

Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

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 cell phones and other electronic devices.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “God’s Time is Best” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP Karl Ludvig Reichelt, 20th cent., alt.

Leader: With all our heart, we take refuge in God most high, who created all things, the merciful Father, Source of all goodness.

People: *With all our heart, we take refuge in Christ, the Redeemer from sin, who restores our true nature, the perfect and mysterious Word.*

ALL: WITH ALL OUR HEART, WE TAKE REFUGE IN THE ONE WHO EMBRACES THE UNIVERSE, WHO AT ALL TIMES AND IN ALL PLACES RESPONDS TO OUR NEEDS, THE PURE AND TRANQUIL HOLY SPIRIT.

LET US WORSHIP GOD.

*HYMN #732 “Come, We that Love the Lord” St. Thomas

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*)

O Lord, you sent Jesus among us to teach us of love and hope. You send us out to be with our sisters and brothers to expand that love and hope and to include faith and trust in you and in your message. Lord, we ask that you give us the courage to move forward in our journey such that every step we take will reflect your love for us and that our faith, hope, love and trust in you may be shown to all we meet. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of grace and glory, we thank you that you do not judge us by our imperfect actions but rather by our willingness to live by faith in you. Please help us as individuals and as sisters and brothers together to trust you and to follow where you lead that, in Christ, your name may be glorified in all the earth. Amen

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE PSALTER Psalm 119:105-112

L: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

P: *I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.*

L: I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord, according to your word.

P: *Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your ordinances.*

L: I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget your law.

P: *The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from your precepts.*

L: Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

P: *I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.*

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

HYMN #601 (*seated*) “Thy Word is a Lamp” Thy Word

THE EPISTLE Romans 8:1-11 Bible p.1029

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

*THE GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 Bible p.889

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

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN #583 “Sois la Semilla” (“You are the Seed”) Id y enenad

THE SERMON “Selfless Selfishness” Dr. Bodt

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles’ Creed” Hymnal #881

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

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

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

*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: “Mighty to Save”

Lisa Gloates, soloist

*Presentation: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #539 “O Spirit of the Living God” Forest Green

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Hymnal #666

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

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

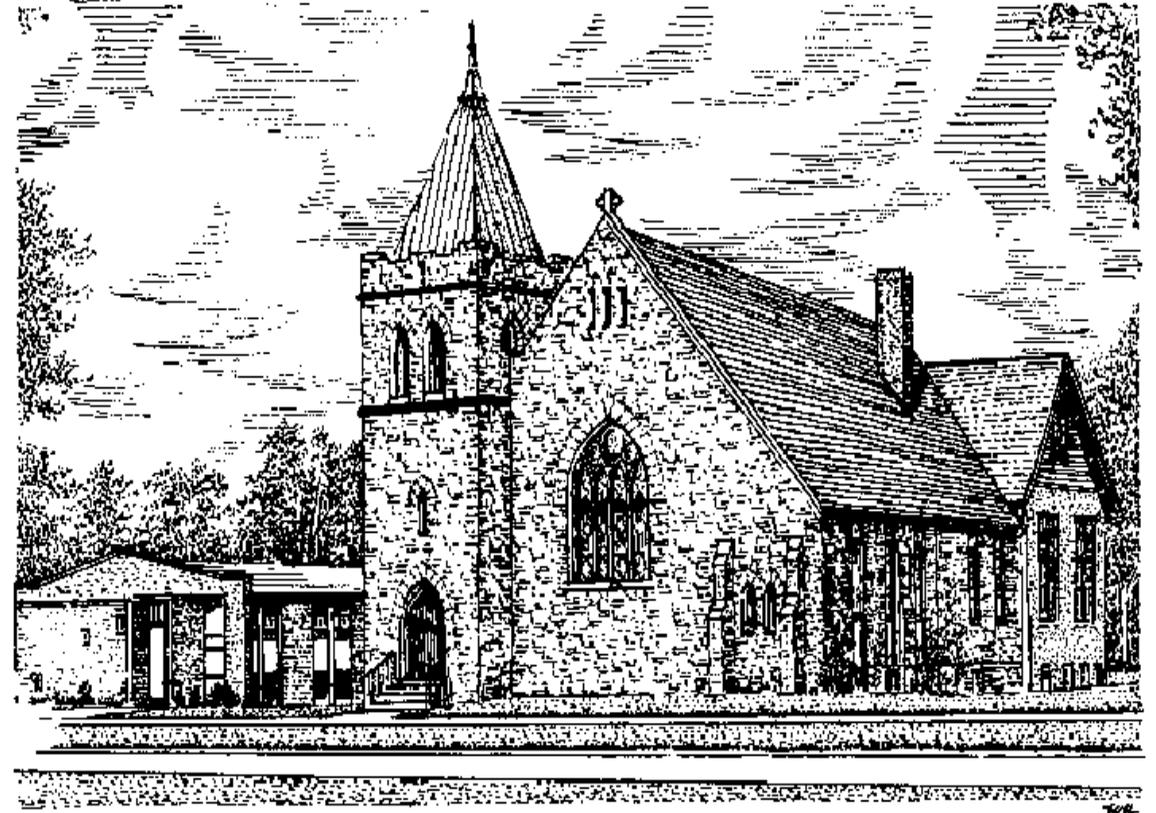
*POSTLUDE

“Carillion Toccata”

D. Wagner

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

Nesting Ghana Emmanuel U.M. Church: 2016

*Whoever you are, wherever you are
on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.*

PENTECOST VI

July 16, 2017

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973

Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

**MEN'S CLUB SEEKS VOLUNTEERS
FOR THE OYSTER FESTIVAL**

The Milford Oyster Festival is on *Saturday, August 19th* from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and *The Men's Club* of **Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church** will be serving breakfast and lunch at the church campus.

This event is the Men's Club's largest fundraiser for missions and would not be possible if it weren't for the volunteering support of our sisters and brothers in Christ.

We have many volunteer positions available in short shifts:

- Friday evening set-up and prep
- Saturday morning set-up and prep
- Breakfast grill, sandwich makers, servers, cleaners and cashiers
- Lunch grill, sandwich makers, servers, cleaners and cashiers
- Saturday afternoon clean up

All volunteers will receive meal tickets for breakfast or lunch. High school students can earn community service credit.

Sign-up sheets are available after worship during Summer Punch Bowl. You may also speak with or contact the Co-Presidents, John Leum (203-932-5995; jleum197@gmail.com) or Steve Wasko (203-997-2213; steve.j.wasko@gmail.com).

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	Superintendent	The Rev. Alpher Sylvester
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 16, 2017

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Won't you help us pray?

People consistently report how important our Prayers of Petition and Intercession are to them in their devotional life; and how disappointed they are when a prayer is occasionally misplaced or overlooked. Your Co-Lay Leaders and pastors agree with both sentiments.

Mary Taylor Memorial Church's method of sharing intercessions has evolved over many years in multiple discussions with our Worship Committee, pastors and Lay Leaders. We believe it serves the congregation well, but it is a challenge for our Co-Lay Leaders to sort the prayers and prepare themselves to pray. On some Sundays, the volume of prayers is such that they really are not ready until just before the prayer. They sacrifice a part of their worship to lead us in prayer.

Therefore, won't you help us pray? You can do this by:

- 1. Using the blue sheets in the pew attendance pads.*
- 2. Passing them only to the center, not side, aisle for usher pick up on the opening hymn.*
- 3. Not submitting them directly to the Co-Lay Leader after the opening hymn.*

As always, spoken prayers may be offered aloud after each section of our intercessions. And all written prayers, including those submitted after the opening hymn, are prayed again at our Monday, 7 p.m. Healing and Wholeness worship in the Chapel. And God already knows the prayers of our hearts before we speak or read them.

Won't you help us pray?

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian Bodt

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Ed Pineau

Liturgist: Lisa Gloates

Greeters: Wendy Hoffman and Tom Beyer

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are in celebration of Terry Titus' 65th birthday on July 20th with wishes for love and good health always, given by his wife Diana; and in celebration of Brenna and Maria's wedding on July 17th, given by Rick and Stacey.

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.

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 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. 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) with pastoral care needs and hospitalizations: **Pastor Brian Bodt:** 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. **Pastor Dani Levine:** 203.927.9077 or 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 July 9th:

Total worship attendance all services: 173; July 9th: 148; GEUMC: 21; Healing and Wholeness worship: 4; Total Offerings for July 9th: \$6,150.50; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$429.60; Engaged in Small Groups: 29; Golden Hill Community Supper, July 5th: 13; UMARMY: 13; 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 or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.

TODAY

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL TODAY is replaced by our Summertime Fellowship Picnic. All the Summer Punch Bowl Sundays are now filled. Thanks to all who volunteered.

