

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460**

**Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973**

Order of Worship

10:00 a.m.

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

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Prelude and Fugue in C Major” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Awesome God”

*CALL TO WORSHIP (United Methodist Hymnal 383, mod)

Leader: This is a day of new beginnings!

People: Time to remember and move on!

Leader: Then let us with the Spirit’s daring seek new paths!

People: We are sure to find them!

Leader: This is a day of new beginnings!

People: Our God is making all things new!

Leader: Come! Let us worship the Lord together!

*HYMN TFWS#2223 “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love” (See Insert)

OPENING PRAYER (*unison*) (Chalice Worship 181, mod)

Gracious God, increase our faith as we gather as your people. Grace us this hour with your abounding love, joy, peace, and patience. Fill us with kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control so that—strengthened in faith—we might guide others toward the new world you are always creating. 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 282, mod)

Creator God, you have given us the power of imagination, through which the future grasps our lives today. We confess that we do not always give our lives over to the transforming power of your spirit. We do not hear you calling us to new ways. We fail to live in ways that build up the life of your whole creation. Forgive us, and give us courage, that we may open ourselves to the new creation you seek to bring within and among us. Draw us into the

future toward the new world you are creating through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(Chalice Worship 301, mod)

Leader: 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!**

°°°

*THE PEACE

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

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

CHILDREN’S TIME Blessing of the Backpacks! Pastor Kristina

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Isaiah 42:5-10a (See Insert)

THE GOSPEL LESSON Mark 7:24-37

7 ²⁴ From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre.^[a] He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.²⁷ He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”²⁸ But she answered him, “Sir,^[b] even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”²⁹ Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.”³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him.³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.³⁴ Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.”³⁵ And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.³⁶ Then Jesus^[c] ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.³⁷ They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

*HYMN #454

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

THE SERMON

Rev. Hansen

*HYMN #420 (verse 1) “Breathe On Me, Breath of God”

(remain seated)

*Breathe on me breath of God; Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love, And do what thou wouldst do.*

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem:

“We Are One With You, O Lord”

J. Althouse

*Presentation:

“The Doxology”

Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #383 (verses 1-4)

