

## GOING FORTH

✝ **Closing Hymn #394** "Something Beautiful" [2x] SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

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

[adapted ©2001 Nathan Nettleton www.laughingbird.net]

Go now, and press on in the path to which God has called you.

Do not get caught up in the things of the past,  
or in the things that the world prizes, but welcome the new things God is doing,  
and take the new paths that open through the places of death.

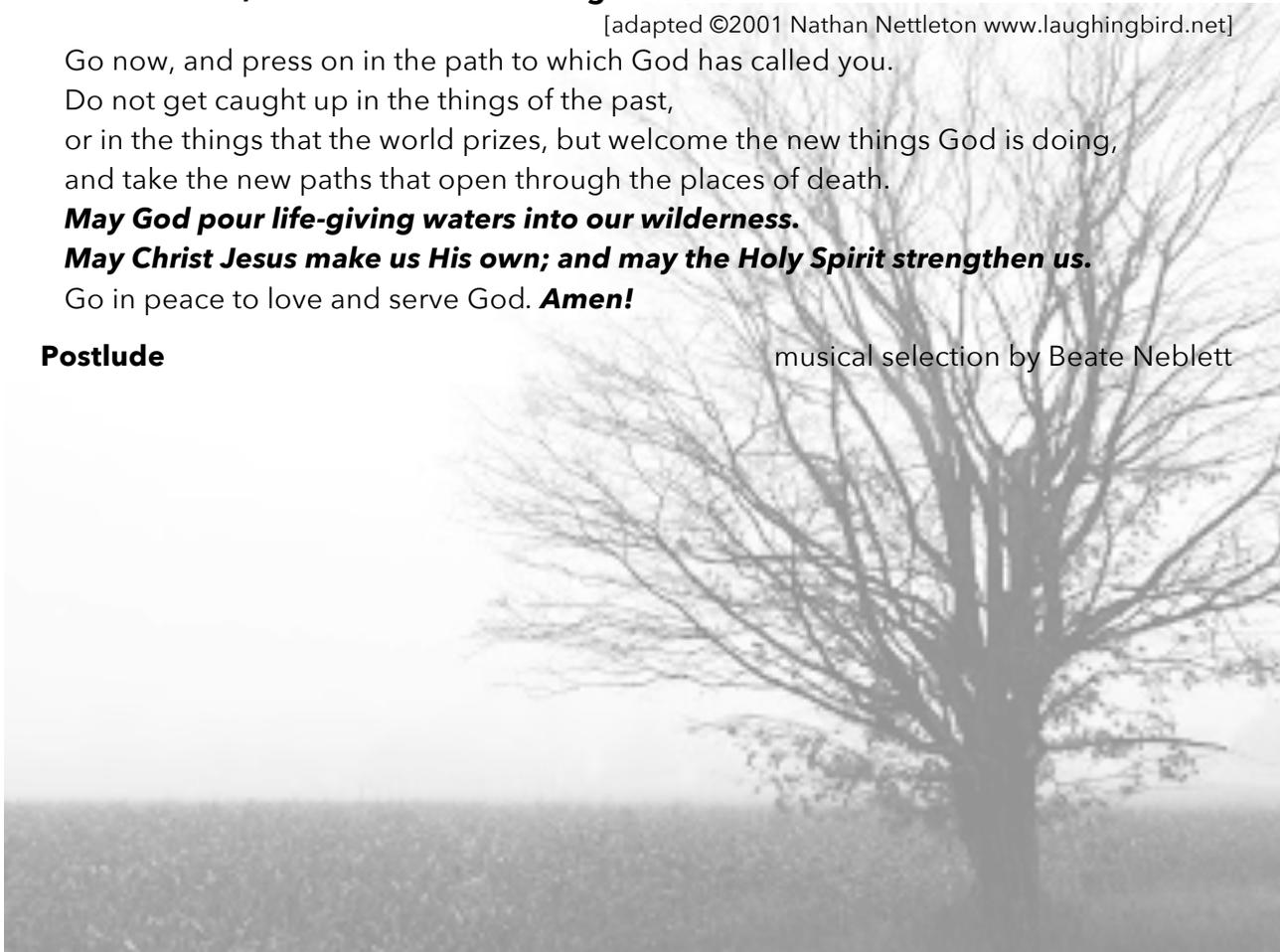
**May God pour life-giving waters into our wilderness.**

**May Christ Jesus make us His own; and may the Holy Spirit strengthen us.**

Go in peace to love and serve God. **Amen!**

**Postlude**

musical selection by Beate Neblett



**cover image:** collage by pastor alex

**liturgy:** adapted from work by Rev. Nancy C. Townley @ ministrymatters.com;  
worshipingwithchildren; laughingbird.net

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

Rev. Alex da Silva Souto, Pastor - mobile: 415.706.5397 | Open Door Band

Brinna Koltz, Youth Leader | Lay Leaders: Marylyn Fuller & Pat Tripp

**Ministers:** All members of the New Milford UMC

## New Milford United Methodist Church



**March 13, 2016 @ 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** musical selection by Beate Neblett

### Welcome & News

† **Opening Hymn #170** "O How I Love Jesus" O HOW I LOVE JESUS

† **Call to Worship** Mary Prause  
 [adapted from liturgy by Rev. Nancy C. Townley @ ministrymatters.com]

Come to Jesus this day. Bring with you all the pain that you feel.

**Loving God, bring to us healing and hope**

Come to Jesus this day. Bring with your confusion and doubts.

**Gracious God, bring to us restoration and renewal of life**

Come to Jesus this day and He will make something beautiful happen in your life.

**We humbly and joyously come before our Creator in hope and faith. AMEN.**

**Hymn of Praise #453** "More Love to Thee, O Christ" [v. 1] MORE LOVE TO THEE

### Prayers of the People

*[Prayers of the People, concludes with 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.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise #453** "More Love to Thee, O Christ" [v.v. 2-4] MORE LOVE TO THEE

## PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

### Prayer for Illumination

† **Gospel Reading** "John 12:1-8" [NRSV] Mary Prause

**Children's Message** "Gift of Love" Pastor Alex  
 [adapted from concept by worshipping with children]

[All children are invited to Sunday School for the lesson "Jesus Celebrates Passover", Luke 22:7-20]

### Hebrew Bible Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

Mary Prause

### Listening for God's Message

Pastor Alex

### Call to Reconciliation

**Unison Prayer of Confession** [adapted from lectionary liturgies by Thom M. Shuman]

*[please take this silent moment to lift the following prayer and/or lift your individual confessions]*

**God, whose name is Grace: You are always in the business of surprising us with new lives, new dreams, new hopes.**

**But we are so busy opening up the boxes where we have stored the past that we do not recognize what You are doing.**

**We are so blinded by the dull reflection of our old habits, that we cannot see the fresh chances, which are given daily to us.**

**Our senses are so numbed by our urges**

**that we cannot smell the bouquet of joy that is in the air.**

**Forgive us, God of Joy. By Your mercy, mend our broken lives.**

**You move through us, correcting the price tags on everything we value, so we might be able to let go of all that holds us back from faithful living.**

**Then we can press on in following Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior, into God's Kin-dom of hope and wonder.**

### Assurance of Pardon

The righteousness that comes from God is given to all who turn away from what is harmful and put their faith in Christ.

**God has heard our confession; Christ Jesus has made us His own.**

Arise! Our sins are forgiven!

† **Hymn of Response #399** "Take My Life, and Let It Be" MESSIAH

### Invitation to Offering

**Offering of Tithes and Gifts** musical selection by Beate Neblett

† **Doxology #95** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**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.**

**Offertory Prayer** Pastor Alex