



\*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 HEAR THE WORD

WE GATHER TOGETHER

**Prelude**

Harlan Otter

**Words to Ponder:**

The greatest must be the servants of all.

So it is in God's upside down world—a world where the first shall be last and the last shall be first.

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Charlie Chapin Recognition**

**Introit**

“Everything That Has a Voice”

By Shirley Erena Murray

Chancel Choir

**\*Call to Worship**

Called to service in Christ's name, let us worship together and listen to God's word.

**We gather to worship God and bring comfort to those who hunger and thirst.**

Step confidently into the river of faith.

**We gather to help one another cross the River Jordan.**

Come! Let us worship the Lord, our God.

**We come to follow in the footsteps of Christ.**

**\*Opening Prayer**

Your steadfast love endures forever, O God.

How can we keep from singing your praises?

When we suffer from hunger and thirst, you deliver us from distress.

When our souls faint within us, you revive us with pools of clear water.

Help our hearts be humble, that we may seek the welfare of others before our own honor and glory.

In deepest humility,

we ask that our steps never falter as we seek the welfare of all. Amen.

**\*Hymn of Praise**

“For All the Saints” (v1,2&4)

UMH#711

**\*Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

**Children's Message**

Pastor Ed

**Prayer of Confession (in unison)**

Mary Prause

Strong deliverer, as we walk into the rivers of life, you part the waters and help us walk on dry ground.

We yearn to feel worthy of your great love, but find it hard to humble ourselves and take the role of the servant.

We long to release fears that we will lose power and prestige, that we will no longer hold places of honor, that we will be perceived as weak.

Heal our insecurities, O God.

Help us live Christ's truth that the greatest are those who serve, and that those who humble themselves will be exalted. Amen.

**Words of Assurance**

Pastor Ed

**Hymn of Response**

“Go Forth O God” (v1,2&4)

UMH#670

**Prayer of Illumination (in unison)**

Mary Prause

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

**Scripture Reading**

1 John 3: 1-3

Mary Prause

**3** <sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he<sup>[a]</sup> is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure..

*(Interlude)*

**\*Gospel Reading**

Matthew 5:1-12

Mary Prause

**The Beatitudes**

**5** When Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

**3** “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**4** “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**5** “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**6** “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

**7** “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

**8** “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

**9** “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**10** “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**11** “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely<sup>[2]</sup> on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Reflecting on God’s Message** “When We...” Pastor Ed

**All Saints Day**

**Prayers of the People**

**Invitation of the Offering** Pastor Ed

**Offertory Anthem** “Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled.” Chancel Choir  
By Bruce Greer

**\*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

Giver of all good things, we offer you our deepest gratitude.

We praise you for our many blessings:

for water that refreshes, for fields that yield bountiful harvests, for wine that gladdens the heart.

May the gifts we bring this day go forth to bless your world with abundance,  
through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**COMMUNION**

**Communion Anthem** "One Bread, One Body" Musical Setting B  
UMH#620

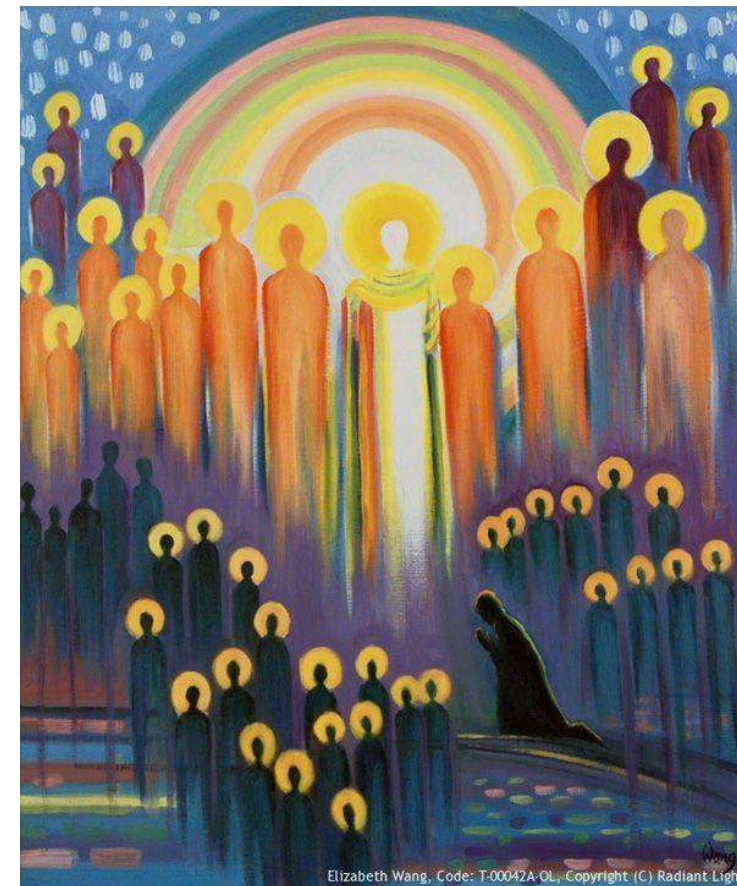
*WE RESPOND TO THE WORD*

**\*Sending Hymn** “Love Divine, Love All Excelling” (v1,2&4) UMH#384

**Benediction**

**Postlude** Harlan Otter

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Pastor Ed Dayton - 860.354.4596 | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams  
Liturgist – Mary Prause | Acolyte – Gabriel Lora  
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*



# Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

## 11.5.2023 | 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.*