

† **Hymn of Response #133** “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

Invitation to Offering

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

† **Doxology** [IN UNISON] “Praise God...”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Offering Prayer [God, You Are Enough-A paraphrase of Psalm 23” by John van de Laar]

God, You are enough for us;
You give us rest in soft fields and beside whispering streams;
You restore and renew us, and lead us into life-giving ways;

When death and evil come close to us,
You carry us through,
You protect and comfort us; when others seek to do us harm,
Your grace uplifts and provides for us in public view;
You fill us with Your strength and we enjoy overflowing abundance;
We have confidence that Your goodness and compassion will fill our days,
and we will stay immersed in Your life and presence forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH

† **Closing Hymn # 557** “Blest BE the Tie That Binds”

Commission, Benediction, and Passing the Peace

Day by day, God will lead us:
to those pools of peace where we can gather with our friends and strangers.
Day by day, Jesus will call us:
to give ourselves in service, to anoint others with hope.
Day by day, the Spirit shows us:
the people we might be, the community we might become.

Postlude

SHOWALTER

Pastor Alex

Pastor Alex

DENNIS



The Service of Worship
New Milford United Methodist Church
68 Danbury Road
New Milford, CT 06776
www.newmilfordumc.org
860-354-4596

Rev. Alex da Silva Souto, Pastor
Sandy Lybe, Music Minister
Brinna Kolitz, Youth Leader
Emily Nixon, Open Door Band Leader

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 19, 2015 at 9:00 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, 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.**
† **Means you are invited to stand if able.**

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

Prelude

Welcome and News

† **Opening Hymn #328** “Surely the Presence of the Lord”

WOLFE

† **Call to Worship** [adapted from Psalm 89]

God’s covenant with us is everlasting,
God’s steadfast love is with us forever.
God faithfulness will always be true,
God’s forgiveness makes us new and whole.
Let us worship the God whose love and covenant builds us an everlasting home.
Everlasting, You are my God, and the Rock of my Salvation.

All Sit.

Prayer of Invocation [“Good Shepherd” by John van de Laar]

Pastor Alex

Good Shepherd, Teach us to follow You
to care for all that are close to us,
to protect those who are threatened,
to welcome those who are rejected,
to forgive those who are burdened by guilt,
to heal those who are broken and sick,
to share with those who have little or nothing,
to take the time to really know one another and love as you have loved us.

Good Shepherd,
Teach us to follow You
to spread compassion to those who are far away,
to speak for those who are voiceless,
to defend those who are oppressed and abused,
to work for justice for those who are exploited,
to make peace for those who suffer violence,
to take the time to recognise our connectedness,
and to love as You have loved us.

Good Shepherd,
Teach us to follow You
and to be faithful to the calling You gave us
to be shepherds in Your name. Amen

✠ **Hymn of Praise #378**

“Amazing Grace” [v.v.1-3]

AMAZING GRACE

Morning Prayer [*Joys and concerns are lifted before God and the congregation.*]

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer [IN UNISON]

UMH 895

Steadfast God, we come to You like the people of Gennesaret.
At times, we too are like sheep without a shepherd.
Teach us in Your ways of peace and justice.
We too lay our sick and ailing before You.
Have compassion on us and heal our wounds.
Love us – even in our chaos and our clutter.
We ask for Your touch,
that we might touch even the fringe of Your cloak.
so our lives, our church, our community, and our world may truly be transformed.
And if we become weary amidst this transformation, grant us rest.

Hear us Caring God as we pray saying...

*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 #378**

“Amazing Grace” [v.v.4-6]

AMAZING GRACE

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

*Shepherd God, You call us into a rhythm of work and rest
that our lives may be the better for it.
So shape our leisure and our labor,
that the world will recognize us as Jesus' disciples
and our ministry as what You would have us do. Amen.*

First Reading

“Ephesians 2:11-22”

Pastor Alex

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" --a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands--
¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.
¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.
¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace,
¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.
¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near;
¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.
¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,
²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.
²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

“One New Humanity”

Pastor Alex

Congregation Sings “Jesus Loves Me” as children return to their pews.

