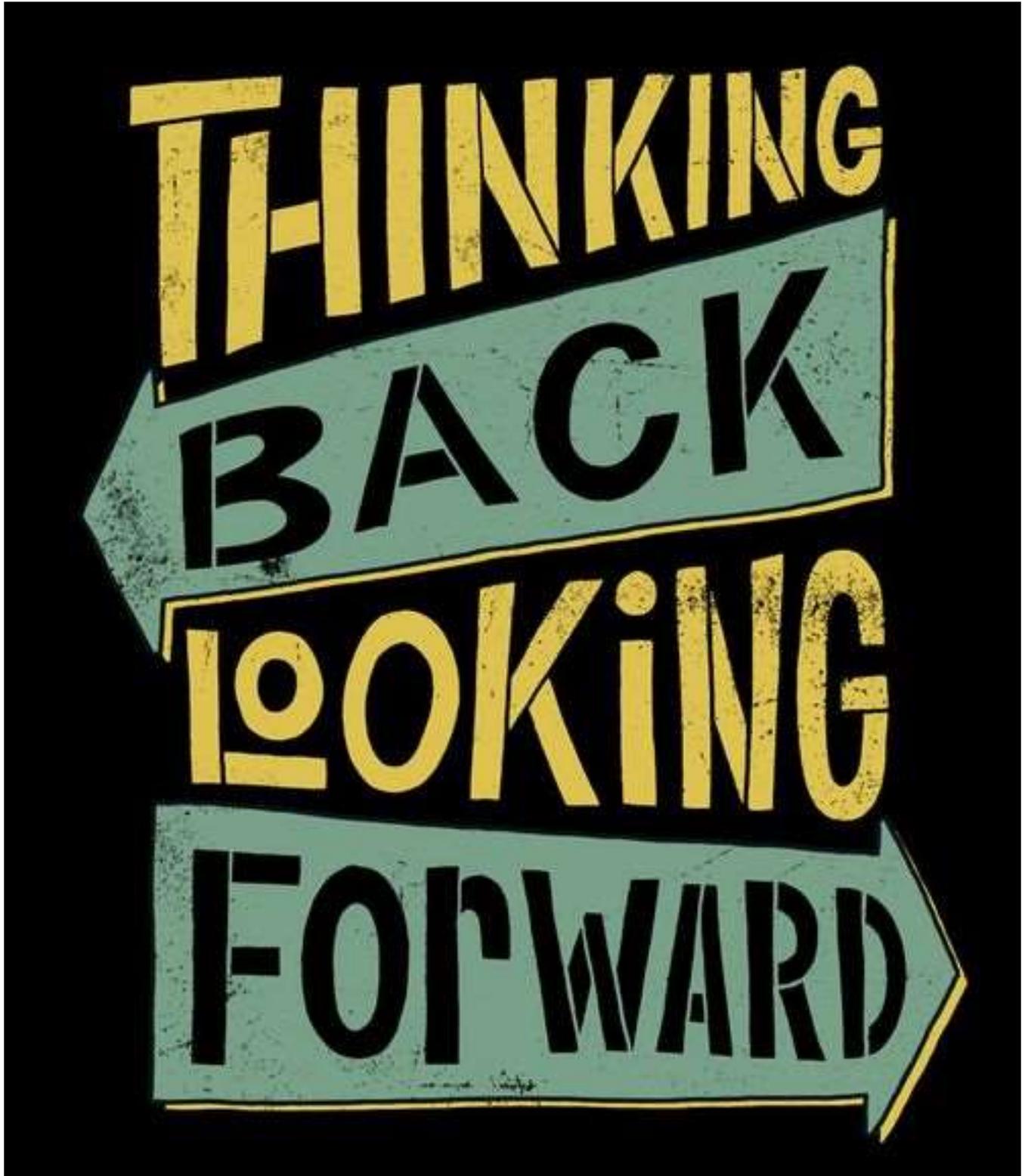


**NEW MILFORD
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**



Sunday Worship

December 27th, 2020 at 9:30 am



* **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.

Please invite your friends to join our worship services on Facebook & share our livestream.

ENTRANCE & PRAISE

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 Savior 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 ability, we greet each other as beloved children of God.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME:

Pastor Marion

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Marion

Leader: Praise the Lord from the highest heaven.

All: The sun and moon, and all the stars in sky, sing praises to our God.

Leader: Praise the Lord from the deepest valley.

All: The mountains and hills, and all the trees in the forest, worship the Lord on high.

Leader: Praise the Lord from hearts filled with song.

All: The old and young, and all the saints of God, sing with songs of joy.

(The Abingdon WORSHIP ANNUAL 2020 p.282)

HYMN: #240 "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" Vs. 1 & 2

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

*Hark! the herald angels sing:
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! the herald angels sing:*

"Glory to the newborn King!"

*Christ by highest Heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! the herald angels sing:
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

OPENING PRAYER: (In Unison)

Pastor Marion

Light of the world, shine in our lives this day. As we gather to worship you this day, give us the eyes of Simeon and the faith of Anna, that we may see the promise of our salvation. As we come before you with hope and expectation, give us the spirit of your Son, that we too may grow in strength and increase in wisdom. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

The Abingdon WORSHIP ANNUAL 2020 p.282)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Marion

SCRIPTURES:

Pastor Sophy

1st Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

HYMN: #2129 "Shine, Jesus, Shine" Vs. 1 & 2

Shine, Jesus Shine

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory,
Blaze, Spirit, blaze set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth your word, Lord let there be light.*

*Lord the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me*

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory,
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth your word, Lord Let there be light*

*Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me*

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory,
Blaze, Spirit, blaze set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth your word, Lord let there be light.
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me*

GOSPEL Luke 2: 22-40

Pastor Sophy

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON: “Recognizing Christ”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Marion

OFFERING

Jerry Jones

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, Thank you for the gifts of Christmas that bless us throughout the year. As we offer you our offering in gratitude and praise, we dedicate our labor, our industry, and our very lives to the building of your kingdom. May our gifts go forth to a world in need, as signs of your redemption and your hope. May we shine with your glory, that others may discover your saving love. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen. (The Abingdon WORSHIP ANNUAL 2020 p.284)

CLOSING HYMN: #666 “Shalom” (Sung Twice)

Shalom

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.
(repeat)*

BENEDICTION:

Pastor Marion

Go in peace and go in love, recognizing and sharing God's presence with the world, In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen, and the people all said, **Amen.**

Dear Friends, it has been my pleasure to worship with you these last two and a half weeks. You have blessed me in more ways than you know. I will cherish this time we had together. May God continue to hold you in the palm of His hands. Remember, God loves you and so do I. If you need me I will be available the rest of the week. Pastor Mel will be joining you on Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021. Know that I am praying for you, Pastor Mel and this church. God Bless you all. Pastor Marion

Go Now in Peace to Love God and One Another!

Note: Deep gratitude to our volunteers and staff members who make our worship possible, and to our congregants whose continued efforts help to keep our community safe from Covid19. We lift up gratitude for the collaboration involved in making this worship service happen for the glory of God and the delight of Creation.

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Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC