

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982  
FAX: 203.877.8973

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, July 2<sup>nd</sup>

The Year of Our Lord 2017

and of the Independence of the United States of America the 241<sup>st</sup>

Order of Worship

9:30 a.m.

(\* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)

*Please remember to mute or turn off all electronic devices.*

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE Meditation on “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee” arr. E. Broughton

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Lev. 25:10, Ps. 33:12, Prov. 14:34, Deut. 8:10, Ps. 33:20

Leader: Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.

People: *Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom He has chosen as His heritage.*

Leader: Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

People: *You shall bless the Lord your God for the good land He has given you.*

All: *Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and shield.*

\*HYMN #696 “America the Beautiful” America

°°°

THE COLLECT (*seated, unison*)

*O God of all the nations, whose hand is gracious and whose spirit is merciful: stretch forth the hand of thy protection to guard our country that we, being devoted to thy service, may live the creeds we speak: one people out of many as a light to the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (*by the Pastor*)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Almighty God, forgive our shortcomings as individuals and as a nation. Purify our hearts to see and love the truth. Give wisdom to our counselors and steadfastness to our people. Bring us at last to that fair city of peace whose foundations are mercy and justice and whose builder and maker thou art; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Genesis 22:1-14 Bible p.17

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

THE EPISTLE Romans 6:12-23 Bible p.1028

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

\*THE GOSPEL Matthew 10:40-42 Bible p.887

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON “When the Bible Gets Ugly” Dr. Bodt

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: *Hear our prayer.*

\*THE PEACE

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

*(Greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.)*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Solo: "It Is Well With My Soul" arr. by Hayes and Gaspard

\*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #437 “This Is My Song” Finlandia

\*THE HOLY COMMUNION Hymnal p.9-10

THE LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal #895

*(The United Methodist Church observes an open table, including the use of grape juice and gluten-free bread. All are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. We will sing hymns #638, 618, 620, 624, 628 during the distribution.)*

PRAYER FOR LAY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTORS (*unison*)

*Gracious God, we remember the apostolic Church which sent representatives from the Lord's Table to those unable to be present. Bless and assist these lay visitors who continue this ministry. Nourish and strengthen those to whom this sacrament is brought, that they may know the comfort of your presence and the love of this community of faith. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.*

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

\*HYMN      “A Prayer for Our Nation”      rear cover of “Grace Notes”  
                  Lyrics: *Rev. Judith FaGalde Bennett, Theologian-in-Residence*  
                  Tune: *The Battle Hymn of the Republic, 19<sup>th</sup> century camp meeting tune*

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE                      Hymnal #696, verse 3  
                  *O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years*  
                  *Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!*  
                  *America! America! God mend thine every flaw,*  
                  *Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.*

\*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

POSTLUDE      Fantasia on “America the Beautiful”      arr. by R. Koury  
                  *(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).*

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

# A PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

(Sung to the tune of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic”)

We are called to be your people, you have called us to this place;  
You have broken down dividing walls of class and age and race.  
May we be your faithful people as, united by your grace,  
Your truth goes marching on.

## **Refrain:**

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah; God's truth goes marching on.*

God of love, we lift before you this our nation in its pain;  
May the hopeless and the brokenhearted know your love again,  
For when righteousness and peace in every heart and household reign,  
Your truth goes marching on.

## **Refrain**

In the midst of fear and anger, for your promised strength we long.  
Holy God, too often courage falters in the face of wrong.  
Be our rock and our protector; side by side we will be strong.  
Your truth goes marching on.

## **Refrain**

God of mercy, God of justice, may our hearts be moved as one,  
As we work to build a nation where your holy will is done.  
Bless our efforts, give us wisdom to complete the work begun:  
Your truth goes marching on.

## **Refrain**

Words by Judith FaGalde Bennett, in honor of the Rev. Dr. Robert Taylor, used at annual Metro Richmond at Prayer Initiative and other programs of Richmond Hill, an ecumenical fellowship, residence and urban retreat center in Richmond Virginia.

