

 **NEW MILFORD
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost | 08 .29. 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:

Every good and perfect gift comes from above.

Look to God, the creator of the heavenly lights, for a harvest of godly living.

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Ed

*Call to Worship

Pat Tripp

“Arise, my fair one, and come away,” says the Lord.

We come gladly, for every good gift comes from above.

The season of singing is upon us.

The scent of myrrh, aloe, and lavender fills our senses.

“Arise, my fair one, and come away,” calls our God.

We come to worship with joy and thanksgiving.

*Opening Prayer

Bountiful God, giver of the fruit of the vine, your call to righteous living stirs the heart like the oils of gladness:

sweet-smelling frankincense, sandalwood myrrh, and pungent cassia;

your charge to be doers of the word and not hearers only, sparks the soul like the fragrance of wild flowers and the blossoms of spring.

Inspire true devotion in our hearts, that we may care for your little ones and hearken to the needs of your people.

*Hymn of Praise:

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

UMH #140

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children’s Message

Prayer of Confession

Pat Tripp

Life-giving God, you know us better than we know ourselves.

While we long to meet the demands of your justice, we often settle for a touch of righteous indignation.

And though we long to resist evil with every fiber of our being, it is easy to confuse our anger over petty wrongs with your anger over real misuse of power.

Teach us the difference between human precepts, that bloom and fade like the grass, and your life-giving ways, that are eternal.

Help us be doers of your word, and not hearers only, that our lives may bear the fruit of eternal life.

Amen.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

***Hymn of Response**

“This Is My Song”

UMH #437

WE HEAR THE WORD

1st Reading:

James 1:17-27

Pat Tripp

¹⁷ Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.^[f] ¹⁸ In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Hearing and Doing the Word

¹⁹ You must understand this, my beloved:^[g] let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. ²¹ Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³ For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves^[h] in a mirror; ²⁴ for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶ If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

***Gospel Reading:** Mark 7:14-15 & 23-23 Pat Tripp

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Reflecting on God's Message "Listening and Doing" 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

God of light, every generous act of giving and every perfect gift comes from you.

May the offering we bring before you this day testify to who we are and whose we are.

And may the gifts of our hands reflect the bounty of your harvest in our lives. Amen.

[WE RESPOND TO THE WORD](#)

Sending Hymn "Lord I Want to be a Christian" UMH #402

[THE LORD'S PRAYER](#)

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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**

Postlude

Pastor: Pastor Ed Dayton
Music Director Harlan Otter
Liturgist: Pat Tripp

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