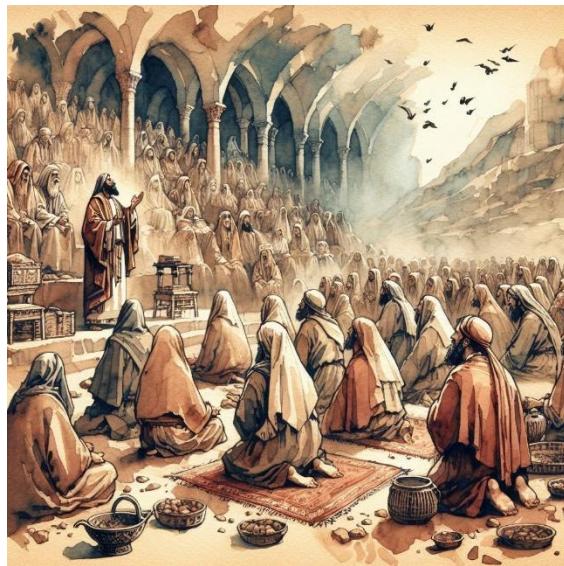


***“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”***



**First Congregational Church of New Milford
January 11, 2026**

WELCOME & CALL TO MINISTRY

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

Prelude in C Major/J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Created in God’s loving image,

People: we gather as the people of God.

Leader: Beloved by Christ, who loves us well,

People: we gather as the body of Christ.

Leader: Blessed by the Spirit of God,

People: we gather in the power of the Holy Spirit.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

GLORIA PATRI*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen, Amen.

HYMN*

O Morning Star #105

INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, we gather as your beloved community in the name of the one you sent for us, Christ Jesus. Speak to us with your love and grace. Part the clouds of our frantic, harried lives, that we may recognize your Spirit moving in our very midst. We pray in the name of Jesus; with the words he taught us...

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Choral Response

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 42:1-9

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Call to Offering

Offertory

The Glory of the Father/Egil Hovland

Song of Presentation*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offering Prayer*

God of bold visions for our world, you love all peoples and nations and seek a world where everyone flourishes in just and righteous lives. Use us and our gifts for the newness you declare possible. Make this newness spring forth in and through us. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN*

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart #265

Church School children will process to the Parish House during the last verse.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:13-17

Choral Response

SERMON

God's Chosen One

Choral Response

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN*

Shall We Gather at the River #701

BENEDICTION* - spoken and sung

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision/John Rutter

**All are invited to stand in body or spirit*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Are Welcome Here: For your comfort, listening devices are available by the front doors of the church. Additionally, services are live streamed in the chapel, should you need to step out of the service for any reason. Simply turn on the TV. Please see a Deacon if you need assistance.

Coffee Hour: Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall following today's service.

Confirmation Class will meet in Fellowship Hall following today's service.

Bible Study Group will meet in the Taylor room today at 11:15 PM.

Chapel Stitchers will meet in the Chapel today following Coffee Hour at 11:30 AM.

Woman of the Bible Study Group will meet in the Chapel on Monday, January 12 at 1:00 PM

A Time of Remembrance will be held for Bette Lou Emmons in the Taylor Room on January 18 at 1:00 PM.

Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of each month in the public conference room of the New Milford Public library. February 3 discussion will be: *On Mystic Lake* by Kristen Hannah. Please email Nicole at coleylh@gmail.com with any questions or to RSVP.

Super Bowl of Caring is February 8th. A Sign up for the Soup potluck is available in Fellowship Hall.

The First Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 PM

(860) 354-8232 Voicemail Available 24/7

www.nmchurch.org | church@nmchurch.org

Rev. Marie's day off is Friday.

Pastor	Rev. Marie Bacchiocchi	revmarieb@nmchurch.org
Director of Music	Sarah Fay	musicidirector@nmchurch.org
Bell Choir Director	Kristen Dorrell	bells@nmchurch.org
CE Director	Katie Johnson	cedirector@nmchurch.org
Manager-Church Operations	Carole Zeigler	czeigler@nmchurch.org
Treasurer	Jill Coolbeth	treasurer@nmchurch.org
Financial Secretary	Susan Murphy	financialsecretary@nmchurch.org

Today's service

Deacon on Duty	Gail Peck
Trustee on Duty	John Wittmann
Ushers	Church Council Ministries
Scripture Reader	Joan Vill
Acolytes	Deacons

SOUper BOWL of CARING

First Congregational Church of New Milford

**FEBRUARY 8th, 2026
AFTER THE SERVICE!**

**PLEASE HELP
TACKLE HUNGER**



Join us for SOUP to benefit those in need!

BRING CANS OR A DONATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!