

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 “Contemplation” C. Saint-Saens

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

(Please keep our focus on the worship of God by sharing those items not published elsewhere.)

INTROIT “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 55:6-7, NRSV

Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

People: ***Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;***

Leader: Let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,

People: ***and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.***

*HYMN #116 “The God of Abraham Praise” Leoni

COLLECT FOR PURITY *(unison)*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN #82 *(seated)* “Canticle of God’s Glory” Old Scottish Chant

°°°
THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Bible p.12

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

*THE GOSPEL Mark 8:31-38 Bible p.919

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

*HYMN #415 “Take Up Thy Cross” Germany

THE SERMON “Self-Denial” Dr. Bodt

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

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

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE IV

Hymnal p.26

*THE PEACE

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

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Guidance” L. Smith

(The Adult Choir)

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE IV Hymnal p.27

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS AND AGNUS DEI Hymnal p.30

*THE COMMUNION

(The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. Juice and gluten-free bread are the elements. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and kneel or stand at the rail. Please eat the bread and drink the cup as it is served. Leave the cup in the holder at the rail and await a blessing before departing.)

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.

*HYMN #508 “Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom” For the Bread

*THE BENEDICTION “Benedictus Ed Domine” G. Calkin

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #338, chorus

***Where he leads me I will follow, where he leads me I will follow,
Where he leads me I will follow; I’ll go with him, with him all the way.***

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

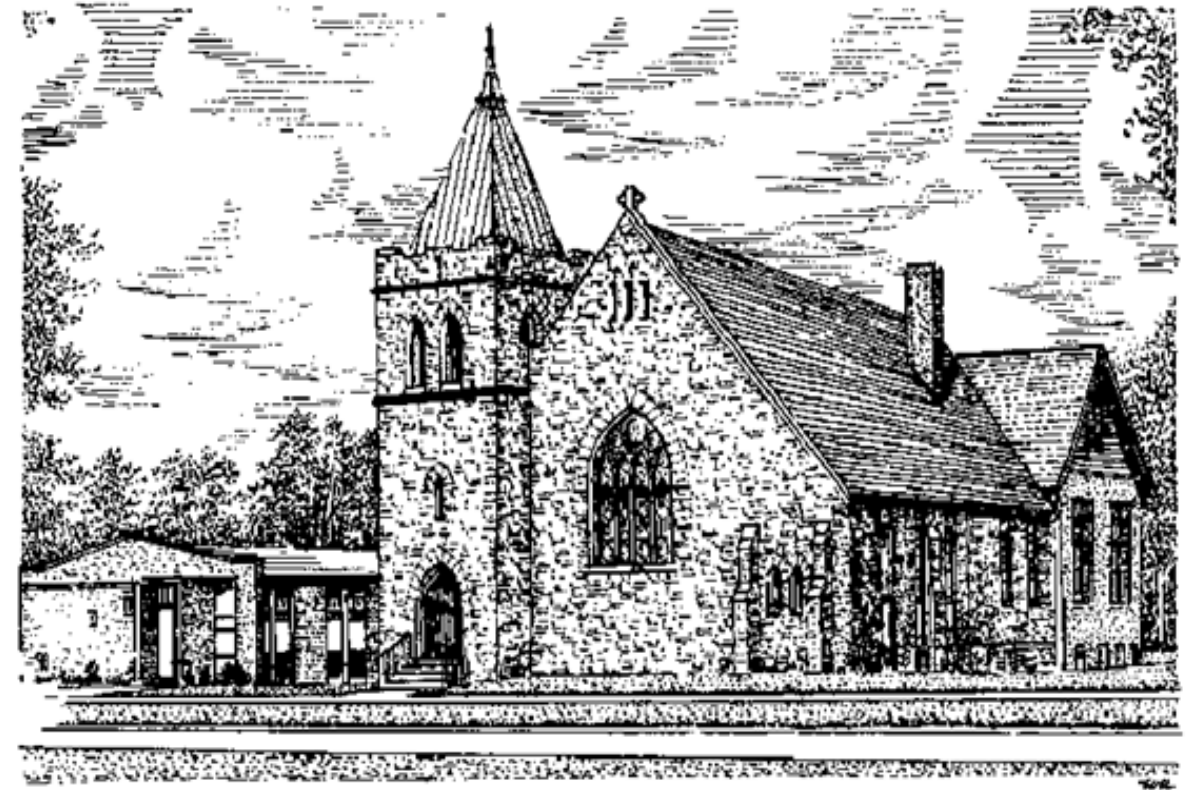
POSTLUDE

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



"Do you have one that says, 'Sorry my cell phone rang during your sermon'?"



