



***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 zoom recorded service.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Harlan Otter

Words to Ponder:

Those who trust God will rise up with wings like eagles.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

“On Eagle’s Wings”

by Michael Joncas

Chancel Choir

*all encouraged to join

Rosaura Frias

***Call to Worship**

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told to you from the beginning?

**The Lord is the everlasting God,
the creator of heaven and earth.**

God sits above the circle of the earth
and stretches out the heavens like a curtain.

**Those who wait for the Lord
shall mount up with wings like eagles.**

They shall run and not be weary.

They shall walk and not faint.

How good it is to sing praises to our God.

***Opening Prayer**

Rosaura Frias

Everlasting God, you stretch the sky over our heads
like a canopy filled with twinkling lights.

Scarcely do the stems of our lives take root
before the wind carries us away like stubble.

Yet you care for us—

healing the brokenhearted,

gathering the outcast,

lifting the downtrodden,

while casting the wicked to the ground.

Renew our strength this day, O God,

that we may mount up with wings like eagles.

Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

UMH#139

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children’s Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Rosaura Frias

Holy God, even in our pursuit of safety and security,
we yearn to seek justice for the poor
and to defend the downtrodden
from the privilege of the powerful.

Give us the heart of Jesus,
that we may care for the sick
and rescue the perishing.

Give us the spirit of Christ,
that we may spend time in prayer
and keep your path before our feet.

Give us the love of your Son,
that we may be instruments of your peace. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

UMH#526

Prayer of Illumination

Rosaura Frias

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.

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Rosaura Frias

¹⁶ If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a wage, but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸ What then is my wage? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might gain all the more. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to gain Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might gain those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not outside God’s law but am within Christ’s law) so that I might gain those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, so that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I might become a partner in it.

(Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

Mark 1:29-39

Rosaura Frias

Jesus Heals Many at Simon’s House

29 As soon as they^[a] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. **30** Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. **31** He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. **32** That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. **33** And the whole city was gathered around the door. **34** And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

A Preaching Tour in Galilee

35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. **36** And Simon and his companions hunted for him. **37** When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." **38** He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do." **39** And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Reflecting on God's Message "How Clearly Do You See Jesus?" Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem "Just Pass it On!" Chancel Choir
by Don Besig

***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

Creator of heaven and earth,
you shower the earth with rain,
nourish the land with sunshine,
and bless your people with goodness.
Receive the gifts we bring before you this day,
that they may touch the world with gladness
and bring succor to those in need. Amen.

COMMUNION

Communion Anthem "One Bread, One Body" UMH#62

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** "Lord of the Dance" UMH#261

Benediction

Postlude Harlan Otter

68 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT 06776 | www.newmilfordumc.org | 860.354.4596
Pastor Ed Dayton - 860.354.4596 | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams
Liturgist – Rosaura Frias | Acolyte – Josiah
Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC



• Assereto, Gioacchino. Christ Healing the Blind Man

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

2.4.2024 | 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.