

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.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(*Chalice Worship* 90, mod)

Leader: We come to worship God, not to boast in ourselves.

People: Our wisdom, our might, our wealth—all these are gifts from God.

Leader: If we must boast, then let us boast this:

People: We come to understand and know God, to honor God's sovereign majesty.

Leader: God acts with steadfast love, justice and righteousness.

People: In these things God takes delight!

Leader: Come! Let us worship the Lord together!

*HYMN #577

God Of Grace and God of Glory

OPENING PRAYER (*unison*)

(*SermonSuite.com*, mod)

Gracious God, like Solomon of old, we pray for wisdom to know the difference between good and evil. You have blessed us in many ways, and we are grateful. We want to please you and walk in your ways; shine your light on our paths. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days in such a time as this. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

(*Gathered By Love, C*, mod.)

We bring our flawed lives to God, not so much to be made perfect, but to be whole. Let us confess our sins to God, trusting the One who builds joy from our despair.

UNISON PRAYER CONFESSION

(*Chalice Worship* 305, mod)

God of wisdom and mercy, forgive us our sins—those we commit knowingly and those we do without perceiving how we have hurt others. Open our hearts to hear your truth and to understand our failures. Help us to reach a new level of wisdom, that—in all we do and say—we may bring glory to your name and love and compassion to our neighbor. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(*Chalice Worship* 301, mod and *Worship Ways*)

Leader: In God's wisdom and compassion, we receive grace that we might live anew, unburdened by the obstacles and pride of the past. Hear the good news! Anyone in Christ is a new creation. Believe the Gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God!

ooo

PSALTER

Psalms 111

(See Insert)

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:15-20

5¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, **16** making the most of the time, because the days are evil. **17** So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **18** Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, **19** as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, **20** giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

2¹⁰ Then David slept with his ancestors, and was buried in the city of David. **11** The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. **12** So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.

3 Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. **4** The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. **5** At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." **6** And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. **7** And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. **8** And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. **9** Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. **11** God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, **12** I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. **13** I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. **14** If you will walk in

my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

*HYMN #500 Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

THE SERMON

Rev. Hansen

*HYMN #420 Breathe On Me, Breath of God

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Hymnal #895

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.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever. Amen.

*THE PEACE

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

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: Special music by Mary Taylor tenors and basses

*Presentation: “The Doxology”

Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #451 Be Thou My Vision

*THE BENEDICTION

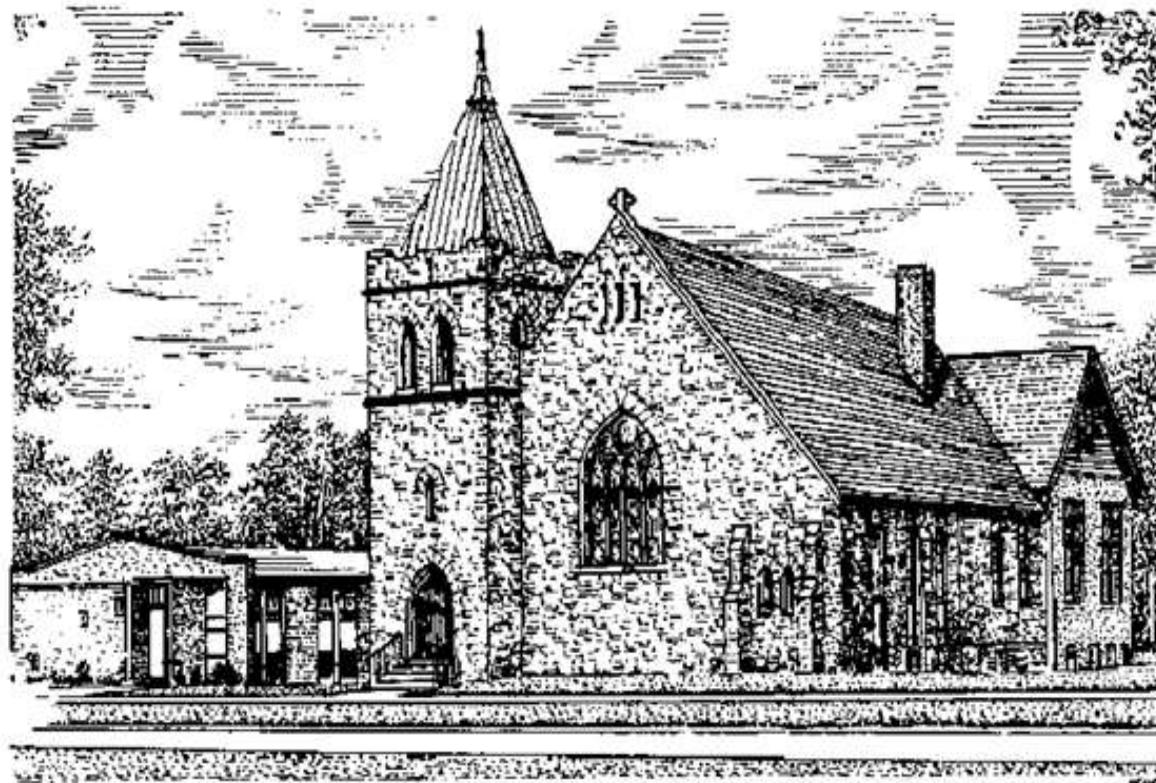
*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

