

*to bring justice to all, to share mercy with the forgotten.*  
Let us go as inheritors of the Spirit's peace,  
*to work for reconciliation in the brokenness of our places.*

**Postlude**

musical selection by Kimberly Rothen



**For the Poetic Learners**

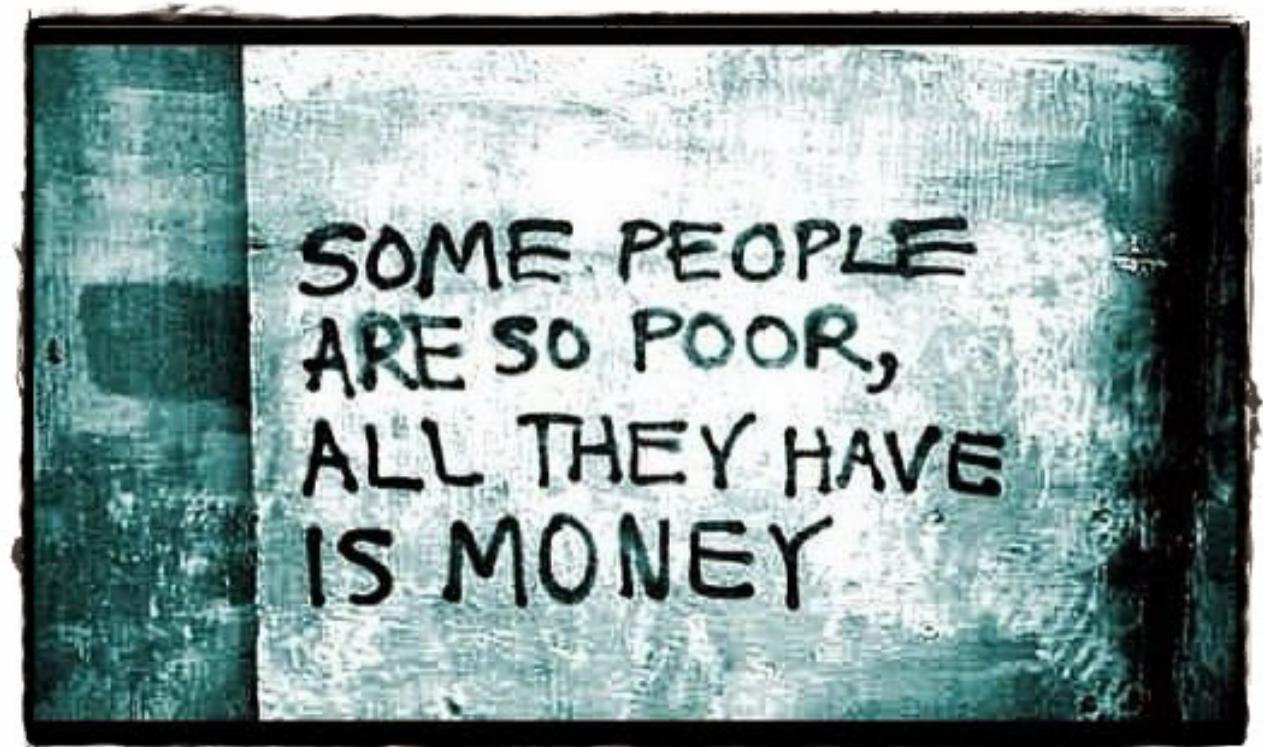
“Hopeful Eyes”

Hope looks at all things the way a mother looks at her child,  
with a passion for the possible.  
That way of looking is creative.  
It creates the space in which perfection can unfold.  
More than that,  
the eyes of hope look through all imperfections  
to the heart of all things and find it perfect.  
The eyes of hope are grateful eyes.  
Before our eyes learned to look gratefully at the world,  
we expected to find beauty in good looking things.  
But grateful eyes  
expect the surprise of  
finding beauty in *all* things.

**“The Worship Is Ended: The Service Begins...”**

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 Leaders: Kelly O'Rourke, Heather Morin  
Lay Leaders: Kelly Forbes, Courtney Karp, David Kullgren  
**Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC**

## New Milford United Methodist Church



**Sunday Worship Celebration**

**November 24, 2019 @ 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.



\* **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, Bible, 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.

### ENTRANCE & PRAISE

**Prelude** musical selection by Kimberly Rothen

**Welcome**

✝ **Opening Hymn #327** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

✝ **Call to Worship** [© 2019 enfleshed] Kelly Forbes

Be still, and remember that God is our refuge.

**When the cross looms and evil stands tall we remember:**

God is courage in destruction's wake.

**God is love that sets the captives free.**

God is solidarity in the midst of struggle.

**God is justice that brings cruelty to an end.**

Our strength does not mirror systems of dominance.

**Salvation is this: God within us, God among us.**

With thanks, we gather with God, our hope in times of trouble.

**Prayer of Invocation** [lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com © Thom M. Shuman] Pastor Alex

**Message on the Chancel Steps** "Leaves for Healing- Part II" Pastor Alex  
[Children are invited to proceed Sunday School, or to remain in worship with us in the Sanctuary]

### PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

**Prayer for Illumination** Kelly Forbes

**"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."**

✝ **Gospel Reading** Luke 1:68-79 (VOICE) Kelly Forbes

The Prophetic Word of God to the people of God! **Thanks be to God!**

**Listening for God's Message** "The Value of Things" Pastor Alex

**Hymn of Response #381** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" [vv. 1, 2]

### 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, concluding with...]*

**God of mercy and healing...**

**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.**

**Hymn of Response #381** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" [vv. 3, 4]

**Invitation to Offering** [© 2019 enfleshed]

**Offering of Tithes & Gifts** musical selection by Kimberly Rothen

✝ **Doxology #94**

**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 uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Prayer of Dedication**

### GOING FORTH

✝ **Closing Hymn #102** "Now Thank We All our God"

**Commission & Benediction** [lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com © Thom M. Shuman] Pastor Alex

Let us go as inheritors of God's promises,

**carrying the gifts of joy and hope to the world.**

Let us go as inheritors of Jesus' grace,