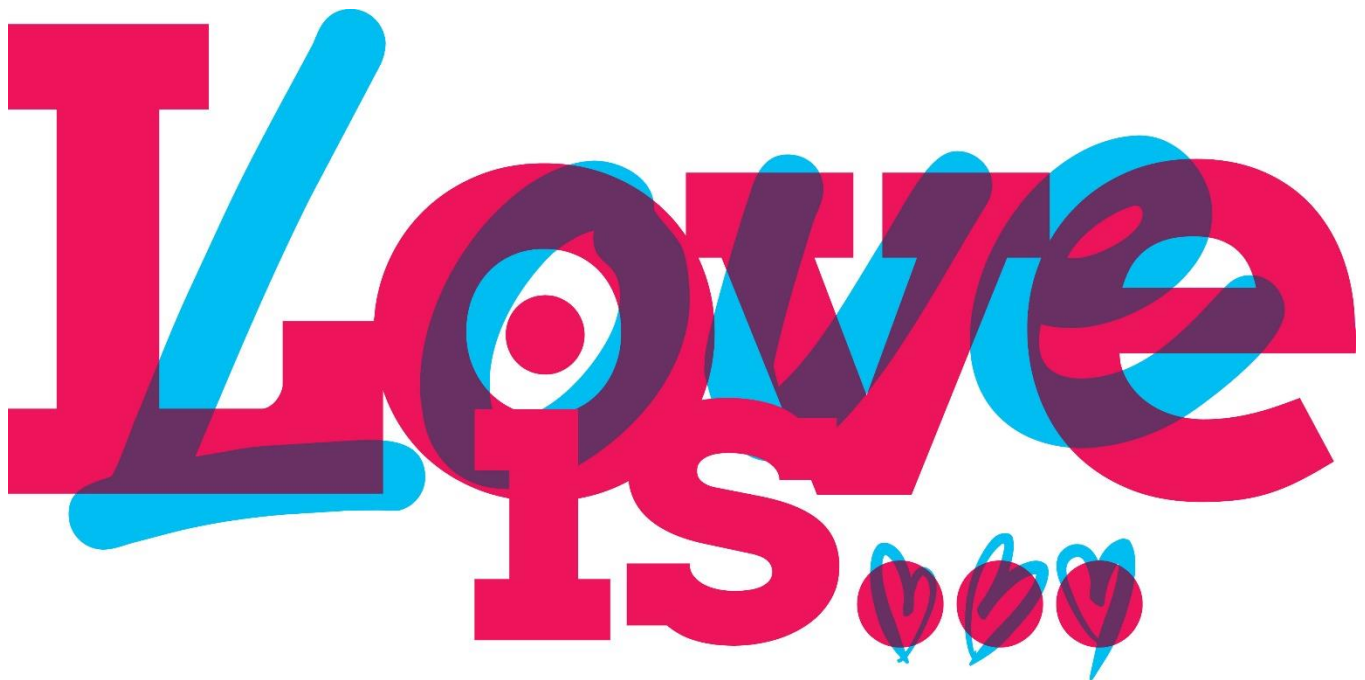


***Tappahannock Memorial
United Methodist Church***

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 of Easter

“Living Love”

May 14, 2023

Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; Psalm 66:8-20 (UMH 790); John 14:15-21

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Prelude

“You Raise Me Up”

“You Raise Me Up.” Contributor(s): Brendan Graham, Rolf Lovland. © 2002 Universal – Polygram International Publishing, Inc (Admin. By Universal Music Publishing Group) Peermusic III, Ltd. CCLI Song # 4434612. CCLI License # 2350408.

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

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (v.1-4)

UMH # 92

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies; **R**
2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light; **R**
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight; **R**
4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: **R**

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

* Call to Worship:

From the north and south, from the east and west...
all are welcome here.

With hands raised high or hearts quietly pondering...
we come to worship God.

Bring our love, opening our minds...
**we draw near to God, near to each other,
and near to Christ, the Word of God.**

Call to Worship from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 92. © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of all nations, for creating us in all our diversity, yet calling us together in our common humanity, we offer you our thanks and praise. Speak to us with your Spirit of Truth. Reveal to us your loving presence, and guide us to display your loving Spirit in all that we say and in all that we do. Amen.

Opening Prayer from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pg. 92. Copyright © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Yearning

Spirit of Truth, speak truth to us, even when we wish to hide from the truth of our mistaken ways. Unveil our sins and shortcomings, that we might be clothed with your mercy and covered with your grace. In gratitude and love, we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 92-93. 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

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

Scriptures

Acts 17:22-31

pg. 137-138

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Acts 17:22-31 and 1 Peter 3:13-22 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

“Lily of the Valley”

Choir

*** Psalter**

Psalms 66:8-20

UMH # 790

- ⁸ Bless our God, O peoples,
let the sound of God's praise be heard,
⁹ who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.
¹⁰ **For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.**
¹¹ You brought us into the net;
you laid affliction on our loins;
¹² **you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us forth to a spacious place.**
- ¹³ I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will pay you my vows,
¹⁴ those which my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
¹⁵ **I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**
- ¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who worship God,
and I will tell what God has done for me.
¹⁷ **I cried aloud to God,**

who was highly praised with my tongue.

¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.

¹⁹ **But truly God has listened;
and has given heed to the voice of my prayer.**

²⁰ **Blessed be God,
who has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.**

*** 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**

John 14:15-21

pg. 109

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

John 14:15-21 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

“Living Love”

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

“The Gift of Love”

UMH # 408

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
2. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.
3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

“The Gift Of Love.” Contributor(s): Hal. H. Hopson. © 1972 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI Song # 4109978. CCLI License # 2350408.

**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

"Precious Memories"

Nancy Tiller & Beth Harvey

"Precious Memories." Contributor(s): J.B.F. Wright, Lonnie B. Combs. © 1966 Bridge Building Music, Inc. (Admin. By Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) CCLI Song # 902729. CCLI License # 2350408.

* 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

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

UMH # 672

{R} Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet;

till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

1. God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again. {R}
2. God be with you till we meet again; neath his wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again. {R}
3. God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you,
put his arms unfailing round you; God be with you till we meet again. {R}
4. God be with you till we meet again; keep love's banner floating o'er you,
smite death's threatening wave before you; God be with you till we meet
again. {R}

* Benediction

* Postlude

"Love Lifted Me"



Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Eddie Bliss, Alice Boyd, Rob & Cheryl Baumgardner, Priscilla Carter and husband, Olivia Egge, Brock & Tammy Fielder, Peyton & Mae Lynne Guest, Chuck Harding Jr., Beth Harvey, Bill Hendricks, The Family of Mildred Hively, Josh Hodges, Cindy Huber, Paige Klemm, Carolyn Lewis, The family of Jody Lewis, Dolly Loomis & family, Bill Loser, The Family of Mike Martin, Ray Massie, Yvonne Minor, Monica Newsham, Nate Parker, Russ Riles, Tina Shaver, Mary Lou Simpson, John & Debbie Snyder, Jackson Titmus, and The Family of Brody Verlander. 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.

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 of Easter Worship Service w/ Choir
Tuesday:	7:00 PM	SPPRC Meeting
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Thursday:	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	VCU On-Site Mobile Health & Wellness
Sunday, May 21 st :	8:45 AM	Glory Ringers Rehearsal
	10:00 AM	Ascension Sunday Worship w/ Glory Ringers

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