POSTLUDE

(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.*

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 19, 2018

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

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Bickerton
Co-Lay Leader	Shelly Lapadula	Superintendent	The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester
Co-Lay Leader	Beth O'Brien	Pastor	The Rev. Kristina Hansen
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Outreach Pastor	Dani Levine
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Sexton	Andy Thomas	Pastor of Healing Ministries	The Rev. Cynthia Dodd
Child Care Coordinator	Laura A. Brennan	Theologian-in-Residence:	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
		Theologian-in-Residence:	The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett

Grace Notes
August 19, 2018



Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church Community,

This week's sermon is entitled, "A Word to the Wise" and, appropriately, we'll be talking about *wisdom*. One theologian I came across spoke eloquently about it, so I give his words to you in this *Grace Note*:

"As human beings we have become obsessed with our own thinking. Since Descartes first proclaimed his rather flawed tenet: 'I think, therefore I am,' women and men have defined themselves as thinkers more than anything else. We have even chosen to call ourselves homo sapiens (which means "wise man") in deference to our (supposed) superior thinking abilities...(Yet) if we seek wisdom by getting our heads right, we will always be disappointed. Our thinking may be part of the journey, but it is not the only thing.

Wisdom is about union with God in Christ...Wisdom is about the way our lives are shaped and directed by this union with Christ, and is revealed in the way we treat one another, the way we make financial, ethical, relational and power decisions, and the way we inhabit our world." (John van de Laar, *Sacredise*)

Food for thought!

Blessings on the journey,

Rev. Kristina Hansen
Pastor

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Ethan Weed

Greeters: Tom Beyer and Steve Wasko

Liturgist:

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are to the Glory of God and _____
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 the east (left) side aisle. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar). **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the east side aisle.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), and The Faith We Sing (2000), and as noted in the bulletin.

SERMON COPIES from this week are in the rear of the church or at www.mtm-umc.org.

GIRLS AND BOYS VILLAGE

FINAL COLLECTION DAY TODAY

SCHOOL



SUPPLIES

We are collecting school supplies for GIRLS AND BOYS VILLAGE - July 29th through August 19th! If you do not wish to purchase supplies, you may make out a check to Mary Taylor Missions with B&G Village school supplies in the memo.

THE LIST OF SUPPLIES NEEDED ARE:

3 X 5 Index cards – colors or white
22" X 28" Poster board – colors or white
Small inexpensive calculators
Rubber 12" rulers – NO PLASTIC – MUST BE RUBBER
One inch 3 ring binders and about 10 3" binders
Woodcase pencils #2 yellow barrel - LOTS !
Tri-write pencils #2 yellow barrel - LOTS !
Binder Clips – both medium and large size
24LB Colored paper – canary– peppermint green – red
3" carton sealing tape
¾" Scotch tape – LOTS !
Facial tissues
Large Paper clips
8-1/2 X 11 clipboards
4X6 Post It notes
Composition books
Colored pencils – LOTS !

Lots of these things can be purchased at the Dollar Stores.

Blessings! Maryann Petremont and Lorraine Carr Co-Chairs



TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL

<i>Sunday, August 19</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship - Outside Tent/Courtyard</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – courtyard</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Blood Pressure Screenings – Sanctuary – Karen Doherty RN</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Annual Youth trip to Brownstone Park – Shelly Lapadula contact</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>GEUMC Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, August 20</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, August 21</i>		<i>Chalk the Walk Day</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 22</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Stewardship meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Thursday, August 23</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>MTMUMC Community Supper – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00p.m.</i>	<i>Gay/Straight Alliance meeting – Gunn Library</i>

LOOKING AHEAD AT SUMMER DATES

(Details in the July “Beacon”)

Saturday, August 18th: Milford Oyster Festival, downtown Milford

Sunday, August 19th: Youth Trip to Brownstone, leaving right after worship

FROM TRASH AND TREASURES:

Would the person who donated the Xbox 360 Rock Band 2 Drum Pad set please contact Dolly Bonisch at 203-783-9952. It is missing the CD and we don't know if it is in working condition, therefore, don't know how to price it for the Oyster Festival.

