

**This Ash Wednesday Order of Service** is from The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992). The Prayer of the Day is from The United Methodist Hymnal (1988).

### ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

*Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent (from a word meaning "Spring"), the 40 days (not including Sundays) prior to Easter. Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance and sorrow and begin the Lenten journey. A time of reflection and repentance, Lent prepares us to journey to the cross so that we may fully rejoice with Christ at Easter.*

*Our six-week Adult Lenten/Easter study Miracles will be taught by Pastor Brian, meeting Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. beginning March 6/7 through March 20/21; a break for Holy Week; and then April 3/4 through April 17/18. Please speak with Pastor Brian or register through the church office (203.874.1982).*

*If you do not have a church home, consider worshipping with us in this special and deeply devotional season. We worship:*

*Sunday at 10 a.m. (Christian education for all ages at 9 a.m.)*

*Monday at 7 p.m. (Healing and Wholeness worship, Chapel, Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)*

*Wednesday at Noon throughout Lent (through March 21)*

*All services are handicapped-accessible.*

*We believe that whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We are a Reconciling Congregation of the United Methodist Church, welcoming all without regard to sexual orientation. Visit our website or e-mail the church office for more information (contacts below).*

### MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Website:** [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org) [www.facebook.com/MTMUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MTMUMC)

**E-mail:** [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)

Ministers:	All the People of God	Bishop:	The Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders:	Shelly Lapadula and Beth O'Brien	District Sup't:	The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester
Prayer Chain:	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor:	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Admin Ass't:	Mary Lou Kampert	Pastoral Assist:	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Sexton:	Andy Thomas	Outreach Pastor:	Dani Levine
Child Care Coord:	Laura A. Brennan	Music Director:	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Theologian-in-Residence:	The Rev. Dr. Judy F. Bennett		

I turned to the Lord God and  
pleaded with him in prayer  
and petition, in fasting,  
and in sackcloth and ashes.



Daniel 9:3

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 South Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982  
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ASH WEDNESDAY  
February 14, 2018  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Noon

(\* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)  
(Please leave your offerings in the plate at the door)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE

PASTOR’S WELCOME

\*THE GREETING

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

People: *God’s mercy endures forever.*

\*HYMN “Let My People Seek Their Freedom” Hymnal #586

OPENING PRAYER (*seated*) Laurence Hull Stookey, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> Century

*O God, maker of every good thing and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you will raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit, that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...*

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895  
°°°

THE PSALTER Psalm 51 Hymnal p.785  
(No Musical Response)

HEBREW SCRIPTURES Daniel 9:1-19 Bible p.815 (LP, OT, p.1017)  
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

\*THE GOSPEL Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 Bible p.881 (LP, NT, p.6)  
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

\*HYMN “Spirit of the Living God” Hymnal #393

THE SERMON “A Modern Prophet” Pastor Levine

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE

HYMN “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” Hymnal #581

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ASHES

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND PENITENTIAL PRAYER

**All are invited for prayer at the Communion rail.**

**Those desiring ashes come directly to the pastors then kneel.**

**Those not desiring ashes may go directly to the rail.**

**After your time of prayer please return to your place of worship.**

SILENT CONFESSION AND PARDON

\*THE PEACE

L: May the peace of the Lord be always with you. P: *And also with you.*

\*THE ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

\*THE COMMUNION

*(The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. Please come forward take the bread, dip in the cup, and eat.)*

\*HYMN “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” Hymnal #269

\*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*(During the postlude you may leave following the pastors or remain seated.)*

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

**Celebrants:** Pastors Brian Bodt and Dani Levine