## **MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973  
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. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Sexton	Andy Thomas	Outreach Pastor	Danielle Levine
Child Care Coordinator	Laura A. Brennan	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
		Theologian-in-Residence	The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett

## ***Grace Notes***

***July 2, 2017***

***Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,***

***“They’re back....” Those who were here last Sunday or read our material will appreciate the humor. Last week’s theme was “He’s back....” based on my reappointment and, far more importantly, the returning persistence of God in seeking and saving us.***

***This week, “They’re back....” refers to our stained glass windows returned two months ahead of schedule and installed this past Monday and Tuesday. We thank the artisans of Stained Glass Resources of Hampden, Massachusetts for the restoration; and Chris Paton, Trustee Chair for his oversight as Project Manager. This completes the second and final window restoration that began in February, 2016. The 75-100 year life-span found us at least 25 years overdue. We can now expect them to be here long after most of us!***

***“They’re back....” also expresses the desire of many of you for the return of the Charles Wesley Singers of Damascus U.M. Church, Damascus, Maryland. Their main purpose, of course, was to present inspiring music on June 22<sup>nd</sup> under the theme “Prayer and Prophecy.” While the 60 junior high school and high school choristers and adult chaperones were quite successful in this alone, they also left a legacy of good will in the form of polite manners, handwritten thank you notes, assistance in breaking down tables, chairs and tents from our outside dinner and a general joy that led one of our older members to exclaim, “There’s hope for the future.” Indeed there is! Thank you, the congregation, for your hosting of these young people; for the 118 folks that attended the concert; and for your generous free-will offering of \$1,255 that has been sent for disaster relief through the United Methodist Committee on Relief.***

***To God be the glory!***

***Sincerely yours in Christ,***

***Pastor Brian Bodt***

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher:** Ed Pineau

**Liturgist:** Leigh Bak

**Greeters:** Nita Prior and Ken Hawkins

**Communion stewards:** Bev Downing and Brenda Pineau

**Communion celebrants:** Pastors Brian Bodt and Dani Levine

Co-Lay Leader Shelly Lapadula and Liturgist Leigh Bak

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** today are in celebration of Sarah O'Brien's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Love Mom.

**TO ASSIST YOU IN WORSHIP**, see our ushers for:

- Large print Bibles, hymnals and bulletins
- Hearing Assist Devices
- Children's bulletins for ages 3 – 6 and 7 – 12

**WELCOME VISITORS!** May you experience God's presence today. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" peel-and-stick name tag to help us greet you. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is in the Narthex.

**PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS** using the "Blue Sheets" in the attendance pads in each pew; or obtain one from an usher. **Please return them completed to an usher or to the center aisle where the ushers will collect them on the opening hymn.** Our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. **You are also invited to speak your concerns when we pray.** Please obtain others' permission to share their concerns. Prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. **Please also consider joining our Yahoo e-communication group** (which was created for prayer concerns) to offer immediate posting of intercessory prayer requests. To sign up, contact the church office.

**CHILD CARE** for children five years old and younger is provided in the Wesley Center, the building to your left. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary since our child care is not staffed to provide for older children.

**IF YOU NEED TO LEAVE THE SANCTUARY DURING WORSHIP**, please exit by either the side aisle to your left or by the rear (Broad Street) doors. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar) and can be accessed either way. **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the Broad Street doors if weather and mobility allows.

**TODAY'S LITURGY** is based on Holy Scripture and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989).

**SERMON COPIES** from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org).

## Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

*Cordially invites you, your family and friends to our*

# Summertime Fellowship Picnic after Sunday Worship

We're doing potluck style so please bring your favorite dish to share with your sisters and brothers in Christ.

Membership and Evangelism will be providing the hamburgers, hot dogs and refreshments.

Please bring a chair to sit and enjoy your meal.

Fun games planned for sun and shade in our courtyard!