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

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

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

March 1, 2015



missions March 2015

Stop Hunger Now - Our Meals Have Shipped!!!!

We are delighted to announce that the meals from your respective meal packaging event have been shipped in a container totaling 285,120 meals from our New England warehouse. This may be your second notice; if so, that means your meals have gone to impact multiple programs.

The meals will be received by our in-country partner Salesian Missions in Sri Lanka.

Salesian Missions is a network of 34,000 Priests, Brothers and Sisters around the world who work to enable poor and suffering children to live better lives and build brighter futures. The Salesians of Don Bosco operate 5,000 schools and technical training centers, 23 colleges, 216 clinics and hospitals, 225 orphanages and shelters, and run a wide variety of social and economic development activities throughout the world. In each country, the Salesians combine the aspects of an orphanage, a school, a church, and a children's recreation center, in addition to varied social programs.

Sri Lanka is currently in monsoon season, and heavy flooding and landslides in December have left families in several provinces without food, clean water and other supplies. In addition, much farmland has been affected, leading to longer-term food shortages. The Salesians of Don Bosco are reaching out to affected families in villages surrounding their schools with food, medicine, hygiene and household supplies as part of the recovery process.

Mission Fair – March 8

Remember the Mission Fair last year? Well, we will be doing it again....and expand it to include our Church ministries. During Fellowship Hour, please stop by the tables that represent the programs supported through the Missions Committee budget and visit our own Mary Taylor committee tables. You may see a new opportunity for you to use your time and talents.

*Grace Notes
March 1, 2015*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Lent calls us to self-denial, seldom a popular theme. Jesus' instruction is clear to followers to "deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me." (Mark 8:34b)

Cross-bearing is not simply to suffer. It is to take on that burden which no one has a reasonable right to expect us to take on. Too often we think of self-denial as what one person once wrote to me: "Nothing good to eat will touch my lips until Easter!" Religious irrelevance abounds. I once walked into a deli in a clerical collar on Ash Wednesday. Although I fast during Lent I was not fasting that day nor am I observant about the historic abstinence from meat. My mouth was set for a juicy hamburger! The waiter came to my table and said, "No meat today, right, Father?" I sighed and, to avoid a long explanation, ordered a tuna fish sandwich. This is not cross-bearing!

Cross-bearing chooses, at personal sacrifice, to put aside our own desires and yearnings for the sake of another. It is unbridled love that cares even for enemies, something we do well to remember as the Middle East "heats up" yet again. It requires a radical commitment to a savior who does no less than he asks of his disciples. Yet in the wonderful reversal of the Gospel, those who seek to save their lives will lose them; and those who lose their lives for Jesus' sake will save them.

Grace is free. But it is not cheap. "For you were bought with a price..." (I Cor. 6:20) As followers of Him who purchased our redemption, let us take up our cross and follow.

In Christ,

Pastor Brian

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Website: www.mtm-umc.org

www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

E-mail:

mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers All the People of God
Lay Leaders Kelly O'Hara & Leigh Bak
Prayer Chain Stacy Meszaros
Administrative Assistant Mary Lou Kampert
Sexton Bruce Rumford
Child Care Coordinator Nicole Ellerbeck

Bishop The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
Superintendent The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Pastor The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Pastoral Assistant The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Music Director Dr. Richard L. Riccardi

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Kelly O’Hara

Greeters – Barbara Ann and Tom Griggs

Acolytes – Julianna Patterson and Stefano Cono

Cross Bearer – Kayleigh Patterson

Liturgist – Paul Downing

Bible Bearer – Mateo Cono

Communion Stewards – Dawn Bettencourt and Karen Doherty

Communion Servers – Pastor Brian, Pastor Hal, Kelly O’Hara, and Paul Downing

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Brian and Paul Downing.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are in memory of Nick and Carol Rogers, given by Ken Hawkins; in memory of Ada Weyant, given by her family; and in celebration of Michael Grove’s life, whose 90th birthday would have been tomorrow, given by his wife, Maureen.

