

- ◆ 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 bringing food and drink into the sanctuary.
- ◆ We hope there are enough bulletins for everyone who comes to worship, but in case we run out, they are accessible online.

WORDS OF WELCOME AND SHARING Pastor Nancy

PRELUDE

Please use this time for silent meditation to center your hearts for worship.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (READ RESPONSIVELY)**

Welcome, Beloved of God! You are deeply loved by the God of all creation!

Come, let us worship God who loves us!

Whether your week was filled with mountain-high joys or valley-low sorrows, this is the time to worship God who sustains and tends to you.

Come, let us worship God who loves us and tends to us!

In a world that pulls us this way and that, God’s love is our True North, guiding us with an uncommon wisdom through all that life brings us.

Come, let us worship God who loves us and guides us!

*** OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)**

Creating God, You are the source of nature’s splendor—the beauty and fragrance of delicate flowers, and the sweet sound of birdsong. We come to You this morning with delight and gladness, grateful for all of Your wonders. May Your love grow in us so that we might be filled with love, hope, and joy. AMEN.

*** OPENING HYMN** *How Great Thou Art* #77 UMH

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, we bring these offerings with hearts full of love and gratitude, inspired by the beauty of Your creation and the love that binds us. We dedicate these gifts to further Your kingdom with joy and patience. May they bring hope, peace, and transformation, reflecting Your love for all. Help us to be stewards of Your grace and love in the world. In Jesus’ name, we pray. AMEN.

[If you wish to support Milton United Methodist Church with your tithes and gifts, please mail them to MUMC, 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, and there are offering plates at the doors of the sanctuary.]

OFFERTORY

GOD SIGHTINGS AND PRAYER TIME

SCRIPTURE Song of Solomon 2:8–13 (NRSV)

MESSAGE Pastor Nancy

*** HYMN** *Spirit Song* #347 UMH

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The funds collected in the special offering basket go to ECCHO.

KROGER SHOPPING: When you shop at Kroger, you can also help Milton UMC. Visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into your Kroger account, you can search for MILTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH either by name or YF746, and then click “Enroll.” New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card. The transactions with your digital account will be applied to the church, **at no added cost to you.** Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending. This year, we have received a total of \$80.82 from approximately 4 shoppers.

EXERCISE CLASS: PIYO workout classes are being held each Tuesday and Thursday in Friendship Hall. PIYO is a combination of Pilates, Yoga and low impact cardio. All you need is a yoga mat. Tennis shoes are optional. Teachers are Kelly Sergent, a certified PIYO instructor, and Mindy Starkey. Donations accepted for use of the building. Questions: text or call Mindy at 304-638-2166 or Kelly at 304-389-3134.

ECCHO NEWS: Over the past few months ECCHO has been serving more and more folks needing supplemental food and clothing. In June, 355 households that included 1,124 individuals were served. For July the household count increased to 373 with 1,130 individuals getting help from ECCHO. Also, as of the end of July, ECCHO had provided school supplies to over 130 children to help them get off to a good start in the year ahead. In addition to the items you have put in our ECCHO donation box, your monetary gifts to ECCHO have totaled \$1,595, so far this year. Thank you for your continued support of the ECCHO ministry!

NOISY OFFERING: Thank you for your generosity last week in giving \$113.40 for missions through the Noisy Offering. Every penny is appreciated.

YOUTH GATHERING: Due to schedule conflicts, we will NOT have the youth gathering as noted in the newsletter.

MARRIAGE POLICY: The Board of Trustees has completed a ‘Marriage Ceremony Policy’ for Milton UM Church. It was approved by the Church Council at their August meeting. We appreciate the participation of the congregation in the summer poll. This was considered in the writing of the policy. Check the inset by the handicapped restroom if you would like a copy of the policy.

CHURCH PICNIC: Please join us at Barboursville Park on Sunday, September 15, for the Milton/Bethesda Church Picnic. We will worship at 11:00 AM at shelter #9 and then enjoy a lunch with hot dogs. Bring a side dish to share with others and your favorite lawn game and/or folding chair if you wish.

DESSERTS NEEDED: Please sign up to provide desserts for the Blackwood family memorial meal on Saturday, September 7. We could also use some volunteers to help with the meal.

Calendar for the Week Beginning September 1

TODAY: HOLY COMMUNION

Mack Thomasson Sunday School Class 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM

MONDAY: HAPPY LABOR DAY!

TUESDAY

Exercise Class 7:00 PM

THURSDAY

T.O.P.S. 4:00—5:00 PM
Exercise Class 7:00 PM

SATURDAY

Service for David & Winalee Blackwood 11:00 AM

NEXT SUNDAY

Mack Thomasson Sunday School Class 9:45 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK
Online 70
Last Sunday 25

Please check the prayer concerns, and let us know of those who need to be added or removed.

CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS

Recently added names are in Italics.

Others: Our elected officials; Sunday school (children, youth, & teachers); military personnel; churches & ministers; missionaries; Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball; DS Rev. Joe Hill; Pastor Nancy White; 130th Unit of WV Air Nat’l Guard; and

Alex S.	David W	Paul B.
Alice	Debbie R.	Paul G.
Allison	Eva R.	Perry E.
Avery	<i>Dolores F.</i>	Rebecca C.
Barbara	Jacklynn V.	Robert F.
<i>Becky C.</i>	Jenny B.	Rose
Ben H.	John B.	Stephanie J.
Betty S.	John M.	Steven L.
Bill Q.	Lisa H.	<i>Terry</i>
<i>Brenda H.</i>	Martha P.	Terry B.
Carlous A.	Mike B.	Terry P.
Charlene	Mike H.	<i>Till C.</i>
Cheryl	Missy M.	Tim C.
Chris W	Patrick	Tina B.

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION (Inspired by Psalm 15)

Holy God, We have not led a blameless life. We have not done what is right in Your sight. We have done evil to both those we love and to those we refuse to love as we should. We have not been faithful stewards of that which we have been blessed and have hoarded that which should be shared with the least of these. Hear our cry, God of our hope, as we confess that which weighs us down...

(silent prayers)

Redeeming God, save us from our foolishness, and guide us to Your wisdom. Forgive us and cleanse us of our brokenness so that we might do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with You. AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

God came to dwell with us through the body and being of God's Son, Jesus Christ. Christ came to be with us, among us, and for us. Hear the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Alleluia! Amen!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

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.

* **CLOSING HYMN** *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling* #348 UMH

* **SENDING FORTH**

Beloved, may God bless you with the uncommon wisdom to know deep in your hearts the vastness of God's love for you, and in that knowing, may God's love bubble up and overflow from your heart into the world around you. AMEN.

* **POSTLUDE**

* You may stand if you wish.



We're glad



you're here!

WELCOME: Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you are visiting for the first time, please fill out a yellow card that is in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. 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.

WORSHIP LEADER: Please let Pastor Nancy know if you would like to assist her during worship by reading the Call to Worship and Opening Prayer from time to time.

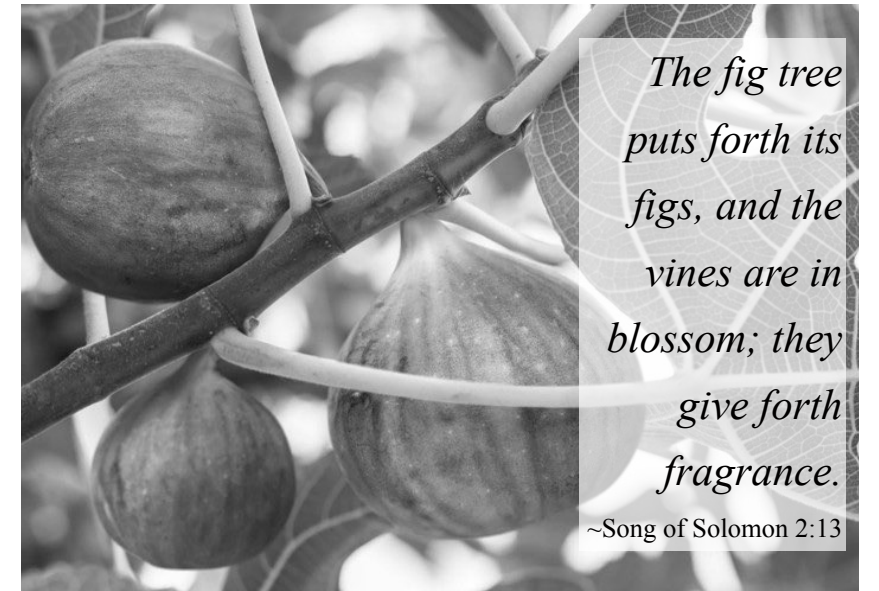
Sermon Notes



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.



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
HOLY COMMUNION

Milton/Bethesda Charge
Reverend Nancy White, Pastor

Ministers: Every Person in the Congregation

Song Leader: Robert Jackson 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 Church Text: 304-955-8924

Facebook: [mumcwv](https://www.facebook.com/mumcwv)

Secretary's Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9 AM to 2 PM

Pastor's Email: revnancywhite@gmail.com

Pastor's Cell: 304-549-0496