



the open door ~ praise & worship service
...in a religion born in a barn, an open door goes without saying
09.05.18 • 7:00 pm

Welcome & Announcements

Song: "Everybody Praise the Lord"

Song: "Father of Life"

Epistle Reading

James 1:17:27 (MSG & VOICE)

Nancy Rohr

James 1:17-27 The Message (MSG)

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ So, my very dear friends, don't get thrown off course.

Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven.

The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of Light.

There is nothing deceitful in God, nothing two-faced, nothing fickle.

He brought us to life using the true Word,

showing us off as the crown of all his creatures.

James 1:19:27 The Voice (VOICE)

¹⁹ Listen, open your ears, harness your desire to speak,

and don't get worked up into a rage so easily, my siblings.

²⁰ Human anger *is a futile exercise*

that will never produce God's kind of justice in this world.

²¹ So walk out on your corrupt liaison with smut and depraved living,

and humbly welcome the word *of truth that will blossom*

like the seed of salvation planted in your souls.

²² Put the word into action.

If you think hearing is what matters most,

you are going to find you have been deceived.

²³⁻²⁴ If some fail to do what God requires,

it's as if they forget the word as soon as they hear it. One minute they look in the mirror, and the next they forget who they are and what they look like.

²⁵ However, it is possible to open your eyes and take in the beautiful, perfect truth found in God's law of liberty *and live by it.*

If you pursue that path and actually do what God has commanded,

then you will avoid *the many distractions*

that lead to an amnesia of all true things and you will be blessed.

²⁶ If you *put yourself on a pedestal*, thinking you have become a role model in all things religious, but you can't control your mouth, then think again. Your mouth exposes your heart, and your religion is useless. ²⁷ Real, true religion from God the [Divine Parent's] perspective is about caring for the orphans and widows who suffer needlessly and resisting the evil influence of the world. The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Listening for God's Message

Offering

Communion

Anthem "I Give Myself Away/Here I Am to Worship"

Song "If We Are the Body"

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
• mike walsh & scott caldwell, lay leaders • **ministers:** the people of new milford umc