

*Tappahannock Memorial
United Methodist Church*

P. O. Box 326
345 Earl Street
Tappahannock, VA 22560



*“To all who mourn and need comfort,
to all who are tired and need rest,
to all who are lonely and need companionship,
to all who sin and need a Savior, and to all who will,
this church opens wide its doors.”*

Tappahannock Memorial UMC

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

“Unexpected Ways”

June 18, 2023

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7; Romans 5:1-8; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (UMH 837); Matthew 9:35–10:8

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Prelude *“Faith of our Fathers”*

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Welcome & Announcements

Good Morning! I greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I welcome you to our time of worship today. I welcome those who are present with us in the sanctuary as well as those worshipping online via our Facebook and YouTube pages. We welcome your feedback as we continue offering in person and online worship.

We are tracking our attendance, so thank you in advance to all who will let us know that you have watched or read our service this morning. Please email our Administrative Assistant at tappmethodist@gmail.com, with your attendance information.

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!!

* Opening Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

UMH #140

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|---|--|
| <p>1. Great is thy faithfulness O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they
fail not; as thou has been, thou forever wilt
be. Great is thy faithfulness! R</p> <p>3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide; strength for today and bright hope for
tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten
thousand beside! R</p> | <p>2. Summer and winter and springtime and
harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their
courses above join with all nature in
manifold witness to thy great faithfulness,
mercy, and love. R</p> <p>Refrain
Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning
new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand
hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord,
unto me!</p> |
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* Call to Worship:

People of God, run to our welcoming God.

Holy One, you never pass us by.

People of God, proclaim our love for the God of Love.

Beloved One, you hear our voices; you answer our cries and receive our praise.

People of God, sing God’s good news to the world.

Empowering One, you give us power to be signs of the kingdom of heaven.

Call to Worship from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 114. © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Loving God, you remind us that the kingdom of heaven has come near. Open our eyes, our faith, and our hearts, that we may perceive and celebrate your presence. Give us eyes, as Abraham and Sarah before us, to see you on our doorsteps, as you promise us unimaginable joy. Give us the faith of Paul to trust your eternal and unfailing love. Give us hearts empowered by your Son, Jesus Christ, to show your compassion to the harassed and the helpless. We ask in the name of Jesus, who reconciles us to you and sends us forth to be your reconciliation in the world. Amen.

Opening Prayer from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pg. 114. Copyright © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Confession

Ever-present, ever-listening, and ever-empowering God, we often fall short when responding to your love. You promise us blessings, yet we often laugh in cynicism and disbelief. You always love us, yet we often act distant and even hostile. You empower us to be your loving presence, yet we often seek this power for ourselves. We call upon you now, knowing that you hear our voices and our supplications. We call upon you in this place, knowing that no accomplishment is too wonderful for you to accomplish. For there is no limit to your love for all people, and there is no end to your mercy. In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 115. Copyright © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

The Declaration of Pardon

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

That proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Scriptures

Genesis 18:1-15

pg. 14

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and

milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?” The LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. He said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, “God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.” And she said, “Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”

Romans 5:1-8

pg. 155

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Genesis 18:1-15 and Romans 5:1-8 from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“My Tribute”

Beth & John Harvey

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*** Psalter**

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

UMH # 837

¹ I love the LORD, who has heard
my voice and my supplications,

² and has inclined his ear to me,
whenever I called.
¹² What shall I return to the LORD
for all my benefits?
¹³ **I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,**
¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.
¹⁵ **Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.**
¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid.
You have loosed my bonds.
¹⁷ **I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.**
¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD,
in the presence of all his people,
¹⁹ **in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.**
Praise the LORD!

*** The Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

*** Gospel**

Matthew 9:35–10:8

pg. 9-10

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

Matthew 9:35-10:8 from New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Prayer before the Sermon

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O God our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

The Sermon

“Unexpected Ways”

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

* Hymn of Response

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

UMH # 400

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.
2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

* Affirmation of Faith

UMH # 883

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God:

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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Sharing of Our Joys & Concerns

We want to continue to pray for the healing of the nations through this pandemic, and for all those impacted by: war – especially the people of Ukraine and Russia; natural disasters; gun violence; and other catastrophic events. Remember those who have been in the hospital for treatments and surgeries, as well as for COVID 19. Remember those who are isolated with no one to interact with.

Please continue to pray for: your prayer partners; our homebound folks; those in nursing, rehabilitative, and assisted living facilities; as well as for those on the front lines. Please let us know of other prayer concerns and needs.

Pastoral 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.**

The Offering

Please remember to keep your tithes and offerings current so that the ministries of our church can continue. You may mail them to P. O. Box 326, Tappahannock, VA 22560, use the E-Giving link available on our website www.tappahannockmethodist.org, or download our mobile e-giving app identified on the last page of today's bulletin. Thank you for your continued support!

The Offertory

"This Is My Father's World"

"This Is My Father's World" Contributor(s): Aaron Purdy, Franklin Lawrence Sheppard, Jennie Lee Riddle, Maltbie Davenport Babcock. © 2009 Jennie Lee Riddle Music (div. of New Nation Music [Admin. By Music Services, Inc.]). CCLI Song # 6167640. CCLI License # 6167640.

*** Doxology**

UMH # 95

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*** Closing Hymn**

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

UMH # 361

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.
2. Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.
3. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling; naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.
4. While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy

judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

“Standing on the Promises”

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Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Bill Black, Eddie Bliss, Susie Hardwick, Bill Hendricks, Josh Hodges, Cindy Huber, Carolyn Lewis, Bill Loser, Ray Massie, Dakota Minor, Yvonne Minor, Josiah Parker, Nate Parker, Mary Lou Simpson, and Betty Whitten. Inclusion & equality for the LGBTQ family & friends. All affected by critical weather and violence, everyone who struggles with drug addiction and alcoholism, those in peril, all missing persons, those who serve in the Armed Forces, students and educators, the people of Ukraine, Russia, and Europe during this time of war, everyone around the world as we fight the spread of COVID-19, and the UMC during the separation and as the church moves forward.

MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS: SSGT Jonathan Simpson. Ethan Minor at Navy bootcamp.

PRAYERS AND CARDS ARE WELCOME FOR THESE MEMBERS

Lee Black, Barbara Brooks, Jim Climaldi, Jean Edwards, Cecile Farmer,
Don and Carol Nicholas, Edna Parrish, Eleanor Rehm, and Jean Rhines.

** Please contact the office for the phone number or address for these members of our church family*

SERVICE AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Today:	10:00 AM	3rd Sunday After Pentecost Worship Service
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Thursday:	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	VCU On-Site Mobile Health & Wellness
Sunday, June 18 th :	8:45 AM	Glory Ringers Rehearsal
	10:00 AM	4 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship

All meetings are offered in-person and via Zoom unless stated otherwise.

*We seek to be the Disciples of Christ, welcoming all as we nurture
and support one another through service and outreach.*

Our facility is handicap accessible.

Pastor: The Reverend Rebecca L. Minor, Cell Phone: (757) 870-8265

Music Director: Kelly Wright; **Pianist:** Beth Harvey

Church: 804-443-2278 / **Church Administrative Email:** tappmethodist@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours: Tue - Thu: 9 am – 2 pm