

New Milford United Methodist Church

Commission & Benediction [© enfleshed]

The Spirit sends us from this place with power:

to disrupt cycles of violence,

to practice healing within and around,

and to create bold alternatives to norms that harm and destroy.

With the knowledge and assurance of Christ with us,
may we go and make it so. Amen.

Postlude

Musical Selection by Tim Smith

**Celebration of the 7th Sunday of Epiphany
February 16, 2020 @ 9:30am**

68 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT 06776 | www.newmilfordumc.org | 860.354.4596

Rev. Alex da Silva Souto, Pastor - mobile: 415.706.5397 | Music Director, Tim Smith

Lay Leaders: Lois Ciccarelli, Courtney Karp, David Kullgren

Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC

**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 Savior 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.**



* **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, Bible, Bulletins, Service Script, pew cushions, and Listening Assistance Devices are available at the entry of the Sanctuary

You're encouraged to check-in at New Milford UMC on Facebook & share our livestream.

ENTRANCE & PRAISE

Welcome

Prayer of Invocation [© enfleshed]

✝ Opening Hymn #467 "Trust and Obey"

✝ Call to Worship [© enfleshed]

Kelly Forbes

Holy Wisdom gathers us together with tenderness and care.
With gentleness, She calls us into the dwelling place of God.
Our pain, our fears, and all our unmet longings – they are safe in Her embrace.
In the company of God, we tend honestly to the state of our souls.
In the depths of our being, She dwells with Her healing love.
In due time, God mends the broken heart.
The Beloved One says, "come."
Let all who long for restoration bring every ache and ill.

Message on the Chancel Steps "Elmer" The patchwork Elephant Pastor Alex

Anthem "Endless Light of Day" by Helen & Walter Grigg Chancel Choir

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination [adapted from lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu] Kelly Forbes

Divine Gardener,
You give growth to our seeds and to the towering forest trees;
You raise to abundant life that which seems dead.
Teach us to choose blessing and life rather than death,
so that we may walk blamelessly,
seeking You through reconciliation with all of Your children. Amen.

✝ Gospel Reading Matthew 5:21-26 [NRSV] Kelly Forbes

The Word of Wisdom for all who choose to receive it! **Thanks be to God!**

Listening for God's Message "Light = Love = Justice = Peace" Part I Pastor Alex

✝ Gospel Reading Matthew 5:27-33 [MSG]

The Word of Wisdom for all who choose to receive it! **Thanks be to God!**

Visual Reflection "Matthew 5: Worship Can Wait" [Trevor Nthola for the TWOTP]

Listening for God's Message "Light = Love = Justice = Peace" Part II Pastor Alex

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 [NRSV]

Listening for God's Message "Light = Love = Justice = Peace" Part III Pastor Alex
1 Corinthians 3:10-23 [NRSV]

Hymn of Response #601 "Thy Word Is a Lamp" [v. 1]

Prayer of the Church & Lord's Prayer [adapted from thischurch.com]

[Prayers of the People, concluding with...]

Jesus our healer, we place into Your gentle hands all of our troubles.
We place into Your loving care all those who are sick.
Ease their pain and heal the damage done to them in body, mind or spirit.
Be present to them through the support of friends
and in their care of doctors and nurses,
and fill them with the warmth of your love now and always.

And now as Jesus taught His disciples we now pray:

[The Lord's Prayer]

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn of Response #601 "Thy Word Is a Lamp" [v. 2]

Invitation to Offering [© enfleshed]

Offering of Tithes & Gifts Musical selection by Tim Smith

✝ 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!

Prayer of Dedication [© enfleshed]

GOING FORTH

✝ Closing Hymn #438 "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"