



***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.

Large print hymnals, large print bulletins, service script, pew cushions, and Listening Assistance Devices are available at the entry of the Sanctuary

You're encouraged to check-in at New Milford UMC on Facebook & share our livestream.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude Harlan Otter

Words to Ponder:

Come, rest from your struggles, your worries, and your work.

May the Lord of Love reign above every earthly power, and in our hearts as well.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Jupiter" Bell Choir

***Call to Worship** Pat Tripp

Grace to you and peace from the one who is, who was, and who is to come.

Grace from Jesus, the faithful witness and lover of our souls.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come."

To the one who loves us and who freed us from our sins, to God be the glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

***Opening Prayer**

Lord of Love, we give thanks that we belong to your kingdom, which is higher and greater than any human power.

Every child and elder, every neighbor and foreigner finds a home in your kingdom of peace.

Jesus said, "Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Give us ears to hear the voice of Christ our king above the din of human voices.

Settle the dust that becomes stirred up inside us by debate or division.

Give us eyes to see your will and ears to hear your word, so that we may love one another, love ourselves, and love you with all that we are.

In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise** "Rejoice The Lord Is King" #715

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ** Pastor Ed

Children's Message Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession

God of Grace, we feel threatened by forces that seem greater than ourselves.

As Pontius Pilate taunted Jesus, daring him to spar over earthly power, we are tempted to lower ourselves to compete and compare with one another.

Forgive us when we forget that we belong, above all, to your way and your truth.

When we feel inclined to fight or flee, let us instead seek refuge in your wisdom and your grace.

Guide us not to react badly, but to respond faithfully.

Inspire us to answer insult with creative acts of love.

Let us trust not in our own power, but in the strength of your love, which reigns in the heavens and on the earth forevermore. Amen.

Words of Assurance Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response "Holy, Holy, Holy" (v1,2&4) #64

Scripture Reading Revelation 1:4b-8 Pat Tripp

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, **5** and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed^[a] us from our sins by his blood, **6** and made^[b] us to be a kingdom, priests serving^[c] his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7 Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading** John 18:33-37 Pat Tripp

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters^[a] again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" **34** Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" **35** Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" **36** Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." **37** Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Reflecting on God's Message "Where Do You See God" Pastor Ed

Prayers of the People

Offertory anthem "Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled" Singing Choir

Invitation of the Offering musical selection by Harlan Otter

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH # 95

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 Pastor Ed

Spirit of Life and Love, reign in us today.
Use these gifts, the fruit of our labor, to make your church an instrument of peace for the world.
May we not rest until your peaceable kingdom reigns in every heart.
Move us this day to feed the hungry, befriend the lonely, protect the afflicted, and proclaim Christ's love to all your creation.
In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** "Jesus Shall Reign (v1,2&5)" #157

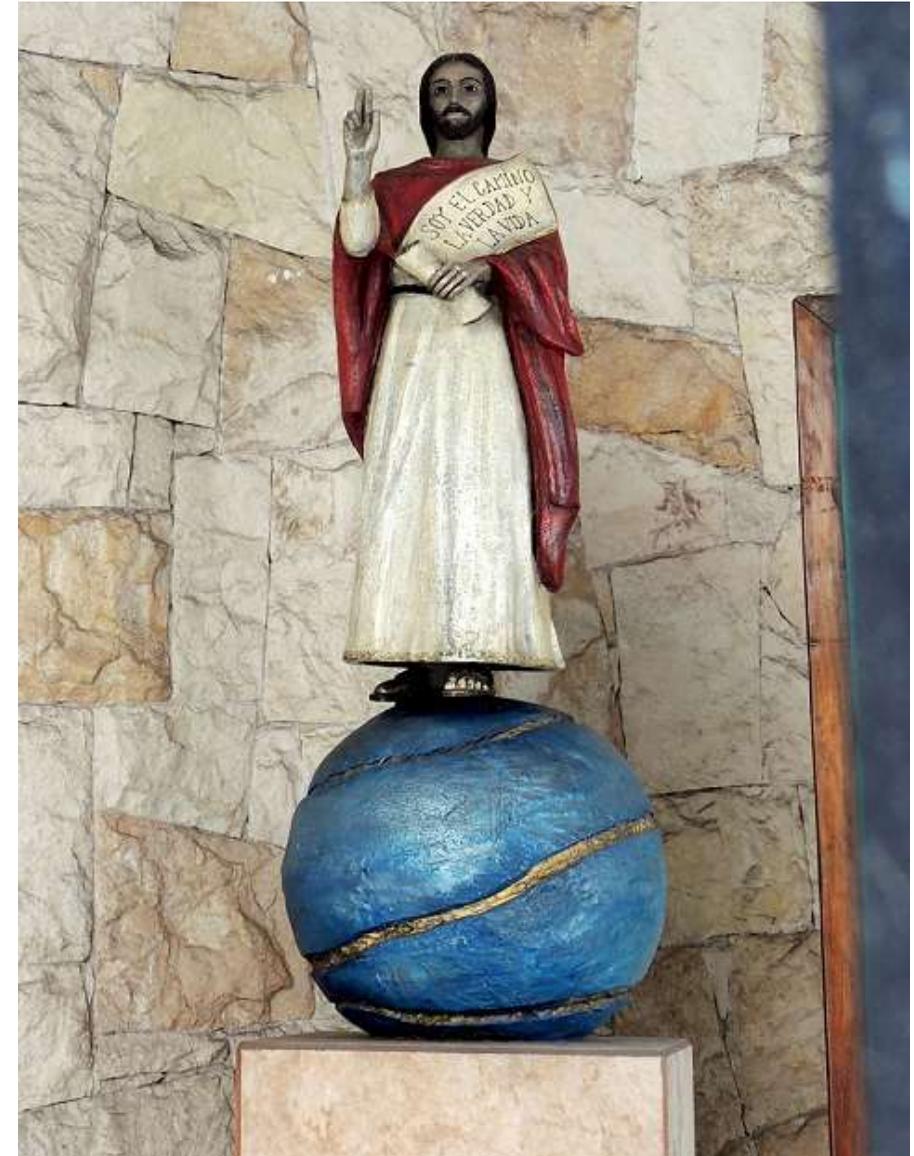
Lord's Prayer

**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.
Do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude Harlan Otter

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Pastor Ed Dayton - 860.354.4596 | Music Director, Harlan Otter
Liturgist - Pat Tripp
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*



Unidentified artist. Christ as The Way, The Truth, The Life, from Art in the Christian Tradition

26th Sunday After Pentecost | 11.21.2021 | 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 identity, age, race, religious background, economic status, sexual orientation or condition of ableness, we greet you as a beloved child of God.