

- ◆ Please make sure your cell phones are turned off during worship, so that you can fast from texting and other distractions. Also, please refrain from bring food and drink into the sanctuary.
- ◆ Please wear your mask while in the sanctuary and observe social distancing. Ushers will assist you when leaving the sanctuary. Hand sanitizing stations are available for your convenience.

CENTERING WORDS Pastor Nancy

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

PRELUDE *Let Us Break Bread Together* Arr. Zabel

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We are connected to God.

P: Connected to bear fruit!

L: We stay connected to God,

P: or we wither away.

L: We need to be connected to God,

P: or we become useless!

ALL: We come to worship God, the True Vine.

OPENING PRAYER *I Need Thee Every Hour* #397 UMH
(seated, sung softly with masks on, please)

(Vs 1) **I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like Thine can peace afford.**

(Refrain) **I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.**

(Vs 5) **I need thee every hour, most Holy One;
O make me thine indeed, Thou blessed Son.**

(Refrain) **I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.**

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRAYER FOR OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

Bountiful God, may these gifts be instruments of Your grace, and may our very lives be the means of spreading Your blessings. Make these gifts be for the world a sign of Your abiding presence and boundless love. AMEN.

[If you wish to support Milton United Methodist Church with your tithes and gifts, please mail them to 1007 Church Street, Milton WV 25541. If available, you can also give through your bank. If you wish to make a gift today, there is an offering box located at the parking lot entrance sidewalk.]

OFFERTORY *As We Gather At Your Table* Arr. Evanovich

PASTORAL PRAYER

Jesus said, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." Let us now approach Him with confidence.

Risen Lord, You came as a sacrifice for our sin. Give us faith to accept this act of love, so that we turn from all human efforts and drink in the atoning righteousness of Your death and resurrection.

Lord, in Your mercy. . . **hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord, You are the true vine, and we are the branches. By Your Spirit, produce the fruit of love, joy, peace, and patience in us for others to taste and enjoy. Keep us from hanging on to love for ourselves. Prune all selfishness from us and fill us with Your love.

Lord, in Your mercy. . . **hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord, have mercy on Your earth and supply its needs. Where people are hungry, give food. Where people are in distress, comfort them. Where people are in trouble, bring order and peace; and turn the whole world to You in faith, repentance, and praise.

Lord, in Your mercy. . . **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, focus our love on people we know with special needs. Heal those who are unwell particularly (insert names) and others in need whom we now name silently in our hearts . . . (brief silence)

Lord, in Your mercy. . . **hear our prayer.**

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for hearing us and caring for us in all our needs. Constantly intercede for us before our heavenly Father, and open our eyes that we may see Him through You. We ask all this in Your holy name, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE John 15:1-8

MESSAGE **WOVEN TOGETHER** Pastor Nancy

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Come to the table of grace, for Christ is the vine and we are the branches.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come to the table of love, for whoever does not love, does not know God.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Come to the table of blessing, for Christ is here to abide with us, as we abide in Him.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Blessing of the Bread and Juice

(The elements will be brought to you in your pew. If you are worshipping in the parking area, they will be brought to your vehicle or you may walk to the entrance there. You are encouraged to partake at the direction of the pastor and to remain in prayer and silence, abiding in the presence of the Spirit as the service comes to a close with the blessing and postlude.)

CLOSING

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God.

Beloved, let us abide in Christ, for He is the vine and we are the branches.

Beloved, let us abide with the Spirit in God's peace.

POSTLUDE *Lord, Be Glorified* Kilpatrick



WELCOME: Thank you for joining us for worship today! We hope that you will find our church to be a place where you feel welcome and experience the presence of God in a powerful way.

THANK YOU very much for your Noisy Offering last Sunday that totaled \$40.01 for missions.

DAY OF PRAYER: The ministerial association and the city of Milton are sponsoring the National Day of Prayer recognition on Thursday, May 6, at 12:10 PM at city hall.

M.O.M.: It's a special **May Opportunity** for **Mission** (M.O.M.)! Honor your mom, or any women, this month with a donation of new underwear for others (male or female). Just drop them by Milton UMC or Bethesda UMC, and we'll take it from there.

Continuing Prayer Concerns
Recently added names are in Italics.

Nursing & Assisted Living Centers:
Cabell Health & Rehab: Louis Mae Conner

Others: Our Elected Officials; Sunday School (Children, Youth, & Teachers); Military Personnel; Churches & Ministers; Missionaries; Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball; DS Rev. Dr. Okey Harless; Pastor Nancy White; 130th Unit of WV Air Nat'l Guard; and

Adam	Heather J.	Ruth B.
Alex S.	Jordan	Steve S.
Alice	Keith T.	Terry B.
Carlous	Ken H.	Terry P.
Elenora	Mike	Virgil
Fran and Patty	Millie	Winona

CALENDAR for the Week Beginning MAY 2

TODAY

- Mack Thomasson Sunday School Class 10:00 AM
- Morning Worship 11:00 AM
- District Conference on Zoom 2:00 PM
- Milton/Bethesda Youth at Bethesda 5:30 PM

MONDAY

- Board of Trustees 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

- Adult Devotion Online

THURSDAY

- National Day of Prayer Service (City Hall) 12:10 PM

NEXT SUNDAY

- Mack Thomasson Sunday School Class 10:00 AM
- Morning Worship 11:00 AM

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in Me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit He prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in Me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in Me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in Me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from Me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in Me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become My disciples.” (John 15:1–8)

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

- Online 78
- Parking Lot 6
- Sanctuary 28

Sermon Notes

*open hearts
open minds
open doors*



Milton United Methodist Church
1007 Church Street
Milton, West Virginia 25541

Mission Statement

The mission of Milton United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by reflecting God's love through faith, worship, and service so others may discover God's grace.

*I am
the
vine;
you
are
the
branches.
John 15:5*

Woven Together

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 2, 2021

Milton/Bethesda Charge
 Reverend Nancy White, Pastor

Ministers: Every Person in the Congregation Lay Leader: Brad Stewart

Song Leader: William Deel Organist/Pianist: Lynn McGinnis

Church Secretary: Wanda Skidmore Custodian: Andrea Woodard

Church Web Site: <http://miltonwvumc.org> Church Office Phone: (304) 743-6461

Church Email: miltonunited@frontier.com Facebook: [mumcwg](https://www.facebook.com/mumcwg)

Pastor's Email: revnancywhite@gmail.com

Pastor's Cell: 304-549-0496