

*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

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

### “Peace Be With You”

December 10, 2023

Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

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#### Prelude

“O Holy Night”

Lewis Wilkins & Beth Harvey

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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](mailto: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

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

UMH #213

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here!
2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven’s employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.
3. Redeemer, come, with us abide;  
our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and us in love reveal.
4. Thy Holy Spirit lead us on  
until our glorious goal is won;  
eternal praise, eternal fame  
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

#### \* Call to Worship:

Prepare the path of God.

**We prepare by waiting with patience.**

Prepare the path of God.

**We prepare by living with faith and love.**

Prepare the path of God.

**We prepare by pursuing justice and peace.**

Prepare the path of God.

**We prepare, we wait, we pray.**

May God bless us with both patience and passion.

**We wait and pray to create the path of God.**

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**\* Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

While we are waiting, come to us, O God.  
Reveal your presence in our time of worship.  
Guide our steps in our speaking and our doing.  
Flow through our lives, our church, and our world  
with your steadfast love, unending faithfulness,  
righteous justice, and mysterious peace.

In patient anticipation we pray. Amen.

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**Prayer of Yearning**

**Loving Shepherd, gather us in your arms of love. Cover us with your mercy and grace, that injustices might be healed and transformed into righteousness, justice and peace for your world. Guide us to your path, that we may be people who both await and who create your path of peace, justice, and love. Amen.**

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**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!**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Frauke Darnel & Carol Smith**

*Isaiah 40:1*

Reader 1: In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins" (Isaiah 40:1).

Reader 2: We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

**Congregation: We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.**

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God. Amen.

*Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.*

**Hymn: "Light The Advent Candle"**

TFWS 2090, verse 2

**Light the Advent Candle, two:  
Think of humble shepherds, who  
filled with wonder at the sight  
of the child of Christmas night.  
Candle, candle, burning bright,  
shining in the cold winter night;  
candle, candle, burning bright,  
fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

*"Advent Song: Light The Advent Candle"* Author: Mary Lu Walker ©1975, 2001 Butterfly Productions (Admin. by William Walker). CCLI Song #216714 CCLI License #2350408.

**Children's Time**

**John Magruder**

**Scriptures**

**Isaiah 40:1-11**

**pg. 667**

*<sup>1</sup> Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup> A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup> Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." <sup>6</sup> A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup> Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" <sup>10</sup> See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup> He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.*

**Scriptures**

**2 Peter 3:8-15a**

**pg. 238**

*<sup>8</sup> But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. <sup>11</sup> Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup> waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup> But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15</sup> and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.*

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

**“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”**

**Glory Ringers**

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Contributors: Janet Van Valey, Susan Berry, Thomas Helmore Tune: ©1998 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

**\*Psalter Reading**

**Psalm 85**

**UMH #806**

**Response: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.**

**R**

Lord, you showed favor to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
you pardoned all their sin.**

You withdrew all your wrath;  
you turned from your hot anger.

**Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
and put away your indignation toward us!**

Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

Will you not revive us again,  
that your people may rejoice in you?

**Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.** **R**

Let me hear what God will speak,  
for the Lord will speak peace to his people,  
to his faithful, to those who turn to the Lord in their hearts.

**Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear the Lord,  
that glory may dwell in our land.**

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

The Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

**Righteousness will go before the Lord,  
and make God’s footsteps a way.** **R**

**\* 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.***

<sup>1</sup>“The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; <sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” <sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Mark 1:1-8 from New Revised Standard Version Bible, ©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**

**“Peace Be With You”**

**John Magruder**

**\* Hymn of Response**

**“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”**

**UMH #204**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
his name is called Emmanuel,  
God with us, revealed in us,  
his name is called Emmanuel.

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel” Author: Bob McGee ©1976 C.A. Music (Admin. by Music Services, inc.). CCLI Song #12949 CCLI License #2350408.

**Affirmation of Faith**

**Apostles’ Creed**

**UMH #881**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. 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, Russia, Israel and Palestine; 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. I would once again ask that we pray for those who have chosen to keep their illnesses between themselves and God. While we respect their privacy, they still need our collective prayers.

## 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](http://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

*“Away In A Manger”*

*Lewis Wilkins & Beth Harvey*

“Away In A Manger” Contributors: Anna Laura Page. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

### \* 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

*“Angels From The Realms of Glory”*

**UMH #717**

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.
2. Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.
4. Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,  
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.

\* **Benediction**

**“Three Fold Amen”**  
Amen, Amen, Amen.

**UMH #898**

\* **Postlude**

**“Mary’s Little Boy Child”** Lewis Wilkins & Beth Harvey  
“Mary’s Little Boy Child” Author: Hagen Roesler ©2021 Roesler, Hagen. CCLI Song #7181439 CCLI License #23504.



## Thank you for joining us in worship!

### PRAYER LIST

Wright Andrews, Eddie Bliss, the family of Lois Bonhouse, the family of Dawn Burton, Royce Buruss, the family of Billy Cooke, Woody Campbell, Roxanne Griffith, Susie Hardwick, Maurice Hawa, Madeline Hawkins, Bill Hendricks, Lauma Hill, Cindy Huber, Betty Gregory, Carolyn Lewis, Bill Loser, Ron Lucas, Nate Parker, , Mary Lou Simpson, the family of Ed Wells, George Wells 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, Israel, Palestine, and Sudan, 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, and Jean Rhines.

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

### SERVICE AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

<b>Today:</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Sunday, December 17 <sup>th</sup> :	10:00 AM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*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