SUMMERTIME FELLOWSHIP PICNIC FOLLOWS WORSHIP IN OUR OWN MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL COURTYARD! TODAY! Fun games, laughs and fellowship at our annual summer get together. Please stay today and enjoy this time.

OYSTER FESTIVAL SIGN-UPS! Our Men's Club seeks your support for their annual presence at the Oyster Festival, this year on **Saturday, August 19**. Sign up sheets are available after worship. You may also speak with or contact the Co-Presidents, John Leum (203-932-5995; jleum197@gmail.com) or Steve Wasko (203.997.2213; steve.j.wasko@gmail.com).

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS are offered after worship in the sanctuary by Leigh Bak, APRN.

TRASH & TREASURES: Donations can be made on Sundays and every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., until and including August 10. We are only accepting winter clothing. Please remember that **August 10 is the last day to donate.** We can use the following **plastic bags:** grocery size, medium, large and extra large bags. It would be a real treat for us if donated grocery size bags are received flattened and other bags are flattened and folded. **Packing paper and bubble wrap** are also needed. Please call Dolly Bonisch, 203.783.9952, before donating large items. Thanks for your continued help to make our sales successful!

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to Fran Merva and all the family on the **death of George Merva** this past Wednesday, July 12. Calling hours are **today, July 16, 1-5 pm** at Smith Funeral Home, 135 North Broad Street, Milford. The funeral service is **tomorrow, July 17, 10 a.m.** at Mary Taylor Memorial. A graveside committal will follow at Mountain Grove Cemetery, Harvester Road, Easton. All are invited back to the church for a reception beginning about 12:30 p.m. and hosted in Dodd Hall by the United Methodist Women. If you would like to assist with food, please e-mail Sue O'Shea (sueoshea@optonline.net) and tell her what you're bringing. Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made to Mary Taylor Memorial U.M. Church.

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

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC is now nearly scheduled through Sept. 3. If you'd like to offer music, please contact Rick Riccardi at riccardir1@southernct.edu or 203.562.6508.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

THIS WEEK

THE FUNERAL SERVICE FOR GEORGE MERVA will be held **Monday, July 17, 10 a.m.** See the article under “Today” for full details.

CHURCH OFFICE NOTES: Mary Lou Kampert, our Administrative Assistant, returns tomorrow. The office remains on summer hours: **Mon. – Thurs., 9 am – 2 pm**, and closed Fridays. We thank Becky Virgalla for serving as last week’s volunteer.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY BEGINS THIS WEEK: **Tuesday evenings, July 18 and 25 and August 1, 7-8:30 p.m.**, Gunn Library. Subject: The Prayer Chest, Leader: Eileen Doyle. **Books may be obtained from Eileen** at a suggested price of \$8.50. Register with her today or at ddoyle51@aol.com or 203.710.5842.

NEXT SUNDAY, July 23rd

PENTECOST VII: The message “Weeding in the Garden” will be based on Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 with Genesis 28:10-19a.

SAVE THE DATE!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES is scheduled to meet **Thursday, August 3rd, 7 p.m.** in the Egan Room, Wesley Center. Meeting notice and agenda will be forthcoming.

MILFORD OYSTER FESTIVAL: **Saturday, August 19th!** See the appeal for support under “Today” and the larger article on the rear cover of this issue.

DISCIPLE 4 STUDY ENROLLING: Disciple 1 graduates are eligible for this 32 week study beginning September 12th. The O.T. Writings (Ruth, Esther, Chronicles, Lamentations, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Psalms, Job, Song of Solomon), along with St. John, James and Revelation are the Bible books studied. **If you are interested in joining the class please talk to Don Hastings** (203.877.4554 or nctmwash@aol.com) or call the church office. **The class will be on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:15 pm.**

~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, July 16</i>	<i>9:30 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening by Leigh Bak, RN-Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m. Church Picnic – Courtyard</i>
	<i>1 – 5 p.m. Calling hours, George Merva, Smith Funeral Home, 135 North Broad Street, Milford</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m. Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, July 17</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. George Merva funeral service</i>
	<i>@11:45 am Committal at Mountain Grove Cemetery, Easter</i>
	<i>@12:30 pm Funeral reception in Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, July 18</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. St. Mary Job Search Support Group – 70 Gulf St.</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Book Discussion – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Thursday, July 20</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library (closed Friday)</i>
<i>Sunday, July 23</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 24</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, July 25</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Book Discussion – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, July 26</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. Beacon Volunteers</i>
<i>Thursday, July 27</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library (closed Friday)</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m. MTMUMC Community Supper</i>