



*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:

Wisdom and truth touch our hearts and open our minds when we open ourselves to Christ.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"Still Nacht"

by Franz Xaver Gruber

Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship**

Make a joyful noise, a noise of service and love.

Praise God with lives of compassion.

Sing with acts of kindness.

Glorify God with acts of mercy.

Praise God with works of justice.

Praise God with overflowing love.

Jerry Jones

***Opening Prayer**

God of grace and God of glory, reveal yourself through our lives and our love.

Shine your wisdom and truth into our hearts this day.

Help us know the hope to which we are called, that we may be the servants you craft us to be.

In your glory and grace, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

"Come Thou Almighty King" (v1,2&4)

UMH#61

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Glorious God, shine the light of your love in the lives of those who need it most.

May we see your glory reflected in them and be reminded to shine your light for all to see.

Speak to us through cries for help, that we may hear and respond with compassion.

Reveal yourself in the lost and the lonely,

that we may be fully present to their needs.

For we yearn to notice you in our everyday living.

We long to set aside our fear and love courageously.

We hope with every fiber of our being to act as servants of your peace. Amen.

Jerry Jones

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

"Open My Eyes That I May See"

UMH#454

Prayer of illumination

Jerry Jones

Open our ears, O God, that we might hear your Word speaking to us in this moment.

Open our ears, O God, that we might listen for your voice calling to us through scripture.

Open our ears, O God, that we might understand your promises to followers both old and young, ancient and modern.

Open our hearts, O God, that we might enter into the love you offer us. Amen.

***1st Reading**

Psalm 100- sung (umh821)

Jerry Jones

1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the lands!

2 **Serve the LORD with gladness;
come into God's presence with singing!**

3 Know that the Lord, who made us, is God.

**We are the Lord's;
we are the people of God,
and the sheep of God's pasture.**

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and God's courts with praise!

Give thanks and bless God's name!

5 For the LORD is good;

God's steadfast love endures for ever;

God's faithfulness to all generations.

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

Matthew 25:31-46

Jerry Jones

The Judgment of the Nations

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. **32** All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, **33** and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. **34** Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, **35** for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, **36** I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' **37** Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? **38** And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? **39** And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' **40** And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' **41** Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, **42** for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, **43** I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me

clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ **44** Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ **45** Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ **46** And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

Reflecting on God’s Message “Power.” Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem "Rise Up, Christian, and Follow" Chancel Choir
Traditional American Spiritual, arr. Colin Curtis

***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

Shepherd of love, transform these gifts into nourishment for a hungry world.
May they offer shelter from the storms of life.
May they bring kindness and compassion to the lost and the lonely.
Transform us, even as you transform these gifts, that we might be your hands and feet in the world.
Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** “Crown Him with Many Crowns” UMH#327

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



* Luti, Benedetto, 1666-1724. Allegory of Wisdom

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

11.26.2023 | 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 – Jerry Jones | Acolyte – Bella O’Rourke
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*