



***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

Welcome Pastor Lee

Announcements Pat Tripp

***Praise and Worship**
 “He Has Made Me Glad” TFWS # 2270
 “My Life Is In You” TFWS # 2032
 “Bind Us Together” TFWS # 2226

Words to Ponder Pastor Lee

As the ancients remind us, we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Life is around us, even in the memories of ghosts and loved ones long gone. Death is but the other side of the coin of life. Hope is but the other side of the coin of despair. Unity is but the other side of the coin of division. Flip a coin. Choose your side. For life and hope await us on the other side.

Call to Worship Pat Tripp

In the fire and the flames,
Spirit appears to bless and inspire us.

In division and the despair,
Christ arrives to challenge and invite us.

In the shadows and the sorrow,
God walks alongside to lift us up.

In this moment, we gather together to worship, to pray, to sing, and to lament.
We gather on this blessed journey of life, death, and resurrection.

Opening Prayer (in unison) Pat Tripp

Christ of mysterious paradox, enter the paradoxes of our lives. Divide us when false unity divides us from you. Unify us when false division separates us from one another. Connect with us so securely, that we may connect with one another in the power of your Holy Spirit, as we worship together this day. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** “Spirit of the Living God” UMH # 395

***Passing of the Peace of Christ** Pastor Lee

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination Pat Tripp

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded. **Amen.**

***Scripture Reading** **Genesis 18:1-21** Pat Tripp

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures^[e] of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ¹⁰Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?” ¹³The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ ¹⁴Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁵But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. He said, “Yes, you did laugh.” ¹⁶Then the men set out from there, and they looked toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to set them on their way. ¹⁷The Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, ¹⁸seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.” ²⁰Then the Lord said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know.”

Reflecting on God’s Message **“Radical Hospitality”** Pastor Lee

Stories From UM Army Steve Kolitz, Jayna Smyer, Rayne Gaudette

Prayers of the People Pastor Lee

Lord’s Prayer

We Respond to the Word

Invitation of the Offering

Pastor Lee

May we offer you now our very selves: our energy, our resources, and our time. Help us reach the vulnerable; and enable this church to be a place of refuge, help, justice, love, and hospitality.

Offertory Anthem

Harlan Otter

*Doxology

UMH #95

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
Praise God, from Whom all blessing flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly Host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Offering Prayer

We praise you for your mighty and abundant love. Sing through the gifts we return to you, that others may know your great love. Sing through our lives, that through us, others may discover your song. Sing through even our division, that we may discover a unity we have never tasted before in your peace. Amen.

We Reach Out to the World

*Sending Hymn

“Here I Am, Lord”

UMH # 593

*Benediction

Pastor Lee & Congregation

We, who were far away, have been brought near in the grace of Christ.

We, who were once divided, have discovered peace in the unity of God’s Spirit.

We, who were once alone, are connected in the love of God.

We, who were once alone, are connected in the love of God.

We, who were once lone individuals, are united as one body, one family of God, to share God’s unifying love with the world.

Amen.

Postlude

Harlan Otter

Event Announcements:

- All Liturgists Meeting: August 4 (Sunday) following the service, in the sanctuary
- Coffee with Pastor Lee: August 20 and 27 (Tuesdays) 12:00 – 2:00PM Panera Bread
- Ice Cream with Pastor Lee: August 24, 3:00PM at Tasty Waves 7 Main Street, New Milford

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost



St-Takla.org

7.28.2024 | 9:00 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.

Pastor Yongyeun Lee 203-969-5461; Email: yongyeunlee@gmail.com
Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams | Liturgist – Pat Tripp
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*
Pastor’s Office Hours: 9:00AM – 12:00PM, Tuesday through Friday
68 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT 06776 | www.newmilfordumc.org | 860.354.4596