



***The order of service is subject to change at the leading of the Holy Spirit.**
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 are encouraged to check-in at NMUMC on Facebook & share recorded service.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Light the Candle	Chloe Jacobson
Welcome	Pastor Lee
Welcoming Statement	Together
Announcements	Bonnie Weed
*Praise and Worship	
	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (vs 1,3+6) UMH #234
	“Hark! The Harold Angels Sing” (vs 1+2) UMH #240
	“What Child Is This” (refrain) UMH #219

Light the fourth candle of Advent Hopp Family

Reader 1: O God, we light the fourth candle of Advent.

Reader 2: We hear your angel Gabriel and witness the faith of Mary. Fill us with your grace and light.

People: Revealing Gd, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring your good news to life within us.
Give us courage to carry your light into the injustices and shadows of this world. Amen.

Words to Ponder Bonnie Weed
The very air we breathe is filled with joyous expectation. The one who has done great things for us is with us now. Glory to God in the highest!

Call to Worship Bonnie Weed
When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, their lives were forever changed.
Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and Mary proclaimed faith in God, her savior.
The children they carried in their wombs heralded expectation and hope for the world.
We are heirs of this expectation and hope. We are heirs of this promise of God.
Come! Let us worship.

Opening Prayer Together
God of joyous expectation, come to us this day. May the miracles in our lives fill us with wonder.
May an encounter with your goodness and grace cause our hearts to leap within us. Receive us into the arms of your mercy, that we may feel you near us and rest secure in your many blessings.
Amen.

Lord’s Prayer	Together
*Hymn of Praise	“The First Noel” UMH # 245
*Passing of the Peace of Christ	Bonnie Weed
Children’s Sermon	“Meaning of The Candy Cane” Pastor Lee

WE HEAR THE WORD

Words of Illumination Bonnie Weed
While Mary and Elizabeth were pregnant with very different sons, they shared a joyous expectation for the miracles of God growing within them. As we hear their stories, let us listen with expectation and hope for the miracles that God is birthing within us.

***Scripture Reading** **Luke 1:39-45** Bonnie Weed
³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

Reader: This is the word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Reflecting on God’s Message	“Gift of Faith”	Pastor Lee
Prayers of the People		Pastor Lee

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering Pastor Lee
Those who keep God’s covenant and decrees walk in the paths of steadfast love and faithfulness.
It is right to share our blessing in a world where justice for many is but a dream, and mercy is but a hope seen from afar.
With thankful hearts, let us joyfully share our gifts in gratitude to our God.

Offertory Anthem	"In the Bleak Midwinter" by Gustav Hoist; arr. Brad Printz	Chancel Choir
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***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**

Together

Glorious God, source of every good gift, bless our tithes and offerings this day. May they lift up the lowly, fill the hungry with good things, and bring strength and mercy to those in need. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

We Reach Out to the World

***Sending Hymn**

“Joy to the World”

UMH # 446

***Benediction**

Together

Go forth and bear Christ’s hope to the world.

We will carry Christ’s hope everywhere we go.

Go forth and bear the mystery of God before others.

We will shine God’s light each and every day.

Go forth and bless the world.

We will share the Spirit in all that we say and in all that we do.

Amen.

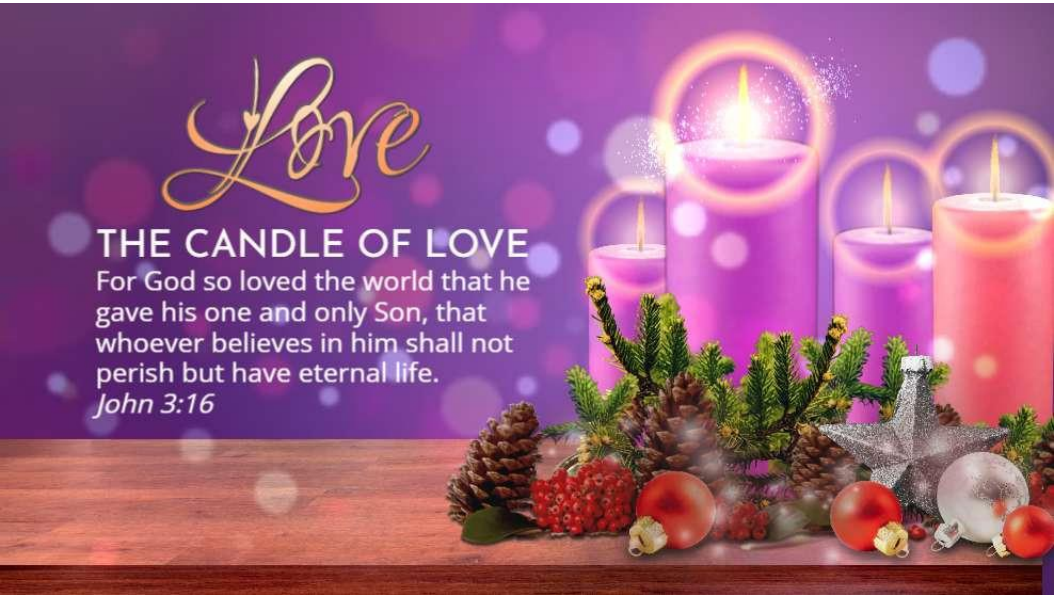
Postlude

Harlan Otter

Event Announcements:

- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:** Tuesday December 24 at 7:00pm
- **Choir:** No Rehearsal December 26
- **Family Picture & Address Update:** due Sunday December 29

Christmas Sunday



presentermedia.net

12.22.2024 | 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.

Pastor Yongyeun Lee 203-969-5461; Email: yongyeunlee@gmail.com

Music Director, Harlan Otter | Liturgical Arts, Barbara Williams | Liturgist – Bonnie Weed

Children’s Participation: Acolyte: Chloe Jacobson; Bell Ringer: Leo Jacobson

Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*

Pastor’s Office Hours: 9:00AM – 12:00PM, Tuesday through Friday

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