

 NEW MILFORD  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost | 08 . 22 . 2021 | 9:00am



## All Are Welcome Here

*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.*

### WE GATHER TOGETHER

#### **Prelude**

Harlan Otter

#### **Words to Ponder:**

“How lovely is the dwelling place of God! May our hearts become a place where God’s Spirit lives. May our words become bold words of love and grace. And may our worship be worthy of the Lord.”

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Ed

#### **\*Call to Worship**

Patty Jacobson

Leader: Welcome to this holy space where God’s Spirit dwells among us!

**People: We come longing to feel the presence of God.**

Leader: Open your hearts, for this is a place of prayer and healing.

**People: This is a place of joy and faith.**

Leader: This is the place for you.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

#### **\*Opening Prayer**

**Holy One, you have called us to this place,  
a place where we find your Spirit.**

**We have gathered here to pray and to be forgiven,  
to love and be loved,**

**and to hear the word boldly proclaimed**



**WE HEAR THE WORD**

**1st Reading:**

Ephesians 6:10-20 (The Message)

Patty Jacobson

**A Fight to the Finish**

<sup>10-12</sup> And that about wraps it up. God is strong, and he wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no weekend war that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels.

<sup>13-18</sup> Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You'll need them throughout your life. God's Word is an *indispensable* weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.

<sup>19-20</sup> And don't forget to pray for me. Pray that I'll know what to say and have the courage to say it at the right time, telling the mystery to one and all, the Message that I, jailbird preacher that I am, am responsible for getting out.

**Reflecting on God's Message** "Put on the Full Armor of God "

Pastor Ed

**Prayers of the People**

Pastor Ed

**Invitation to the Offering**

Pastor Ed

**\*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.***

## Offering Prayer

Gracious God, thank you for these gifts.  
 We offer them to you, seeking your blessing,  
 that they might be used to welcome all,  
 and to inspire faith in our community.  
 We offer our very selves,  
 asking that we might become your faithful followers.  
 In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

### WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

\*Sending Hymn

“Are Ye Able (v1,2&4)”

UMH #530

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,  
 Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
 your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.  
 Amen.

\*Benediction

Pastor Ed

Postlude

**Pastor:** Pastor Ed Dayton  
**Music Director:** Harlan Otter  
**Liturgist:** Patty Jacobson

**Note:** Deep gratitude to our volunteers and staff members who make our worship online and in person possible, and to our congregants whose continued efforts help to keep our community safe from Covid19. We lift up deep gratitude for the collaboration involved in making this worship service happen for the glory of God and the delight of Creation!

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| 860.354.4596  
Pastor Ed Dayton  
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC***