

*and run with perseverance the race that is set before us.*

May God turn to you and cherish you; May Christ Jesus surround you with the light of his presence; And may the Holy Spirit, the Deep Breath of Life give you strength, peace and joy all the way to the finish line.

Postlude

musical selection by Tim Smith

cover image: collage by pastor alex

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Rev. Alex da Silva Souto, Pastor - mobile: 415.706.5397 | Music Director, Tim Smith  
Brinna Kolitz, Youth Leader | Lay Leaders: Marilyn Fuller & Pat Tripp  
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*

## New Milford United Methodist Church

Sunday Worship Celebration

August 14, 2016 @ 9:00 a.m.



## ENTRANCE & PRAISE

Prelude musical selection by Tim Smith

Welcome & News

Prayer of Invocation Pat Tripp

✠ Opening Hymn #662 "Stand Up and Bless the LORD" [v.v. 1, 2, 3] ST. MICHAEL

✠ Call to Worship

With a love-song, you sang the earth into existence, and led your people from slavery through the Red Sea. You planted them in a fertile land and looked for a harvest of justice and righteousness.

**When we returned only bloodshed and torment, you sent your child, Jesus, to be the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.**

His preaching kindled a fire and divided the living from the dead.

**He endured the cross, disregarding its shame and was baptized in suffering and death.**

You raised him to life and seated him at your right hand, and are now strengthening us for the race before us, so that with the faithful witnesses of all generations we may receive your promises and be made perfect.

**Therefore, with the faithful witnesses we give You praise, we sing our gratitude and we delight in You.**

Hymn of Praise #662 "Stand Up and Bless the LORD" [v.v. 4, 5] ST. MICHAEL

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer [adapted from prayer by diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu]

God of salvation, who sent your Son to seek out and save what is lost, hear our prayers on behalf of those who are lost in our day, receiving these petitions and thanksgivings with your unending compassion.

*[Prayers of the People, concluding with...]*

**Redeeming Sustainer,  
visit Your people and pour out Your strength and courage upon us,  
that we may hurry to make You welcome not only in our concern for others,  
but by serving them generously and faithfully in Your name. Amen.**

*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 #529 "How Firm a Foundation" FOUNDATION

## PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination

**Holy Spirit, come upon us as we listen and as we speak.  
Through Your presence and the presence of the cloud of witnesses within  
and amongst us,  
teach us all that we need to know to be the people You have made us to be  
and to carry on the work of the ones before us.**

Epistle Reading "Hebrews 11:29-12:2"

This is the perfecting Word of God to everyone on the path...  
**Thanks be to God!**

Children's Message

Listening for God's Message Ann Jacob

Hymn of Response

Invitation to Offering

Offering of Tithes and Gifts musical selection by Tim Smith

✠ 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

## GOING FORTH

✠ Closing Hymn 206 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" HOUSTON

✠ Commission, Benediction and Passing of the Peace [adapted from laughingbird.net]

Go now with your eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.  
**We shall lay aside the ways of sin, bring forth a harvest of justice and righteousness,**