

*and that joy is their reward.  
And there are those who give with pain,  
and that pain is their baptism.  
And there are those who give and know not pain in giving,  
nor do they seek joy, nor give with mindfulness of virtue;  
They give as in yonder valley  
the myrtle breathes its fragrance into space.  
Through the hands of such as these God speaks,  
and from behind their eyes God smiles upon the earth.*

**Offering of Tithes, Gifts & Presentation of Pledges**

Handbell Choir

"Rock-a My Soul" African-American by arr. Valerie W. Stephenson

✠ **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.***

**Prayer of Consecration**

Psalms 24:1-2 [CEB]

**GOING FORTH**

✠ **Closing Hymn #133**

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

SHOWALTER

✠ **Commission, Benediction and Passing of the Peace**

May the Creator grant us the gift of a grateful heart,  
and God's light sustain the flame of hope within us.

***We go in the name of Christ,  
in the love of God and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

**Postlude**

musical selection by Tim Smith

cover image: collage by pastor alex

**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

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

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

# New Milford United Methodist Church

thank  
thank

**GOD**

for  
for everything  
everything

**Sunday Worship Celebration**

**November 20, 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 #131** "We Gather Together" KREMSER

† **Call to Worship** [based on Psalm 100] Tony DosSantos

Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth!

**Serve the Lord with celebration!**

Come before our Creator with shouts of joy!

**Know that the Lord is God—God made us; we belong to our Creator.**

We are God's people, the followers of the Shepherd's own pasture.

**Enter Divinity's gates with thanks; enter heaven's courtyards with praise!**

**Thank our Savior! Bless our Redeemer's name!**

Because the Lord is good, God's loyal love lasts forever;

**Divine faithfulness lasts generation after generation.**

**Prayer of Invocation** Pastor Alex

[adapted from Food For The Road: Life Lessons From The Lord's Table © 2005 John van de Laar]

**Children's Message** "Your Good News" Pastor Alex

[Children are invited to continue this worship in Sunday School for the *Godly Play* lesson: *Pearl*]

**Hymn of Praise #92** "For the Beauty of the Earth [v.v. 1, 2] DIX

**Epistle Reading** Philippians 4:6-7 [Common English Bible - CEB] Tony DosSantos

### Prayers of the People

[adapted from Food For The Road: Life Lessons From The Lord's Table © 2005 John van de Laar]

**Into this place of worship we bring the hopes and needs  
of all who find themselves in the dark places of the world;**

**The grieving, the sick, the abused and the forgotten.**

**Into this place of worship we bring the hopes and dreams  
of all who have lost their purpose and vision;**

**The rejected, the fallen, the disappointed and the discouraged.**

**Into this place of worship we bring the hopes and courage  
of all who serve and uplift others;**

**The leaders, the care-givers, the protectors and the teachers.**

*[prayers of the people are lifted...]*

**Hymn of Praise #92** "For the Beauty of the Earth [v.v. 3, 4] DIX

### PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

**Hebrew Bible Reading** Proverbs 3:5-6 Tony DosSantos

**Prayer for Illumination** Tony DosSantos

**"Omnipresent, omnipotent God, how wonderful it would be  
to see You in everything! Continue to grow us toward that end,  
that we may live with gratitude, especially for the grace of Your unfailing love for us  
and Your constant presence within and around us."**

**Listening for God's Message** "Gratitude" [Ephesians 1:15-16 & Hebrews 12:28]

**Hymn of Response #92** "For the Beauty of the Earth [v.v. 5, 6] DIX

**Hebrew Bible Reading** Deuteronomy 26:10-11 (CEB) Tony DosSantos

**Invitation to Offering** "Those Who Give" by Kahlil Gibran, from *On Giving*

*There are those who give little of the much which they have-  
and they give it for recognition.*

*Their hidden desire makes their gifts unwholesome.*

*And there are those who have little and give it all.*

*These are the believers in life and the bounty of life,*

*and their coffer is never empty.*

*There are those who give with joy,*