

✝ **Sung Response #609**

"You Have Put On Christ" [2X] BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Invitation to Offering

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

"A Joyful Ring" by Barbara B. Kinyon Bell Choir

✝ **Doxology #94**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Offertory Prayer [adapted from prayer by liturgiesonline.com.au]

GOING FORTH

✝ **Closing Hymn #502**

"Thy Holy Wings, O Savior" BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR

✝ **Commission, Benediction and Passing of the Peace**

Go now, confident that you are God's precious and pleasing children.
Trust in God and do not fear. Live the Word of God
and point others to the one who baptizes with Spirit and fire.
And may God be your protection and your strength; may Christ be your teacher.
And may the Holy Spirit be with you... to empower you and give you peace.

***We go in peace strengthened by God's love, guided by Jesus' light
and fired up by the Holy Spirit. Amen!***

Postlude

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.
Zoe Vandermeer

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cover image: collage by pastor alex and drew konow

liturgy: unless otherwise noted, liturgy content is adapted from work by John van de Laar @ Sacredise.com;
Nathan Nettleton @ LaughingBird.net; onthechancelsteps.com; lectionary.vanderbuilt.edu;
liturgiesonline.com.au]

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Rev. Alex da Silva Souto, Pastor | Zoe Vandermeer, Music Director

Brinna Kolitz, Youth Leader | **Ministers:** All members of the New Milford UMC

New Milford United Methodist Church

Baptism

of the LORD

January 10, 2016 at 9:30am

*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, age, race, religious background, economic status,
sexual orientation or condition of ableness, we greet you as a beloved child of God.*



* **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.

ENTRANCE & PRAISE

Prelude "Meditation on 'Beach Spring'" arr. by Hugh S. Livingston, Jr. Zoe Vandermeer

Welcome & News Mary Prause

† **Opening Hymn #605** "Wash O God Our Sons And Daughters" [v.v. 1, 3] BEACH SPRING

† **Call to Worship** Mary Prause

[adapted from paraphrase of Psalm 29 by Nathan Nettleton @ laughingbird.net]

LORD God, like Your angels in heaven

... we speak of you in glowing terms, for your glory and strength deserve rave reviews.

**We put up Your name in lights
 and hold a huge ticker tape parade, but it still falls short of the worship you deserve.**

Your voice, LORD, rings out like thunder;

... resounding over the waters, drowning out even the waves of the sea.

Your voice echoes with power; it would bring anyone to their knees.

Your voice, LORD, strikes fire from stone. Your voice, LORD, is like a cyclone,

howling through a rainforest, stripping the leaves from the trees.

We all gather to worship and cheer with all our might; for You rule forever, LORD,

and neither surging flood, nor tidal wave can undermine You.

Give strength to Your people, LORD! Bless Your people with peace as we worship You!

Prayer of Invocation [adapted from prayer: "God's Ability" by John van de Laar] Pastor Alex

Hymn of Praise #347 "Spirit Song" SPIRIT SONG

Prayers of the People [adapted from "Partnering with God" by John van de Laar]

Sometimes... [Prayers of the People, concludes with...]

**But, we do not face these struggles alone, Jesus; You have aligned yourself with us,
 in taking on flesh, in going through the waters, in laying down your life;
 And you have invited us to partner with you, in proclaiming Good News,
 in freeing the imprisoned, in restoring the broken, in uniting the divided;
 And you have given us the capacity, the divine Spirit, to be co-workers with God.
 For this, we are eternally grateful. Amen!**

Anthem

"Refresh My Heart" by Geoff Bullock

Choir

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination [adapted from prayer "God Speaks" by John van de Laar]

**You speak, God - You always speak, if we will but listen; All we need to do is pause,
 and turn our attention to the song singing from the heavens,
 and whispering in the wind; to the flight of the dove,
 and the touch of its wings on our heads; to the giggling of the water,
 and the mark it leaves in our hearts;**

**Your voice comes to us in faithful surround sound, beckoning us to join the chorus,
 share in the dance, and extend the invitation into all the earth.
 You speak, God - You always speak; and joyfully, we are listening.**

Children's Message "One in Spirit" [concept inspired by onthechancelsteps] Pastor Alex
 [All children are invited to proceed to Sunday School for lessons on "Jesus is Baptized" from "Luke 3:1-22"]

† **Gospel Reading** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 [NRSV] Mary Prause

Reflecting on God's Message "Come, Holy Spirit" Pastor Alex

Hebrew Bible Reading Isaiah 43:1-4 [MSG]

But now, God's Message, the God who made you in the first place,
 Jacob, the One who got you started, Israel:

"Don't be afraid, I've redeemed you. I've called your name. You're mine.

When you're in over your head, I'll be there with you.

When you're in rough waters, you will not go down.

When you're between a rock and a hard place, it won't be a dead end—

Because I am God, your personal God, The Holy of Israel, your Savior.

I paid a huge price for you: all of Egypt, with rich Cush and Seba thrown in!

That's how much you mean to me! That's how much I love you!

I'd sell off the whole world to get you back, trade the creation just for you.

Responsive Prayer [adapted from prayer by lectionary.vanderbuilt.edu]

God of grace and glory,

You call us with Your voice of flame to be Your people, faithful and courageous.

**As Your beloved Son embraced His mission in the waters of baptism,
 inspire us with the fire of Your Spirit to join in His transforming work.**

We ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.