



*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:

Trust God. Trust the miracles you have known.

Trust the miracle you can be.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"The Risen Christ"

by Keith Getty and Phil Madeira

Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship**

Turn to Christ,

who calls us here.

Place your trust in God,

who protects our lives.

Lean into Spirit,

as we worship in Spirit and truth.

Carolyn Nuzzi

***Opening Prayer**

God of miracles and truth, bless us, as we gather for worship, with the power of your Holy Spirit.

Reveal your presence in our midst

and open our hearts and minds

to receive your miraculous love.

Strengthen our faith this day,

that we may go forth as witnesses

of your miraculous love. Amen.

Carolyn Nuzzi

***Hymn of Praise**

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

UMH#140

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Carolyn Nuzzi

Answer us, O God, as we turn to you

for mercy and strength.

Listen to the yearnings of our hearts

and the regrets of our lives.

Comfort us in our distress

and pour your grace into our lives. Redeem us with your love,

that we might rise with Christ,

newborn and vibrantly alive.

Grant us the confidence

to witness to your life-giving love. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

UMH#474

Scripture Reading

1 John 3:1-7

Carolyn Nuzzi

3 1 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. **2** Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he^[a] is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. **3** And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. **4** Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. **5** You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. **6** No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. **7** Little children,^[b] let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

(Musical interlude)

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

Carolyn Nuzzi

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

36 While they were talking about this, Jesus^[a] himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."^[b] **37** They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. **38** He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? **39** Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." **40** And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.^[c] **41** Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" **42** They gave him a piece of broiled fish,^[d] **43** and he took it and ate in their presence.

44 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms

must be fulfilled.” **45** Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, **46** and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah^[e] is^[f] to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day **47** and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48** You are witnesses^[g] of these things.

Reflecting on God’s Message “Children of God.” Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering Pastor Ed

Offertory Anthem “Open Our Eyes” Chancel Choir
by Bob Cull

***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

Generous God of love and grace,
bless these gifts with your abundant love
and your life-giving grace.

Bless us as we bear witness to your love and grace
in all that we say, all that we give,
and all that we do. Amen.

COMMUNION

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** “Be Thou My Vision” UMH#451

Benediction

Postlude Harlan Otter



*Duccio, di Buoninsegna, -1319?. Christ Appears to the Disciples at the Table after the Resurrection

Third Sunday of Easter

4.14.2024 | 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.**

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Pastor Ed Dayton - 860.354.4596 | Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams
Liturgist – Carolyn Nuzzi | Acolyte – Leo/Chloe Jacobson
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*