“This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

*THE BENEDICTION

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

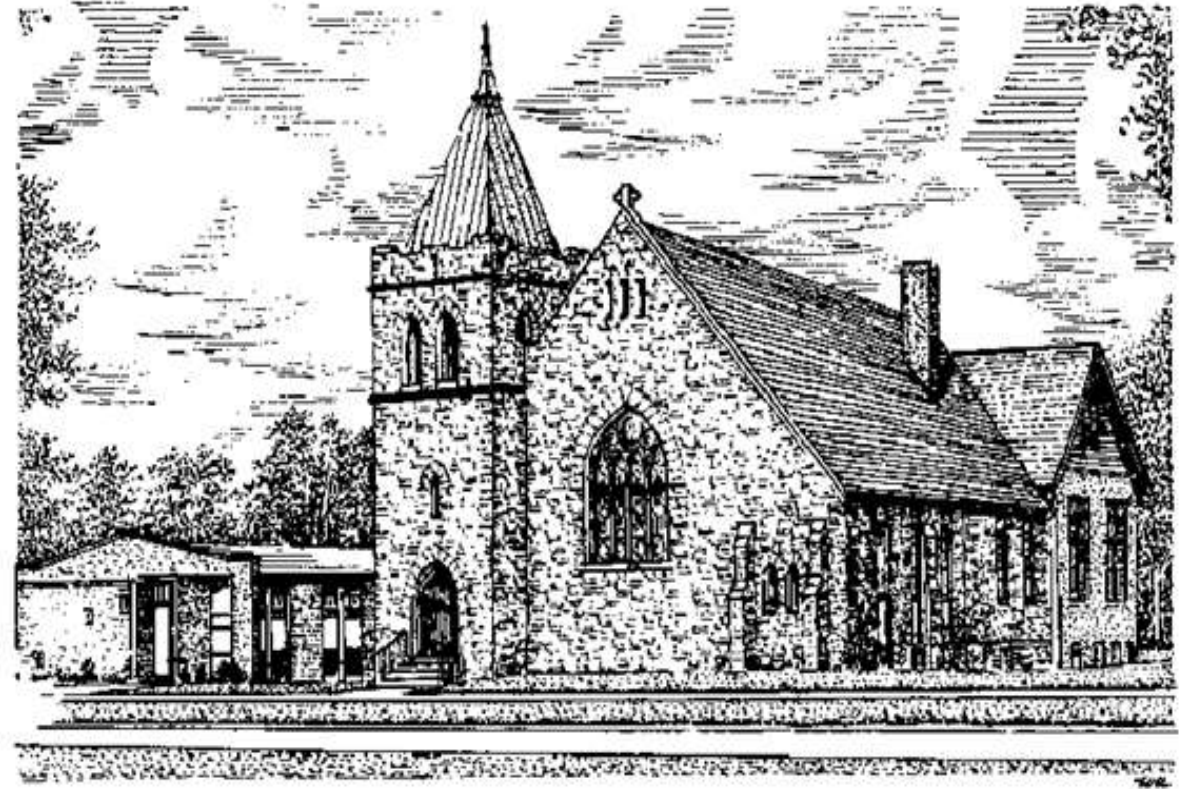
POSTLUDE

“Fanfare”

G. Martin

(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: 2016-2018

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

16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 9, 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
September 9, 2018

Does God still do new things? From the time of the Creation, through the time of the ancient prophets, through Jesus, and through people throughout history—even to this day—God does do new things! Sometimes though, we miss it because—well because it's *new*. We are looking for the *expected* not the *unexpected*, for the *rule* not the *exception*, for *what is* not *what could be*. This Sunday our scripture readings witness to new things that God has done—and the people who took notice of it. As we reflect on them this week, perhaps you will see where God might just be doing something new in *your* life, too!

**ANNUAL
MTM UMC
YOUTH
KICK-OFF**

**ALL
6-12 GRADERS
INVITED**

**September 16th
4-6 p.m.
MTM UMC Courtyard**

GAMES, FOOD, FUN
Join us as we begin a new **ADVENTURE**,
DISCOVER new paths, **BUILD** new friendships,
CHART new courses, and **EMBARK** on a new
QUEST

RSVP to Pastor Dani Levine by September 12th
email: dani.m.levine@gmail.com

PosterMyWall.com



Blessings on the journey,
Pastor Kristina
Rev. Kristina Hansen, Pastor

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Stacey Riccardi **Greeters:** Carole Degnan and Donna Venditti
Liturgist: Lisa Sobolewski **Bible Bearer:** Holly and Michael Firmender
Cross Bearer: Marshall Firmender **Acolytes:** Mary Repetsky and Caroline Hollyday

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are to the Glory of God and in celebration of Pastor Kristina's birthday with love from your church family; and to celebrate what would have been Jack and my 41st wedding anniversary on September 10th, given by Michelle Connor.

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.

TWO NEW STUDIES TO CHOOSE FROM:

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A UNITED METHODIST will begin September 18-19th at **7:00 p.m. Tuesday evening and 10:00 a.m. Wednesday morning** presented by Pastor Kristina. There are no study materials required for this **5 week program**. There is so much more to the United Methodist Church than our Mary Taylor Memorial UMC congregation!

DID YOU KNOW:

- **Methodists are credited for averting a civil war in England?**
- **President Lincoln specifically thanked the Methodists during the Civil War for their work in the hospitals?**
- **That Methodists were the first to give aid at Ground Zero, after Hurricane Katrina, and to the Gaza Strip (when humanitarian aid was blocked several years ago)?**

DO YOU KNOW:

- **What makes Methodists different from Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Baptists?**

If some of this is news to you, **then it's time to find out why you are United Methodist!** Call Mary Lou in the office to register (203-874-1982). Please designate which session you would attend.

BIBLE STUDY ENTITLED JESUS IN THE GOSPELS will also begin September 18 -19th **7:00 p.m. Tuesday evening and 10:00 a.m. Wednesday morning** if there is enough interest. It is a **30 week program** written by Reverend Leander Keck, who is known to some members of the congregation. Each session will be 90 minutes as per previous Tuesday - Wednesday studies. Study materials are part of the program. See Don Hastings or Sandy Morgan if you are interested or call the office to register. Please designate which session you would attend.



TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL

<i>Sunday, September 9</i>	<i>8:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School Jamboree – Chapel</i>
<i>Rally Day</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship- Sanctuary-Blessing of the Backpacks</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Hour – Ice Cream Social – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, September 10</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership and Evangelism meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Gay/Straight Alliance meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 11</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>UMW meeting – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 12</i>	<i>5:00/6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	
		<i>Choir Dinner/Bell and Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 13</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Prayer Shawl meeting-Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, September 14</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Saturday, September 15</i>		<i>Beacon Information Due Today</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Trash and Treasures Tag Sale – 9am – 2pm</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>CT District Basic Lay Servant Ministry Course- North UMC, 1205 Albany Ave. Hartford, 9-3pm</i>
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<i>Sunday, September 16</i>	<i>8:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School Jamboree – Chapel</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>9:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Informal Hymn Singing-Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Hour– Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Blood Pressure Screenings- Sanctuary- Brenda Pineau, RN</i>
<i>Monday, September 17</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Historical Society meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Safe Sanctuary meeting – Wesley Center K2 Classroom</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 18</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Club 80 Luncheon-Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 19</i>	<i>5:00/6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	
		<i>Choir Dinner/Bell and Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 20</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, September 21</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Saturday, September 22</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>CT District Basic Lay Servant Ministry Course- North UMC, 1205 Albany Ave. Hartford, 9-3pm</i>

CHECK YOUR CALENDAR



MILFORD 7TH ANNUAL TRICK OR TROT 5K RUN/WALK on Saturday, October 27th at 9:00a.m. to benefit the Beth-El Center of Milford. Register on-line at www.milfordtrickortrot.com or pick up a registration form at the back of the church.

TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME IS HOSTED BY THE SUNDAY SCHOOL with an Ice Cream Social in Dodd Hall. Next week’s hosts are Membership and Evangelism.

RALLY DAY - BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS - backpacks will be blessed by Pastor Kristina.

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.

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.

NEXT WEEK

THE CLUB 80 LUNCHEON will be held on Tuesday, September 18th at noon in Dodd Hall.

NEXT SUNDAY

PENTECOST 17: Rev. Kristina Hansen will preach the sermon “Follow, Follow, Follow” based on Psalm 16 and Mark 8:27-38. Youth Group Kick Off 4-6pm! After worship blood pressure screenings by Brenda Pineau, RN, will follow in the Sanctuary.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

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: 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.

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

There will be a MONSTER TRASH AND TREASURES Tag Sale on Saturday, September 15th from 9:00 to 2:00.

Most items will be on sale for half price! All proceeds will benefit the 2019 FOTG. Be sure not to miss it!



We will NOT be accepting any new donations until March.

Thank you!

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon Wednesday 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. **October 7, 14 and 28 are 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 September 2nd

Total worship attendance all services: 137; Sept. 2: 130; Sept. 3: Healing and Wholeness: 7; Total Offerings for Sept. 2: \$5,705.50; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence: \$475.00; Engaged in Small Groups: 34; Trash & Treasures: 10; Office Volunteers: 3; Bell Choir: 7; Adult Choir: 14; 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.

**R: Breathe on me, breath of God, Fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

⁵ Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶ I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,

⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

**R: Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.**

⁸ I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

⁹ See, the former things have come to pass,
and *new things* I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

¹⁰ Sing to the LORD a new song,
God's praise from the end of the earth!

**R: Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
Till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.**

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

**R: Breathe on me, breath of God, Fill me with life anew,
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Till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.**

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

2223 They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,
 2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,
 3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,
 4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je-sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re-stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu-man dig - ni - ty and save hu-man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love. _____

WORDS: Peter Scholtes (John 13:34-35; Eph. 4:4-6)
 MUSIC: Peter Scholtes

ST. BRENDAN'S
 76.76.86 with Refrain

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2223 They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,
 2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,
 3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,
 4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,
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and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re-stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
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Refrain



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



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