



*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.*

**FORGIVE**

**68 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT 06776 | [www.newmilfordumc.org](http://www.newmilfordumc.org) | 860.354.4596**

Rev. Alex da Silva Souto, Pastor - mobile: 415.706.5397 | Music Director, Tim Smith

Lay Leaders: Tony Dossantos & Mike Walsh

**Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC**

**NEW MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Sunday Worship Celebration September 17 | 2017 | 9:30am**





\* **The order of service is** subject to change at the leading of **the Holy Spirit.**  
***Italicized Bold print*** invites congregational response in unison.

† Means you are **invited to stand** if able and comfortable.

**Listening Assistance Devices & LARGE PRINT BULLETINS:** Please ask an usher

**ENTRANCE & PRAISE**

**Prelude** musical selection by Tim Smith

**Welcome & News** Tony Dossantos

† **Call to Worship** [by Nancy C. Townley @ ministrymatters.com] Tony Dossantos

Sing songs of hope and peace.

***God's love and power have lifted us.***

Sing songs of mercy and grace.

***God's mercy and forgiveness frame our lives.***

Thanks be to God for all God's love and mercy.

***Praise be to God for the healing power God extends to each one of us. AMEN.***

† **Opening Hymn #121** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" WELLESLEY

**Prayer of Invocation** [adapted from prayer by Matthew J. Packer based on Romans 12] Pastor Alex

**Anthem** "People Need the LORD" by Steve Green Chancel Choir

**Prayers of the People & LORD's Prayer**  
 [by Jamie D. Greening based on Psalm 45, Romans 7, Matthew 11 @ ministrymatters.com]

***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 #560** "Help Us Accept Each Other" [vv. 1~2] ACCEPTANCE

**PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE**

**Prayer for Illumination** [by Nancy C. Townley @ ministrymatters.com] Janet Schnitzler

***We sing and speak Your praise,***

***O God, grateful for the many ways in which You have healed us.***

***Keep our hearts, our minds, and our spirits open to learn ways in which we can offer healing love for others. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.***

† **Gospel Reading** "Matthew 18:-21-35" [MSG] Janet Schnitzler

**Message at the Altar** "70 X 7" Pastor Alex  
 [Children are invited to worship at the holy play space at the front of the church]

**Epistle Reading** "Romans 14:1-12" [MSG] Tony Dossantos

**Listening for God's Message** Pastor Alex

**Hymn of Response #560** "Help Us Accept Each Other" [vv. 3~4] ACCEPTANCE

**Invitation to Offering**  
 [adapted from prayer by Matthew J. Packer based on Romans 12 @ ministrymatters.com]

**Offering of Tithes and Gifts** musical selection by Tim Smith

† **Doxology #94** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

**Offertory Prayer**

**GOING FORTH**

† **Closing Hymn #402** "Lord, I Want To Be A Christian" I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

† **Commission, Benediction and Passing of the Peace**  
 [adapted from liturgy by Nancy C. Townley @ ministrymatters.com]

As you have been forgiven,

now go into a world that needs your forgiving, healing touch.

***We go now to bring peace and hope to others, sharing God's love with them.***

**AMEN.**

**Postlude** musical selection by Tim Smith