Sunday, July 16, 2017

11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

168-176 S Broad St, Milford, CT 06460  
Facebook @MTMUMC

Please R.S.V.P. by July 13 to Kelly O'Hara at  
[yankee89@optonline.net](mailto:yankee89@optonline.net) or call 203-283-4676

If you are interested in helping with set up and/or cleanup, please let us know

## OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

**BULLETIN NOTICES** are due by noon Wednesday for the following Sunday bulletin.

**TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS**, contact **Beth O'Brien** at **203.877.8668** or **[bgobrien11@optonline.net](mailto:bgobrien11@optonline.net)**. Flowers are \$20. A donation in lieu of flowers to support missions is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for either are payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460.

**Flower donations now needed for July 9, 23 and 30 and all of August.**

**FOOD BASKET:** Please place non-perishable food items in the basket located in the back of the church and monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

**ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS:** Wet and dry cat food is needed for seniors with pets and for the canine facility. Towels and blankets are needed. Animal Control will not take peoples' released pets but will spay and neuter feral cats. Please leave your donations in the designated basket in the back of the Sanctuary. The Youth Fellowship brings these items to Animal Control each week. Bless you for caring for God's children with fur." **If you and your animals are in need, please help yourself to the available donations.**

**CONTACT THE PASTORS** directly or through the church office (203.874.1982, [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)) with pastoral care needs and hospitalizations: **Pastor Brian Bodt:** [brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com); 203.874.1982, ext. 111 or 203.895.3753. He is typically in office **10 am – 1 p.m.**, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink:** 203.878.8977 or [vinkhaljane@gmail.com](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com). **Pastor Dani Levine:** 203.927.9077 or [Danielle.levine@mail.com](mailto:Danielle.levine@mail.com).

“**FIX IT BOX**” is in Dodd Hall. See a need? Drop a completed form in the box.

**WE HOST Alcoholics Anonymous AND Gamblers Anonymous WEEKLY.** Please call the church office for the schedule or see it posted on the bulletin boards.

**PLEASE NOTE:** During a medical or other emergency the Head Usher or a designee will call #911. Please do not call on your cell phone as multiple calls may delay response.

### **VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR June 25th:**

Total worship attendance all services: 150; June 25th: 120; GEUMC: 20; Healing and Wholeness worship: 10; Total Offerings for June 25th: \$6,562.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$2,802.67; Engaged in Small Groups: 194; MYF: 13; Concert on June 22: 178; Office Volunteers: 3. Total persons received on profession of faith:0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions:0. \*Small Groups – please contact the church office [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.

## TODAY

**SUMMER PUNCH BOWL TODAY** is hosted by Stacey and Holly in the Courtyard. Next Sunday's hosts are Beth and Sarah O'Brien. We will be in the Courtyard, weather permitting.

**THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT** of canned green bean donations for “*The Great Thanksgiving Project*” of the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. **Our goal was 250 cans and 278** were donated.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** for both college (Kelsey-Worley Educational Fund) and vocational school (“Jimmy” scholarship) are in the back of the sanctuary.

“**THE UPPER ROOM**” devotional for July-Aug. is available free at the rear of the sanctuary.

**SUMMER BIBLE STUDY:** Tuesday evenings, July 18 and 25 and August 1, 7-8:30 p.m., Gunn Library. The study will be on the book The Prayer Chest and will be led by Eileen Doyle. **Books may be picked up after worship TODAY from Eileen. Suggested donation for the book cost is \$8.50.** Contact Eileen at [ddoyle51@aol.com](mailto:ddoyle51@aol.com) or 203.710.5842 to register and obtain a copy of the book after service. Ask her or see page 6 in the June “Beacon” for more details.

