

**Commission, Benediction & Passing of the Peace** [adapted by P.A. from © 2019 enfleshed]

Christ sends us from this place  
To feed and to be fed  
To tend and be tended to

**To be in solidarity with one another**

**And to invite others into solidarity with us.**

May we go in the assurance that just as God goes with us, so too does grace.

**Today and always. Amen.**

**Postlude**

Musical Selection by Tim Smith



**The Worship Is Ended: The Service Begins..."**

## New Milford United Methodist Church



**Celebration of 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**May 5, 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.**

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: Lois Ciccarelli, Courtney Karp, David Kullgren

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



\* **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.

### ENTRANCE & PRAISE

**Prelude** musical selection by Tim Smith

**Welcome**

✝ **Opening Hymn #344** "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

✝ **Call to Worship** [© 2019 enfleshed] Steve Rittler

How gracious is the Spirit of Christ!

**The table of reconciliation is always before us.**

How nourishing is the grace of God!

**All who hunger for redemption are welcome to feast.**

How liberating is the invitation of Love!

**No barriers stand between us and the way of the Sacred.**

Praise God, who restores life and lifts us from the pits of destruction.

**Prayer of Invocation** [adapted prayer from churchofscotland.org.uk] Pastor Alex

**Children's Message** Pastor Alex

[all children are welcome to proceed to Sunday School, or to continue to worship in the Holy Playground or with their families]

**Anthem** "Shout to the Lord" by Darlene Zschech Chancel Choir

### PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

**Prayer for Illumination** Steve Rittler  
[adapted from prayer posted at lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu]

**God of victory over death, Your Son revealed Himself again and again, and embodied before His followers the glorious grace of resurrection. Grant that we may know His risen presence, and in love obediently feed His sheep, until we join the hosts of heaven in worshipping You and praising The One who is worthy of blessing and honor, glory and power, for ever and ever. Amen.**

✝ **Gospel Reading** "John 21: 1-19" [NRSV] Steve Rittler

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

**Listening for God's Message** Pastor Alex

### Reception of New Members

Let us welcome: Elizabeth Finney, Sandra E. Hoydilla, and anybody else the Holy Spirit may move to join us on the collective journey of faith.

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

**Offering of Tithes & Gifts** musical selection by Tim Smith

✝ **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** [© 2019 enfleshed]

### HOLY COMMUNION

[Communion is a time when we celebrate and share in the presence of the risen Christ around His Table. This is an open Table and all are invited. **You need not** be a member of this Church or any Church; **you need not** be baptized. **You need only desire a closer encounter with God.** John Wesley, the founder of the people called Methodists, believed that it is possible to have a conversion experience during Communion, and so all are welcome at the Lord's Table. We use unfermented juice of the grape and gluten-free bread at the service of Holy Communion. Please signal to one of the ushers if you'd like to receive Communion at your seat.]

**Hymn of Preparation #432** "Jesu, Jesu"

**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Prayer After Receiving**

### GOING FORTH

✝ **Closing Hymn #591** "Rescue the Perishing"