

*Tappahannock Memorial
United Methodist Church*

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



*...how often should
I forgive?
"Not SEVEN times,
but, I tell you,
SEVENTY-
SEVEN
times."*

Matthew 18:21-22, NRSV

*"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

16th Sunday after Pentecost

“Forgive as you are Forgiven”

September 17, 2023

Exodus 14:19-31; Exodus 15:1b-11 (135); Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

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Prelude

“Resting In God’s Arms”

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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

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

UMH # 89

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory Lord of love; hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the son above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt way. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works of joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird, flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.
3. Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the Joy divine.
4. Mortal, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began; love divine is raining o’er us, binding all within its span. Ever singing, marching onward, victors in the midst of strife; joyful music lead us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

* Call to Worship:

Sing to God, for God has triumphed gloriously!

God is our strength and our might.

Long ago God freed the slaves from Egypt, opening passage through the Red Sea Waters.

Here and now God is our salvation, leading us through dangerous waters.

Who is like our God, majestic in holiness and awesome in splendor?

Every knee shall bow, every voice shall praise the God of wonder.

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* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. .

We sing to you, O God, for you have been our strength. You open the waters of suffering and lead us safely through. You uphold us in times of deep distress and we exalt your holy name. Receive our honor and thanks, mighty God. Amen.

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Prayer of Yearning

When we hear praises of your past help and triumph, we wonder where you are today, O God. we look at our lives and see hurtful relationships. We look at our nation and we see communities suffering under oppression. We look at our world and see injustice and brutality. We need your might arm to shatter wrongdoing and corruption. When we are weak, strengthen our faith. When we despair, renew our hope. When we give up, stand us up in your just cause that we might live for you. Amen.

Prayer of Yearning from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 173-174. 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 14: 19-31

pg. 61

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians,

upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Romans 14:1-12

pg. 163

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Exodus 14: 19-31; Romans 14: 1-12 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

“Make Me A Channel of Your Peace”

TMUMC Choir

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*** Exodus 15:1b-11,20-21**

UMH #135

Then Moses and the people of Isreal sang the song to the Lord saying,
**“I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and its rider the Lord has thrown into the sea.**

The Lord is my strength and my song
and has become my salvation;
this is my God whom I will praise.

I will exalt my father's God
who is a mighty warrior,
whose name is the Lord.

**Pharaoh's chariots and his host the Lord cast into the sea;
and his chosen officers are sunk in the Red Sea.**

The floods cover them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.

**Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power,
Your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.**

Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
terrible in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

**You stretched out your right hand,
the earth swallowed them.**

In your steadfast love,
you have led the people whom you have redeemed;
You have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

You will bring them in,
and plant them on your own mountain,
the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode,
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

The Lord will reign for ever and ever."

Then Miriam, the prophet, the sister of Aaron,
took a timbrel in her hand;
and all the women went out after her with timbrels and dancing,
and Miriam sang to them:

**"Sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and its rider the Lord has thrown into the sea."**

*** 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 18:21-35

pg. 20

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow

slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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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

"Forgive as you are Forgiven"

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

"There's A Wildness In God's Mercy"

UMH #121

1. There's a wildness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
2. There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good! There is mercy with the savior; there is healing in his blood.
3. For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
4. If our love were but more simple, we should rest up-on God's word; and our lives would be illuminated by the presence of our Lord.

*** 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.

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

Special Offering “Cambodia Street Ministry”

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

“The Love of God”

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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**

“Freely, Freely”

UMH # 389

1. God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name, I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name, I come to you, to share his love as told to me.
2. All power is given in Jesus’ name, in earth and heaven in Jesus’ name, I come to you, to share his love as told to me.

Refrain

He said; “Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give. Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.

“Freely, Freely” Contributor(s). Words and Music: Carol Owens © 1972 Bud John Songs, Inc. (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI Song # 13209 CCLI License #2350408.

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

“Rejoice The Lord Is King”

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Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Bill Black, The family of Joe Blackenship, 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	16th Sunday After Pentecost Worship Service
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Sunday, September 24 th :	10:00 AM	17th 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