



\*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 recorded service.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

**Prelude** Harlan Otter

**Words to Ponder:**

“Let go and let God.” This is not just a phrase; it’s a lifestyle. “Die to the old and embrace the new.” This is not just a phrase, but a promise of possibilities in God that we often cannot see.

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit** “On Eagle’s Wings” Chancel Choir  
by Michael Joncas

**\*Call to Worship**

In hope and trust, we respond.

**In love and faithfulness, God saves.**

In gratitude and joy, we come.

**Let us worship and praise God’s holy name**

**\*Opening Prayer**

Ancient of days, bring your future hope into our world.

Bring your love into our lies.

Bring your presence into our midst.

Open our hearts and minds to your message,  
that we may respond with hope and trust.

With our ancestors of old,  
may we walk in the lineage of faithful discipleship.  
Amen.

**\*Hymn of Praise** “And Are We Yet Alive” (v1-4) UMH#553

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

**Children’s Message** Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

**Prayer of Confession (in unison)** Rosaura Frias

Faithful One, we want to believe.

Help our unbelief.

We yearn to follow faithfully.

Forgive our hesitant, stumbling steps.

Hold us by the hand, guide us with your love,

and cover us with your mercy and grace.

Help us answer your call, trust your promises,

and walk in your ways

all the days of our lives. Amen.

**Words of Assurance** Pastor Ed

**Hymn of Response** “Where He Leads Me” UMH#338

**Prayer of illumination** Rosaura Frias

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept you Word. Silence in us any voices but your own, so that we may hear your Word and also do it; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*1st Reading** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Rosaura Frias

**The Sign of the Covenant**

**17** When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty;<sup>[a]</sup> walk before me, and be blameless. **2** And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous.” **3** Then Abram fell on his face, and God said to him, **4** “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. **5** No longer shall your name be Abram,<sup>[b]</sup> but your name shall be Abraham,<sup>[c]</sup> for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. **6** I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. **7** I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

<sup>15</sup> God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup> I will bless her and also give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

*(Musical Interlude)*

**\*Gospel Reading** Mark 8:31-38 Rosaura Frias

**Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection**

**31** Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. **32** He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. **33** But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

**34** He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If any wish to come<sup>[a]</sup> after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **35** For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel,<sup>[b]</sup> will save it. **36** For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? **37** Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? **38** Those who are ashamed of me and of my words<sup>[c]</sup> in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Reflecting on God's Message "What does it Take to be Jesus' Disciple?" Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem "Like a Lamb Who Needs the Shepherd" Chancel Choir  
by Ralph Carmichael

\*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

God of ancient days and futures not yet seen,  
bring your eternal wisdom to our time of offering.  
Bring your ancient faith and faithful love  
to the gifts we now bring.  
Transform the past with the promise of your future,  
that together our gifts may merge with your Spirit  
to bring transformation and hope to your world.  
Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

\*Sending Hymn "Give Thanks" TFWS#2036

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 – Rosaura Frias | Acolyte – Leo Jacobson  
Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC



# Second Sunday in Lent

## 2.25.2024 | 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.*