Thank you.

ALSO: Trash and Treasures needs a strong young person/persons to carry heavy items on Friday August 17th for about 2 hours in the morning. If you can assist, please call Dolly at 203-783-9952.

TODAY

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL is hosted today by Gay/Straight Alliance. “Fellowship Time” becomes “Summer Punch Bowl,” with lighter fare and is located in the outside courtyard, weather permitting. Next Sunday’s hosts are Susan Pitre and Vilma Rendon.

OUR GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE (GSA), in its on-going work of education and advocacy, has produced a brochure designed to help educate our congregation on current terms used in discussion of sexual orientation and gender identity. The brochure is available in the spinner racks and from any GSA member wearing a rainbow-colored lanyard. These members also welcome conversation with you about this part of our ministry. Feel free to speak with them.

BEACON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We could use several more volunteers to help on a monthly basis with assembly and mailing of our monthly “Beacon” newsletter. We usually meet the 4th Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. to approximately 11:00 a.m. in Wesley Center. Our long time volunteers, Gladys Hulse and Bev Lebel are “retiring” after many years of service in helping our Beacon get out the door and into your homes. A big “thank you” to them! Please let Mary Lou in the office know if you are interested in joining the team.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE NOTES: The office is on summer hours: Mon. – Thurs., 9 am – 2 pm, and closed Fridays.

OUR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Mary Lou Kampert is on vacation this week. Becky Virgalla will be filling in for her. Thank you Becky!

NEXT SUNDAY, August 26th

PENTECOST 13 - Rev. Kristina Hansen will preach the sermon “A Word to the Wise” based on Psalm 111, Ephesians 5:15-20 and 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14. After worship blood pressure screenings by Karen Doherty, RN, will follow in the Sanctuary. The GUTS annual youth Brownstone trip will leave after worship.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST



THE RED CROSS has issued a call for blood donors. They are asking for types A, B and O to fill the gap and prevent a summer shortage. Sign on to redcrossblood.org for the local blood mobile listings in our area.

Sue O'Shea's office is holding a blood drive on Wednesday, August 22nd, 9am-2pm at RE/MAX's Training room – lower level; 105 Technology Dr., Trumbull, CT. You can schedule your appointment by calling 1-800-RED CROSS or sign up online.

THE NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE TASK FORCE ON IMMIGRATION...

... hosts a Prayer Time weekly *Monday nights, 7:30 pm – 8 pm*, via Conference Call. Contact person is Pastor Ximena Varas, Ximena.varas@nyac-umc.com. Join us for a time of prayer for our country and immigrant brothers and sisters. Call-in number: 641-715-3580; 780-843#

CONNECTICUT HOSPICE, INC. is recruiting transportation volunteers to drive homecare patients to and from doctor's appointments or to take families without cars to visit their loved ones at the inpatient hospice in Branford. Please call volunteer services at 203-315-7510 for more information.

MERCY LEARNING CENTER SEEKS VOLUNTEERS- Since 1987, Mercy Learning Center has provided basic literacy and life skills training to low income women in the Greater Bridgeport area. MLC is open Monday-Friday from 8:00a.m to 5:00p.m. The Center is seeking volunteers to teach English Language Learners as well as basic adult reading and math in its small group tutoring program. The commitment is twice per week for two hours. No experience necessary. Training and materials are provided.

New Tutor Training Dates: Monday, August 27th, Friday September 14th; Friday, September 28th. 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (lunch provided). Please contact Lynn Gabriel or Erica Hoffman to register for a training session at 203-334-6699. Mercy Learning Center is located at 637 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are *due by noon Tuesday* for the weekly bulletin.

DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS. *Beth O'Brien (203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net)*. Flowers are \$20. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to support missions are honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for both are payable to MTMUMC, mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460. **September is open for altar flower orders.**

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. 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 Kristina Hansen: NEW!** revkristina@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 111 or 203.895.3753 cell, or **Pastor Dani Levine:** dani.m.levine@gmail.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 115 or 203.927.9077 cell.

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

WE HOST Alcoholics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, and Recovery from Co-dependency (CODA) 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 August 5th

Total worship attendance all services:158; Aug.5: 123; GEUMC: 25; Aug.6: Healing and Wholeness:10; Total Offerings for Aug.5: \$4,697.55; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence: \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 9; Trash & Treasures:7; Office Volunteers: 2; 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.