

✝ **Commission, Benediction and Passing of the Peace**

[Psalm 85 adapted by John A. Brewer Ministry Matters™]

*As you go forth, know that you leave with the unfailing love of God.*

*As you leave this place,*

*know that by God's strength you will be able to face the challenges of the coming week.*

*As you return to your daily lives,*

*know that your pursuit of peace reveals to the world that you are God's children. Amen.*

**Postlude**

musical selection by Tim Smith



cover image: collage by pastor alex

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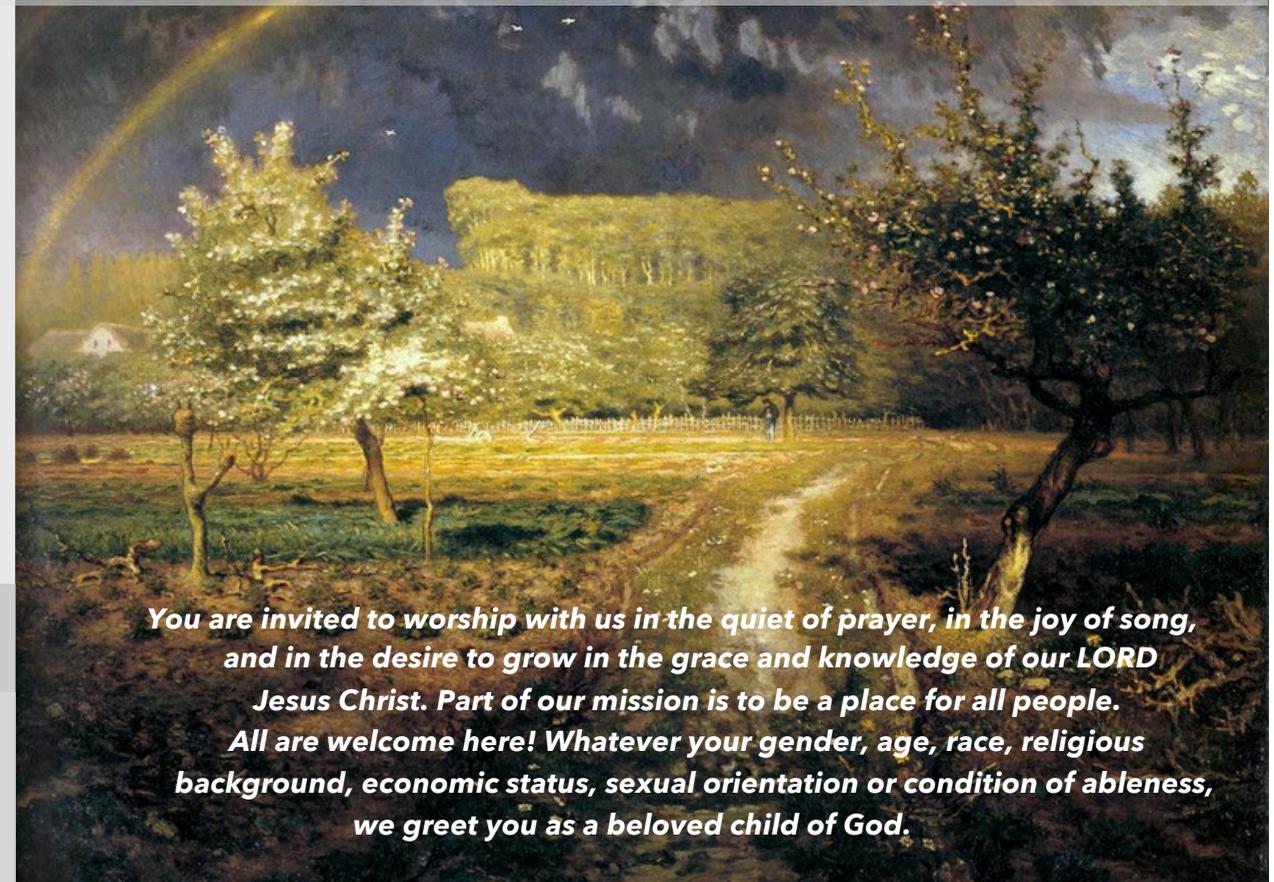
**Ministers: All members of the New Milford UMC**

**New Milford UMC**



**Sunday Worship Celebration**

**July 24, 2016 @ 9am**



*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, 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.

**ENTRANCE & PRAISE**

**Prelude** musical selection by Tim Smith

**Welcome & News**

**Prayer of Invocation**

† **Opening Hymn #374** "Standing on the Promises" [v.v. 1, 2] PROMISES

† **Call to Worship**

It is in this place of holiness that we can come with our fears, our doubts, all the questions of our hearts.

**We come to this place, to hear and practice the words of peace, of hope, of joy God speaks to us.**

It is in this place of discovery that we can come searching.

**We come to this place, to find the One who has been looking for us.**

It is in this place of openness that we can come knocking.

**We come to this place, to be embraced by the One whose heart is never locked, and we come to celebrate the grace that never ends.**

**Hymn of Praise #374** "Standing on the Promises" [v.v. 3, 4] PROMISES

**Prayers of the People & LORD's Prayer**

*[prayers of the people are lifted up]*

*LORD, we are in the middle of the summer months. We looked forward to rest and recreation, but time is moving rapidly on, and we still find ourselves stressed and weary. We need to slow down. We know this, but yet find this hard to do. We load ourselves up with activities, stresses, duties and then wonder how we will survive them. As You have found us before, LORD, find us again. Wrap Your arms of compassion around us. Help us to savor the times that we have with each other. Make us keenly aware of the magnificence of this world. Draw us to the times of peace and rest. As we have brought names of loved ones to You for Your healing mercies, remind us that we, too, stand in need of Your healing love. Give us strength, courage and joy, that we might become disciples who are worthy of Your kin-dom, and as Jesus taught we now pray saying...*

**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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise #534** "Be Still My Soul" [v.v. 1, 2] FINLANDIA

**PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE**

**Prayer for Illumination** [adapted from lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu]

**Father in heaven, in Your goodness You pour out on Your people all that they need, and satisfy those who persist in prayer.**

**Make us bold in asking, thankful in receiving, tireless in seeking, and joyful in finding, that we may always proclaim Your coming kin-dom and do Your will on earth as in heaven. Amen.**

**Children's Message** "God Answers" [based on Luke 11:1-13] Pastor Alex

**Epistle Reading** "Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)" [NRSV]

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

**THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

Abbie Lynn Carey for the Sacrament of Baptism by Christy & Wayne Carey, and Vanessa Carey, Joseph Carey

**Hymn of Response #399** "Take my Life and Let it Be" MESSIAH

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offering of Tithes and Gifts**

† **Doxology #95** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"  
**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.**

**Offertory Prayer**

**GOING FORTH**

† **Closing Hymn #377** "It Is Well With My Soul" [v.v. 1, 4] VILLE DU HAVRE