



the open door ~ praise & worship service
...in a religion born in a barn, an open door goes without saying
04.26.17 • 7:00 pm

welcome & announcements

song "Your unfailing love"

song "You are the one"

message on the steps

gospel reading John 20: 19-31 [VOICE]

¹⁹ On that same evening (Resurrection Sunday), the followers gathered together behind locked doors in fear that some of the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem were still searching for them. Out of nowhere, Jesus appeared in the center of the room.

Jesus: May each one of you be at peace.

²⁰ As He was speaking, He revealed the wounds in His hands and side. The disciples began to celebrate as it sank in that they were really seeing the Lord.

Jesus: ²¹ I give you the gift of peace. In the same way the Father sent Me, I am now sending you.

²² Now He drew close enough to each of them that *they could feel His breath*. He breathed on them:

Jesus: Welcome the Holy Spirit of the living God. ²³ You now have the mantle of God's forgiveness. As you go, you are able to share the life-giving power to forgive sins, or to withhold forgiveness.

²⁴ All of the eleven were present with the exception of Thomas. ²⁵ He heard the accounts of each brother's interaction with the Lord.

The Other Disciples: We have seen the Lord!

Thomas: Until I see His hands, feel the wounds of the nails, and put my hand to His side, I won't believe what you are saying.

²⁶ Eight days later, they gathered again behind locked doors; and Jesus reappeared. This time Thomas was with them.

Jesus: May each one of you be at peace.

²⁷ He drew close to Thomas.

Jesus: Reach out and touch Me. See the punctures in My hands; reach out your hand, and put it to My side; leave behind your faithlessness, and believe.

Thomas (*filled with emotion*): ²⁸ You are the one True God and Lord of my life.

Jesus: ²⁹ Thomas, you have faith because you have seen Me. Blessed are all those who never see Me and yet they still believe.

³⁰ Jesus performed many other wondrous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹ These accounts are recorded so that you, too, might believe that Jesus is the Anointed, *the Liberating King*, the Son of God, because believing grants you the life He came to share.

listening for God's message

prayers of the people

presentation of the offerings

anthem "Break every chain"

song "Because He lives"

song "My redeemer lives"

benediction & passing the peace

new milford united methodist church • 68 danbury road • new milford, ct 06776
860-354-4596 • office@newmilfordumc.org • www.newmilfordumc.org
• pastor alex • open door band • marlene davis, tech team leader
• brinna kolitz, youth leader/lay delegate • mike walsh & tony dossantos, lay leaders
ministers: the people of new milford umc