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

PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS using the "Blue Sheets" in the attendance pads in each pew; or obtain one from an usher. Ushers collect them on the opening hymn and our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. Please obtain others’ permission to share their concerns. Prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. You are also invited to speak your concerns when we pray.

TODAY’S LITURGY is taken from Holy Scripture and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989).

SERMON COPIES from recent weeks are in the rear of the church or www.mtm-umc.org.

CHURCH INFORMATION is available in the racks in back of the church.

CHILD CARE for children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, the building next door. You may also hear the service in Dodd hall should your child become restless. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary; the child care in Wesley Center is not staffed to provide for older children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.



~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, March 1</i>	8:30 a.m.	<i>Lenten Fasting Covenant Group 1st Session – Pastor’s study</i>
	9:00a.m.	<i>Lenten Fasting Covenant Group 2nd Session – Pastor’s study</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>LENT II Worship – Holy Communion -Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, March 2</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Bishop Middleton meets with clergy at First UMC, Shelton</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, March 3</i>	5:30 p.m.	<i>Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Disciple 3-Wesley Center, 1st Floor</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 4</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	12:00 p.m.	<i>Lenten Taize Service – Sanctuary</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, March 5</i>	6:00 p.m.	<i>Pastor-Lay Leaders meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Missions Meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Board of Trustees Meeting –Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, March 6</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, March 7</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Teacher’s meeting – Sunday School office</i>
<i>Sunday, March 8</i>	8:30 a.m.	<i>Lenten Fasting Covenant Group 1st Session – Pastor’s study</i>
	9:00a.m.	<i>Lenten Fasting Covenant Group 2nd Session – Pastor’s study</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>LENT III Worship –Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time /Missions and Ministry Fair – Dodd Hall</i>
	12:00 p.m.	<i>Parish Health and Wellness meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	12:00 p.m.	<i>MYF – Easter treat preparation – Dodd Hall (lunch provided)</i>
<i>Monday, March 9</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Tuesday, March 10</i>	12:00 p.m.	<i>Greater Bridgeport UM Cluster (off site)</i>
	12:00 p.m.	<i>UMW Meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Disciple 3-Wesley Center, 1st Floor</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 11</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	12:00 p.m.	<i>Lenten Taize Service – Sanctuary</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, March 12</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, March 13</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, March 14</i>	7:15 a.m.	<i>Confirmation Trip to New York City</i>
	8:00 a.m.	<i>CPR Class – Dodd Hall</i>

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God’s presence with us. Please complete a red visitor’s card (in the pew racks) and wear the “Visitor” name tag to help us greet you warmly. Our Ambassadors will look for you!

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). Fellowship Time host is the Missions Committee. Join us for fellowship and conversation. Next week’s Fellowship Time host is the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

FINAL SIGN UP TODAY FOR THE ADULT LENTEN STUDY: “RENEGADE GOSPEL” by Mike Slaughter, meeting Tues./Wed., through March 31/April 1. **Who was Jesus, really?** Wasn’t the central figure to the Christian faith a man who denied all pre-conceived notions about what God should look like? Wouldn’t joining his movement have meant throwing in with a rebel? Doesn’t it still? **This is a study that challenges believers to come to terms with the real Jesus—the rebel Jesus.** Pastor Hal will lead the sessions with Pastor Brian participating. **See Pastor Hal to register and get a copy of the book at \$10.** Each session includes a DVD presentation by the author.

FINAL SIGN UP TODAY FOR THE FASTING COVENANT GROUP, meeting Sundays at 8:30 – 9 or 9 – 9:30 in the Gunn Library through March 29. See or contact Pastor Brian (203.895.3753; brian.bodt@yahoo.com) to register.

SAVE THE DATE: “Friends and Family Sunday”, March 15, 10 a.m. Who would you like to invite to worship with you from among your friends and family?

