Israel now say—

2 if it had not been the LORD who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,

3 then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;

4 then the flood would have swept us away;
the torrent would have gone over us;

5 then over us would have gone
the raging waters.

6 Blessed be the LORD,
who has not given us
as prey to their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the hunters;

the snare is broken,
and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading** Matthew 16:13-20

Patty Dayton

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" **14** And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." **15** He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" **16** Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah,^[a] the Son of the living God." **17** And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. **18** And I tell you, you are Peter,^[b] and on this rock^[c] I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. **19** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." **20** Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was^[d] the Messiah.^[e]

Reflecting on God's Message "Who Do You Say - That You Are." Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering

Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem

Harlan Otter

*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

Pastor Ed

Ever-giving God, help us give as fully to you and to your world as you have given to us. Transform our gifts with your love, that they may become vessels of your love for others. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*Sending Hymn

“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

TFWS#2151

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.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude

Harlan Otter

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



* Thorvaldsen, Bertel, 1770-1844. Christ gives the keys of the kingdom to Peter,

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8.27.2023 | 9:00 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.*