



\*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**  
How fickle is the journey of life! Blessings walk alongside curses. Hope intertwines with despair. Goodness is shadowed by wickedness.

**Welcome and Announcements** Ed Dayton

**Introit** "Let Our Earth Be Peaceful" Singing Choir

**\*Call to Worship** Martha McMahan

Poor or despairing, come to be blessed.

**Hungry or tired, come to be restored.**

Sorrowing or sighing, come to discover joy.

**Bring your tired, your poor.**

Share your hopes, your dreams.

**Embrace your doubts, your fears.**

Come as you are.

**All are welcome here.**

**\*Opening Prayer**  
God of blessings and woes, bless us with your presence this day.  
Reveal your way forward, and guide us in pathways of hope and grace.  
In your blessed name, we pray. Amen.

**\*Hymn of Praise** "Marching to Zion" #733

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

**Children's Message** Pastor Ed

**WE HEAR THE WORD**

**Prayer of Confession** Martha McMahan  
Shepherd of our souls, guide us through times of woe, and help us find your solace and peace. Forgive us in times of sin and sorrow, and lead into your redeeming love.  
Resurrect us in times of death and despair, and lead into newness of life, that we may be the blessing we seek for everyone we meet. Amen.

**Words of Assurance** Pastor Ed

**Hymn of Response** "We Plow the Fields and Scatter" #460

**Scripture Reading** Jeremiah 17:5-10 Martha McMahan

**5** Thus says the LORD:  
Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.  
**6** They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.  
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.  
**7** Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.  
**8** They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.  
It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.  
**9** The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse—  
who can understand it?  
**10** I the LORD test the mind  
and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

*(Musical interlude)*

**\*Gospel Reading** Luke 6:17-26 Martha McMahan

**Jesus Teaches and Heals**

<sup>17</sup> He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

**Blessings and Woes**

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:  
"Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.  
<sup>21</sup> "Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.  
"Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you<sup>[a]</sup> on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> “But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> “Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

**Reflecting on God’s Message**                      “Do We Need the Gifts of God?”                      Pastor Ed

**Prayers of the People**  
**Offertory anthem**                      “People Need the Lord”                      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  
Blessed God, with these gifts, bring food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and comfort to the sorrowful.  
Bless these gifts and our very lives, that we may be blessings of hope for your world.

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

**\*Sending Hymn**                      “Lord I want to be a Christian”                      #402

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



\*Segal, George, 1924-2000. Bread Line

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany | 2.13.2022 | 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.