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT we offer Taizé (pronounced TAY-zay) worship in the sanctuary at noon. This contemplative worship has distinctive music and significant time for silent and spoken prayer. **Services are typically 45-60 minutes and continue until April 1.**

LAURELTON HALL invites you to attend Take-a-Look Tuesday on March 3, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. Join us for coffee and a tour of Lauralton Hall. RSVP to 203-878-3333, but if you don’t know until the last minute – just drop in. Lauralton Hall, 200 High Street, Milford.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 8

LENT III – “The Foolishness of Faith” is the sermon based on Exodus 20:1-17, I Corinthians 1:18-25 and John 2:13-22. After worship our Mission Fair will be held in Dodd Hall, with representatives from the many mission organizations supported by MTMUMC gifts.

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY FAIR – Remember the Mission Fair last year? We’re doing it again, expanded to include our Church ministries. During Fellowship Time please visit the tables that represent programs supported through the Missions Committee budget and visit our own Mary Taylor committee tables. You may see a new way to use your time and talents.

EASTER TREAT PREPARATION by the Methodist Youth Fellowship will run from Noon – 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Proceeds from the sale of the treats will benefit the “Lift Us Up” capital renovation campaign for Wesley Center. Let Shelly Lapadula (203.874.4466; m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com) know you are attending.

COMING SOON

CPR CLASS – MARCH 14TH: 8:00a.m. – noon in Dodd Hall. Class is offered by Bill Katt and sponsored by the Parish Health and Wellness Team. The class is free, but space is limited. Reserve your spot by calling Mary Lou in the church office or email mtmumc@sbcglobal.net. CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) can save a life!

LAURALTON HALL invites all 7th grade girls to **spend a day as a shadow student** March 16 through May 1. For details please call the Admissions Office at 203.877.2786, ext. 144.

MILFORD HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you can make a weekly minimum commitment of two to four hours, please contact the Volunteer Services Department at 203.876.4062 to learn about the variety of ways to volunteer or to register for the next orientation session on Wednesday, March 11, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in Auditorium A.

ON-GOING MINISTRIES

2015 ALTAR FLOWER OR MISSION CROSS ORDERS are now being received by 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 placed on the altar. Checks for either one payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O’Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460.

ACOLYTES, CROSS BEARERS AND BIBLE BEARERS WANTED! Our children and youth make a positive contribution to our worship. See or contact Noel Fino: 203.877.3005.

LITURGISTS WANTED: Serving as a liturgist is a different way to worship on Sunday – needed are former liturgists and first time liturgists, confirmands, young adults, and long- time members. All that is required is love of God. Contact Priscilla James at 203-874-2742.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

HOME VISITATION by Pastor Brian is available to become better acquainted. Visits may also occur in his office. Weekday, evening and Sunday appointments are available. If you would like to arrange for one, please contact Mary Lou Kampert at 203.874.1982, ext. 10.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please note that when only one staff person is in the Wesley Center during office hours the building is locked. If you find this, please call the office (203.874.1982) or ring the Broad Street doorbell. Thank you.

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

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

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: Wet and dry cat food is still needed for seniors with pets, but the Animal Control is not allowed to take in peoples’ released pets. However, they do take care of kittens and will spay and neuter feral cats as has been the policy for years. They also request towels and blankets for the animals. Please leave food items in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park.

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: **Pastor Brian** (brian.bodt@yahoo.com: 203.874-1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753) is typically in office 9 – Noon, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink** can be reached at 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@gmail.com. Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations.

“**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 FEBRUARY 22th:

Total worship attendance all services: 116 (Feb. 22th: 92; Healing and Wholeness, Feb.23rd: 7; Taize worship, Feb. 25: 17, Feb. 18th: \$418.00; Total Offering (minus “Lift Us Up) for Feb.18/22: \$5,017.75; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts: \$55.00. Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$2,211.21; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 82 (Office Volunteers 6; Sunday School: cancelled; Confirmation: 13; Adult Bible Study Tues: 6; Adult Bible Study Wed.:18; Disciple 3: 8, Praisemakers: 4; Bell Choir: 10; Adult Choir: 17; Total persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0.) *Important! Small Groups – please contact the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net / 203.874.1982) with your attendance.