

✠ **Commission, Benediction and Passing of the Peace** [based on Psalm 119, Jeremiah 31, 2 Timothy 3-4, adapted from liturgy by Bill Hoppe posted at ministrymatters.com]

May the living word of the Lord dwell with you.

May it live through us.

May it fill your thoughts and deeds.

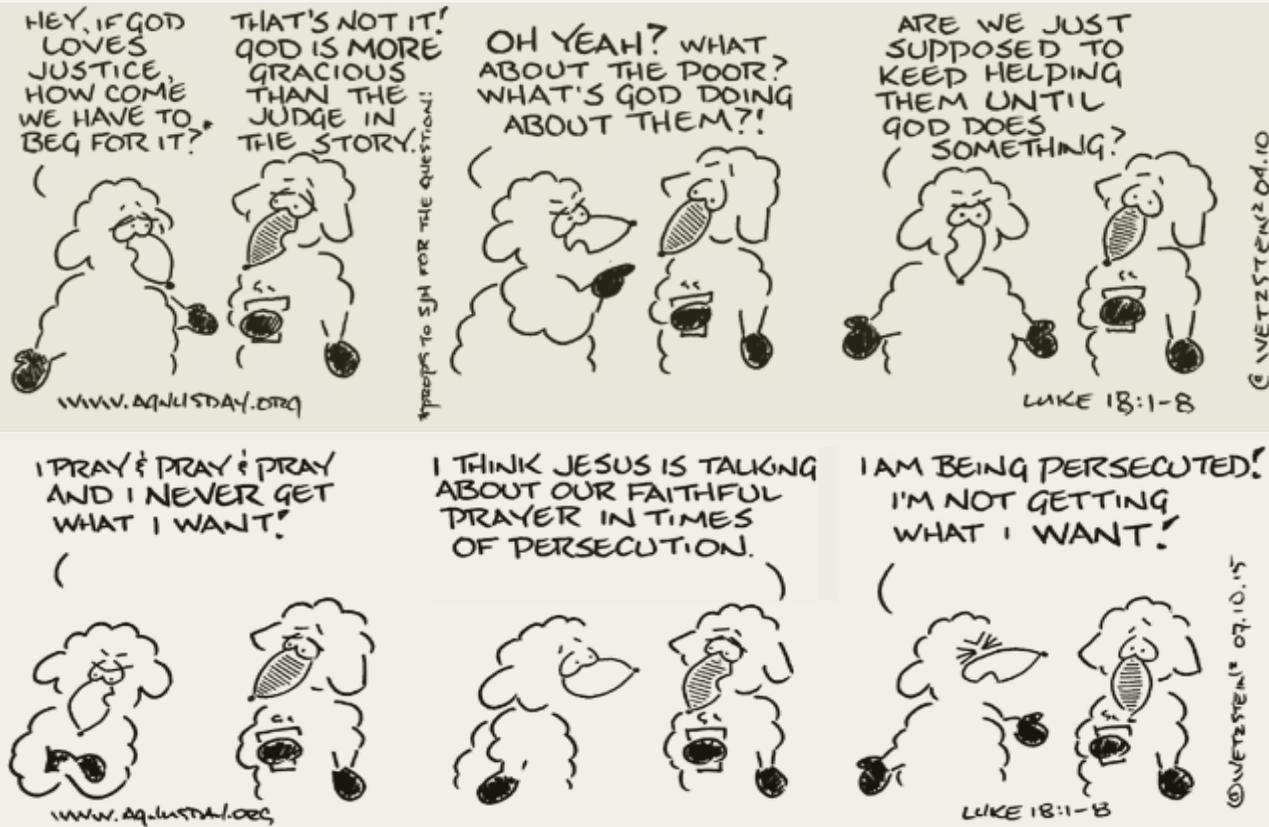
May it fill our mouth with God's message of love.

May it sustain you in good times and bad.

May it equip us for a ministry of peace and hope!

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

Youth Leader, Brinna Kolitz | Lay Leaders: Marilyn Fuller & Pat Tripp

Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC

New Milford United Methodist Church



Sunday Worship Celebration

October 16, 2016 @ 9:30am

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.



* **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 are available at the entry of the sanctuary

ENTRANCE & PRAISE

Prelude musical selection by Tim Smith

Welcome & News

† **Opening Hymn #496** "Sweet Hour of Prayer" SWEET HOUR

† **Call to Worship** [adapted from Lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com by Thom M. Shuman] Rita Iverson

We have gathered in God's holy presence, the One who etches grace on our hearts.

This is the place where God will continue to transform us into disciples.

We glorify our God, who yearns to dance with us,
 not just with a favored few, but with everyone of God's children.

This is the place where God will write compassion on our souls.

We give thanks to God for unceasing grace;
 we remember God's persistence in saving us.

This is the place where God will breathe the Word into our lives.

Prayer of Invocation [adapted from Sacredise.com, "Wrestling" by John van de Laar] Pastor Alex

Hebrew Bible Reading "Jeremiah 31:33" [MSG] Pastor Alex

³³⁻³⁴ *"This is the brand-new covenant that I will make with Israel when the time comes.
 I will put my law within them—write it on their hearts!—and be their God.
 And they will be my people.*

Children's Message "Knowing By Heart" Pastor Alex
 [concept inspired by worshippingwithchildren.blogspot.com]
 [Children are invited to continue this worship in Sunday School *for the lesson*
 "Moses and Pharaoh", based on Exodus 5:1-13:9]

Anthem "The Wind Beneath My Wings" arr. Douglas E. Wagner Handbell Choir

Anthem "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" by arr. William J. Skeat Chancel Choir

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination [from lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu] Rita Iverson

***Holy One, we lift our eyes to You in hope and awe.
 Grant that we may reject all apathy of spirit, all impatience and anxiety,
 so that, with the persistence of the widow,
 we may lift our voice again and again to seek Your justice. Amen.***

† **Gospel Reading** "Luke 18:1-8" [NRSV] Rita Iverson
 The Faithful Word of God to the people of God! ***Thanks be to God!***

Listening for God's Message Pastor Alex

Prayers of the People & LORD's Prayer
 [adapted from Sacredise.com, "We Pray" by John van de Laar]

***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 Response #352 "It's Me, It's Me, O LORD" PENITENT

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 [prayer by Thom M. Shuman from Lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com]

*Like your words, O God,
 the tangible gifts with which we are blessed
 are not to be hoarded or hidden away for rainy days.
 Rather we offer them so they might bring healing, hope, grace,
 and peace to all around us, your children.
 In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

GOING FORTH

† **Closing Hymn #526** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" CONVERSE