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 [NRSV]

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.
³¹ He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while."
For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.
³² And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.
³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them,
and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.
³⁴ As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them,
because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.
⁵³ When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat.
⁵⁴ When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him,
⁵⁵ and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats
to wherever they heard he was.
⁵⁶ And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces,
and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak;
and all who touched it were healed.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Reflecting on God’s Message

Pastor Alex

JOYS AND CONCERNS

We are thankful

- For the work and organization of the Transition Team
- For the four NMUMC members who are now certified Lay Leaders
- The success of the 2015 Relay for Life

In our prayers

- Bob Burwell who is having medical issues.
- Corky, a member of the Open Door Band, who has shingles.
- U.M. ARMY youth who is be traveling and working this week.
- Tom Burns who is recovering from shoulder surgery.
- Rob, Traci Poeti's brother, who has a muscular disorder.
- Alexis, Chris Martirano's niece, who is going through chemotherapy.
- Terri Hudak's cousin, Julie Spence in Virginia, who is battling cancer.
- Terri Hudak's aunt in California who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Steve Bowers, who is now on dialysis and has been added to the transplant list.
- Laurel Partrick's cousin, Cynthia, is facing her third recurrence of cancer.
- Emily Nixon's cousin, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Marlene Davis' son, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Kay Jones' niece, Sherri, whose cancer has returned.

Our Life in Community

For more information about any item listed below, please contact the Church Office at 860-354-4596 or office@newmilfordumc.org

NMUMC Youth will share their experience from their week at U.M. ARMY on Wednesday, July 22 at 6:00 p.m. during the meal before the Open Door service. Please join us for dinner and stay for the service.

VBS - New Milford United Methodist Church will be having its Vacation Bible School this year August 3-7 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This year's theme is G-Force Adventure Park. The week will be full of constant motion and Bible-based activities.

VBS is open to all children ages 4-12 and a \$10.00 registration is required, although scholarships are available. Pre-registration is desired. Forms are available in the Narthex and on the Church website at www.newmilfordumc.org. Questions may be directed to Nancy Mascio at 860-354-2028.

Our Daily Bread: Our Daily Bread Food Pantry would appreciate any extra garden produce you might have! Fresh produce can be dropped off on Thursdays from 8:30-10 a.m. and again from 3-7 p.m. Thank you for your continued support of this mission.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

We are thankful

- For the work and organization of the Transition Team
- For the four NMUMC members who are now certified Lay Leaders
- The success of the 2015 Relay for Life

In our prayers

- Bob Burwell who is having medical issues.
- Corky, a member of the Open Door Band, who has shingles.
- U.M. ARMY youth who is be traveling and working this week.
- Tom Burns who is recovering from shoulder surgery.
- Rob, Traci Poeti's brother, who has a muscular disorder.
- Alexis, Chris Martirano's niece, who is going through chemotherapy.
- Terri Hudak's cousin, Julie Spence in Virginia, who is battling cancer.
- Terri Hudak's aunt in California who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Steve Bowers, who is now on dialysis and has been added to the transplant list.
- Laurel Partrick's cousin, Cynthia, is facing her third recurrence of cancer.
- Emily Nixon's cousin, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Marlene Davis' son, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Kay Jones' niece, Sherri, whose cancer has returned.

Our Life in Community

For more information about any item listed below, please contact the Church Office at 860-354-4596 or office@newmilfordumc.org

NMUMC Youth will share their experience from their week at U.M. ARMY on Wednesday, July 22 at 6:00 p.m. during the meal before the Open Door service. Please join us for dinner and stay for the service.

VBS - New Milford United Methodist Church will be having its Vacation Bible School this year August 3-7 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This year's theme is G-Force Adventure Park. The week will be full of constant motion and Bible-based activities.

VBS is open to all children ages 4-12 and a \$10.00 registration is required, although scholarships are available. Pre-registration is desired. Forms are available in the Narthex and on the Church website at www.newmilfordumc.org. Questions may be directed to Nancy Mascio at 860-354-2028.

Our Daily Bread: Our Daily Bread Food Pantry would appreciate any extra garden produce you might have! Fresh produce can be dropped off on Thursdays from 8:30-10 a.m. and again from 3-7 p.m. Thank you for your continued support of this mission.

