



MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 18, 2026 | 10:00 AM
21st Sunday after Pentecost Theme: A New Vision
200th Anniversary Celebration
Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor
Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE

“Prelude & Fugue in G”

J.S. Bach

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by the world, but in God’s sight chosen and precious.

We have responded to Christ’s call, and seek to be built into a spiritual house, a living reminder of God’s presence on earth.

Once we were no people, but now we are God’s people, called out of the darkness into God’s marvelous light. Therefore, we sing with the Church in all ages:

Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer. By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

*OPENING HYMN

“Creating a Space”

see insert

PRAYER OF CENTERING

God of our ancestors and God of future generations, bless us as we gather in praise of all you have accomplished through this beloved community. We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, and we celebrate two centuries of ministry through this congregation. May the stories we create today sustain future ministries just as your Holy Spirit sustains us daily. Join us in our time of worship that all we say and do will be for your glory through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WITNESS OF MINISTRIES

Richard Bloomer, *One Board Chair*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Congregational Response is *We give you thanks, O God.*)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Joshua 4:1-7

OT. p. 196

SERMON

“What Do These Stones Mean?” Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi

* CONGREGATION STANDS AS COMFORTABLE CONGREGATION RESPONSE IN **BOLD Italic**

Key to abbreviations: OT: Old Testament; NT: New Testament UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS: The Faith We Sing ++ Indicates Someone's Favorite Hymn

People: What do these stones mean?

Leader: Life rushes at us: uncertain and blurry. We need solid reminders of what is sure. Stones remind us of what is solid and dependable and eternal.

People: What do these stones mean?

Leader: The “whys” of life may challenge our faith: Why war? Why tsunamis? Why suffering? These “whys” demand attention. Stones remind us of faith stories that sustain us through difficult times.

People: What do these stones mean?

Leader: Trusting God – no matter what, that is what one-generation can learn from a previous generation of believers. Stones are stories. Stones are conversations. Stones are opportunities. Stones are encounters with God that shape our faith.

ALL: Thank God for these stones.

Leader: What do these stones mean?

People: These stones are our faith stories.

Leader: What do these stones mean?

People: These stones are our choices – the times we chose to trust God.

Leader: What do these stones mean?

People: These stones, washed in the waters of baptism: are embedded in God, shaped by Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit.

ALL: These stones belong to God.

ANTHEM	“Allelu, Sing Praises”	Michael Jothan
OFFERTORY	“Pavane”	Gabriel Fauré
OFFERING		
*DOXOLOGY	“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”	UMH 94++

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We give you thanks, O God, for life and for all experiences that have helped to make us whole. You have blessed us through the ages, and enriched us for great generosity. Therefore, we dedicate these offerings, praying that through our giving we will do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly together with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER		
LORD’S PRAYER		UMH 895
*PASSING OF THE PEACE		

*CLOSING HYMN	“God of the Ages”	UMH 698
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***BENEDICTION**
For all that has been...*Thanks!*
For all that will be...*Yes!*

*SENDING FORTH		Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
*POSTLUDE	“God of the Ages”	George W. Warren

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US DOWNSTAIRS FOR A CELEBRATORY LUNCHEON

PRAYER LIST: Jeff and Diane Fornoﬀ, Robert Everett, Barbara Urban and her sister Pat, Pat Moulton, Jean Hoff, Linda Ryder, Lorraine Gregory, Rhonda Leister, Marilyn Schultz, Jan Lucciola, Whit Trumbull, Bob Korn, Bob, Paula & Laura Hendricks, Sue Reimlinger, Adam Slate, Joel, Trudy Gelfand, Linda Kent, Linda Grady, Betsy Gramer, Steve Swanson, Jerry Graham, Joe Allred, Teresa Graham, Caite Panzer, Dr. Antonella, Cassie, Gwen Gilmore, Pam Sackett, Bradley Seltzer, Beth Klopﬂeisch, Jackie & Dani Pentecharsky, Terry Coupell, Gary Psarudakis, Pat Mystkowski, Hernandez Family, Dianne Siconolfi, Patrick Singer, Mark Geleyn, Carolyn Grossmann, , Joanne Green, Jacob Hernandez, Rebecca Suarez, Barbara Brown, Nazareth, Joe Schneider, Jim Schneider, Tedesco Family, John Rodriguez, Geoff Sackett, Armando Avila, Agnes Halsey, James Bennet, Lori Sheppard, Nancy McKeen, Steve Urban, Brian Sheppard, Lee Malone, Ellen Lee, Henry Salidino, Jim Lordi

Thanks to all who contributed to today’s worship service and Pot-Luck Luncheon. We are blessed to be surrounded by love and faith in action.

Many blessings to our Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi and our special guests and former Pastors for sharing this important milestone with us.