



*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:

Be of one mind, the mind of Christ.
Be of one Spirit, the Spirit of God's love.
Be of one purpose as beloved people of God.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"Everything That Has a Voice"
by Shirley Erena Murray

Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship**

The God of glory awaits,
welcoming us to worship and praise.
The Christ of humility is here,
welcoming our needs and prayers.
The Spirit of love gathers us in,
binding us together as one.

Patty Dayton

***Opening Prayer**

God of wondrous love and glorious deeds, shower us with your love and quench our thirst for grace.
Strengthen us with your Spirit of power and embolden us to live our faith.
Humble us with the example of Christ and remind us to regard one another as beloved children of God. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"

UMH#127

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

Albert Docktor Baptism

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Patty Dayton

Prince of peace, speak mercy amidst our quarrels and our dissensions.
Shower us with your love, that we may remember to love others as fully as you love us.
Bind us together with your Spirit, that we might live as one people—a people of one mind, one

love, and one all-embracing compassion for all.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" (v1,2&6)

UMH#155

Prayer of illumination

Patty Dayton

Listen to God's glorious deeds and reflect on the wonders of God's love.

***1st Reading**

Psalms 17: 1-7

Patty Dayton

Prayer for Deliverance from Persecutors

A Prayer of David.

- 1 Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.
- 2 From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.
- 3 If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.
- 4 As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.
- 5 My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.
- 6 I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me; hear my words.
- 7 Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

Matthew 21:23 & 28-32

Patty Dayton

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

The Parable of the Two Sons

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29 He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father^[a] went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of

you. **32** For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

Reflecting on God’s Message “Walk the Talk.” Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Veterans Appreciation

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem “Covenant Prayer” Chancel Choir
by Jay D. Locklear

***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

Beloved and loving God, bless these gifts, that they may bring unity to a world in strife.
Bless our lives, that we may bring love to everyone we meet.
Bless our church, that our fellowship may be a place of unity and inclusion for all. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** “Trust and Obey” UMH#467

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



Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

11.12.2023 | 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 – Patty Dayton | Acolyte – Chloe Jacobson
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*