



*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 NMUMC on Facebook & share our livestream.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Harlan Otter

Words to Ponder:

"Sing praise with all of creation.

Sing praise with all of humanity.

Sing praise together, for all of our songs come from one God, creator of all."

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

"Hosanna"

Bell Choir

arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson

***Call to Worship**

Martha McMahan

L: Come, all of you who feel lost, alienated, alone.

Right Side: At one time we felt that way – we didn't belong anywhere.

Left Side: We just wanted somewhere to be.

L: Christ, the Strong Cornerstone of our house, welcomes you.

Right Side: Once we were no people

Left Side: Now we are God's people.

Right Side: Once we had no place to dwell

Left Side: Now we live and abide in God's love.

L: Thanks be to God for God's gracious love and hospitality. AMEN.

***Opening Prayer**

Gracious God, on this day of the festival of the Christian Home, the celebration of Mother's Day, the witness to the eternal love of Christ, remind us that we are responsible for caring for each other.

We are called to lift up rather than tear down; to support rather than abandon, to reach out when others have turned away.

Give us hearts of love that, in all places and times, we may be a witness to the hope that is found in Jesus Christ. AMEN.

***Hymn of Praise**

"A Mother Lined Basket"

TFWS#2189

***Passing of the Peace Of Christ**

Pastor Ed

Children's Message

Pastor Ed

WE HEAR THE WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Martha McMahan

Patient and forgiving God, we come to you this day.

For many there is a celebration of Mother's Day and all that our mothers have given to us and taught us; but for some, these memories are too painful, of those who could not parent, who were afflicted. Remind us that your blessings are poured out in many ways, through many people.

Give us the confident faith that reaches beyond our own lives to help others.

Forgive us when we sink into our own selfishness and pettiness.

For it is in those times that we turn our back on you.

Bring us back to you, to the awareness of your eternal love.

In Christ's Name, we pray. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Pastor Ed

Hymn of Response

"Mothering God"

TFWS#2050

Scripture Reading

Genesis 17:15-21

Martha McMahan

¹⁵ God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶ I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." ¹⁷ Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" ¹⁸ And Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live in your sight!" ¹⁹ God said, "No, but your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac. ²⁰ I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. ²⁰ As for Ishmael, I have heard you; I will bless him and make him fruitful and exceedingly numerous; he shall be the father of twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. ²¹ But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this season next year."

(Musical Interlude)

***Gospel Reading**

John 19:25-27

Martha McMahan

²⁵ And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Reflecting on God's Message

"Mothers"

A Mom

Prayers of the People

Invitation of the Offering

Pastor Ed

Offertory anthem "As We Gather" Chancel Choir
by Mike Faye & Tom Coomes

Offering Prayer Pastor Ed
Lord, we thank you for the many gifts you have poured into our lives for those who love us and nurture us; for those who teach us to be loving people.
Bless those people and bless these gifts that we may work for you, bringing healing and hope to our fractured world. AMEN.

***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

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***Sending Hymn** "I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry" TFWS#2051

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



*Trinity Church, Boston - Tabitha, from Art in the Christian Tradition

Fourth Sunday of Easter | 5.8.2022 | 9:30 am

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.

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Liturgist – Martha McMahan
Ministers: *All members of the New Milford UMC*