

***Tappahannock Memorial
United Methodist Church***

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

Love

DOES NO WRONG TO
A NEIGHBOR;

therefore
Love

IS THE FULFILLING OF
the law.

ROMANS 13:10, ESV

*“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

15th Sunday after Pentecost

“Steadfast Love”

September 10, 2023

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 150 (862); Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

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Prelude *“They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love”*

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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

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

UMH # 549

1. Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; Brought here together by Christ’s love, by love are we thus bound.
2. With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn; let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.
3. Forgive we now each other’s faults as we our faults confess; and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.
4. Let strife among us be un-known, let all contention cease; be Christ the glory we seek, be ours his holy peace.
5. Let us recall that in our midst dwells Gods begotten son; as members of his body joined, we in him made one.
6. Love can exclude no race nor creed if honored be God’s name; our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.

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* Call to Worship:

Sing a new song to God

Sing of light and hope.

Dance with laughter and joy.

Dance with hearts full of love.

Rejoice with strings and drums.

Rejoice with justice and peace.

Sing a new song to God.

Call to Worship from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 169. © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

*** Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Ancient of days, we enter your presence to remember and rejoice.

We come looking for your steadfast faithfulness and your loving care.

May we be a people who seek reconciliation and genuine forgiveness with one another.

In remembrance and gratitude for your mercy and grace, we pray. Amen

Opening Prayer from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pg. 169. Copyright © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Yearning

Gracious God, amidst our songs of joy, our hearts are touched by fear.

Sin plagues our world, even as we strive to build your realm.

Sorrow enters our lives, even as we put on false smiles, and engage in empty conversations.

Death lurks around every corner, even as we struggle against our own mortality. Reconcile us with your love and compassion, and bless us with your compassionate presence, that we may be filled with joy, love, and hope this day. Amen.

Prayer of Yearning from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 169-170. 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!

Children's Time

Scriptures

Exodus 12:1-14

pg. 58

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from

the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembering for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Romans 13:8-14

pg. 162

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Exodus 12:1-14; Romans 13:8-14 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.

*** Psalter**

Psalm 150

UMH 862

¹ Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise God in his mighty firmament!

² Praise God for his mighty deeds;

praise God for his exceeding greatness!

³ Praise God with trumpet sound;

praise God with lute and harp!

⁴ Praise God with tambourine and dance;

praise God with strings and pipe!

⁵ Praise God with sounding cymbals;

praise God with loud clashing cymbals!

⁶Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
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 18:15-20

pg. 20

“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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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

“Steadfast Love”

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

“Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

UMH #384

1. Love divine, all love excelling, joy of haven to earth come down; fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies Crown! Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.
2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving spirit into every troubled breast! Let us all in the inheart; let us find that second rest. Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
3. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy host above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
4. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be. Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in Heaven we take our place, till we cast out crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Nicene Creed

UMH # 880

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

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.

The 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

"Pass It On"

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* 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

"Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

UMH # 557

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
3. We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear;
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
4. When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

* Benediction

* Postlude

"Standing On The Promises"

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Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Bill Black, Eddie Bliss, Royce Burrus, Roxanne Griffith, Bertie Harding, Susie Hardwick, Maurice Hawa, Madeline Hawkins, Bill Hendricks, Lauma Hill, Cindy Huber, Betty Gregory, Carolyn Lewis, Bill Loser, Ray Massie, Dakota Minor, Nate Parker, Russ Riles, 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: SSGT Jonathan Simpson. SA Ethan Minor while at Navy Advanced Schooling.

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	15th Sunday After Pentecost Worship Service
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Sunday, September 17 th :	10:00 AM	16 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service

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