**CALLING ALL DISCIPLE 1 GRADUATES:** If you've completed Disciple 1 you're eligible for the Disciple 4 class. It begins September 12<sup>th</sup> and is a 32 week session, studying The Writings, John, James and Revelation. The Writings include Ruth, Esther, Chronicles, Lamentations. Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Psalms, Job, Song of Solomon. The New Testament Books are John, letter of James and Revelation. **If you are interested in joining the class please talk to Don Hastings** (203.877.4554 or [nctmwash@aol.com](mailto:nctmwash@aol.com)) or call the church office. **The class will be on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:15 pm.**

**SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC** is now being scheduled. Our Adult Choir rests from the last Sunday in June until the second Sunday in September. If you have a musical talent you'd like to share on summer Sunday, please e-mail Rick Riccardi at [riccardir1@southernct.edu](mailto:riccardir1@southernct.edu) or call him at 203.562.6508.

**ONE SUMMER PUNCH BOWL SIGN-UP REMAINS OPEN:** Sunday, Sept. 3. Weather-permitting, we move outside with punch, water and simple snacks. A check-list is provided on what to do, especially for those who have not previously hosted. **To sign up, write your name on the list on the Dodd Hall kitchen refrigerator.** Thank you in advance!

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR** for regular meetings and activities.

## THIS WEEK

**CHURCH OFFICE NOTES:** Mary Lou Kampert is on vacation through July 16. The office is on summer hours: Mon. – Thurs., 9 am – 2 pm, and closed Fridays. This week's volunteer is Eileen Doyle. **Please note that the office is closed on Independence Day, Tues., July 4.**

**NEXT COMMUNITY SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT:**  
**Wednesday, July 5, 2:30 – 5 p.m.** We prepare the meal, led by Maryanne Meehan. Golden Hill Church is about 20 minutes away: I-95 to Exit 27A to Exit 2 off the Route 8/25 connector. If you would like to volunteer, contact Maryanne at 203-610.4936.

**TRASH & TREASURES:** Donations can be made on Sundays after church for the Oyster Festival sale. Watch the church bulletins for updated information. When there are enough donations, the T&T team will begin working on Thursdays at which time we can also accept donations from 9 am to 12 pm. Please remember, **we only want winter clothing for the August sale.** Please read July's upcoming Beacon for a complete list of items that T&T cannot accept and for other interesting information.

## NEXT SUNDAY, July 9th

**PENTECOST V:** "You're Going to Fail" will be the message based on Romans 7:15-25a. We will have a Mission Minute from Stacy Meszaros for United Methodist Action Reach-out Mission by Youth (UMARMY) and commission UMARMY high school and adult volunteers headed to Wethersfield, CT.

## SAVE THE DATES

**BOTTLE AND CAN DRIVE IN THE MARY TAYLOR PARKING LOT, Saturday, July 15, 9 am – 3 pm.** Please bring bottles and cans that can be returned for deposit. The proceeds benefit the United Methodist Women's projects. For more information contact Michelle Connor at 203-306-7506 or [m.connor357@gmail.com](mailto:m.connor357@gmail.com).

**SUMMER PICNIC IN OUR OWN MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL COURTYARD!**  
**Sunday, July 16 after worship.** We will offer plenty of fun games, laughs and fellowship at our annual summer get together. This year we are moving it back to the church grounds, so no directions needed! Plan to bring a folding chair, a favorite covered dish, and some stories to share with friends. We will offer burgers and hotdogs, as well as beverages and watermelon. More information to follow on this event.

## ~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, July 2</i>	<i>9:30 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m. Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m. Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, July 3</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Healing &amp; Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, July 4</i>	<i>Church office closed – Independence Day</i>
<i>Wednesday, July 5</i>	<i>2:30 p.m. Golden Hill Community Supper – Bridgeport</i>
<i>Thursday, July 6</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers- Gunn Library (closed Friday)</i>
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<i>Sunday, July 9</i>	<i>UM ARMY High School Camp, Wethersfield, CT, July 9-15<sup>th</sup></i>
	<i>9:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m. Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m. Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, July 10</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Healing &amp; Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Thursday, July 13</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library (closed Friday)</i>
<i>Saturday, July 15</i>	<i>9 am – 3pm Bottle and can drive drop off – MTMUMC parking lot</i>

