

***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

6th Sunday after Pentecost

“The Yoke of Grace and Mercy”

July 9, 2023

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Romans 7:15-25a; Psalm 46 (UMH 780); Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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Prelude

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

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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

“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 my 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.

* Call to Worship:

Christ calls those who are weary and heavy laden.

In Christ, we find rest.

Christ calls us to bear his yoke and learn from him.

In Christ, we see God's ways.

Christ is gentle and humble in heart.

In Christ, we know God's love.

Come, for Christ calls us here.

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*** Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

You have walked many miles with us, O God. You have comforted and strengthened us along the way. Keep us on your path, for we easily lose our way. As we learn to live in your ways, help us choose the cause of justice and righteousness. Amen.

Opening Prayer from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pg. 127. Copyright © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we do not understand why we do the things we do. Forgive our foolish ways. Give us the strength and the courage to bear your yoke and to heed your call. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 127. 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

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

pg. 20-21

So he said, 'I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, "You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son."

'I came today to the spring, and said, "O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, 'Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,' and who will say to me, 'Drink, and I will draw for your camels also'—let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son."

'Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water-jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, "Please let me drink." She

quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, "Drink, and I will also water your camels." So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, "Whose daughter are you?" She said, "The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him." So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshipped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.' And they called Rebekah, and said to her, 'Will you go with this man?' She said, 'I will.' So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

*'May you, our sister, become
thousands of myriads;
may your offspring gain possession
of the gates of their foes.'*

Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, 'Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?' The servant said, 'It is my master.' So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Romans 7:15-25a

pg. 157

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Romans 7:15-25a 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 46

UMH # 780

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

- ³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city which shall not be moved;
God will help it at the dawn of the day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
God's voice resounds, the earth melts.**
- ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD,
who has wrought desolations in the earth;
- ⁹ **who makes wars cease to the end of the earth,
breaks the bow, shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire!**
- ¹⁰ 'Be still, and know that I am God.
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth!'
- ¹¹ **The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

*** 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 11:16-19, 25-30

pg. 11-12

'But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

*"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn."*

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.'

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 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

“The Yoke of Grace and Mercy”

John Magruder

* Hymn of Response

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

TFWS # 2158

1. I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. **R**
 2. Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 3. When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more; guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.
- REFRAIN**
Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea, daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

* 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.

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

“O How I Love Jesus”

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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**

“Living for Jesus” (v 1 & 4)

TFWS # 2149

1. Living for Jesus a life that is true, striving to please him in all that I do, yielding allegiance, glad hearted and free, this is the pathway of blessing for me. **R**
4. Living for Jesus through earth’s little while, my dearest treasure, the light of his smile, seeking the lost ones he died to redeem, bringing the weary to find rest in him.

REFRAIN

O Jesus, Lord and Savior, I give myself to thee;
for thou, in thy atonement, didst give thyself
for me; I own no other master, my heart shall be
thy throne, my life I give, henceforth to live, O
Christ, for thee alone.

*** Benediction**

*** Postlude**

“Swing Low Sweet Chariot”



Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Bill Black, Eddie Bliss, Susie Hardwick, Maurice Hawa, Madeline Hawkins, Bill Hendricks, Josh Hodges, Cindy Huber, Carolyn Lewis, Bill Loser, Ray Massie, Dakota Minor, Yvonne Minor, Josiah Parker, Nate Parker, Mary Lou Simpson, The family of Estelle Standbridge, 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	6th 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, July 16 th :	10:00 AM	7 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