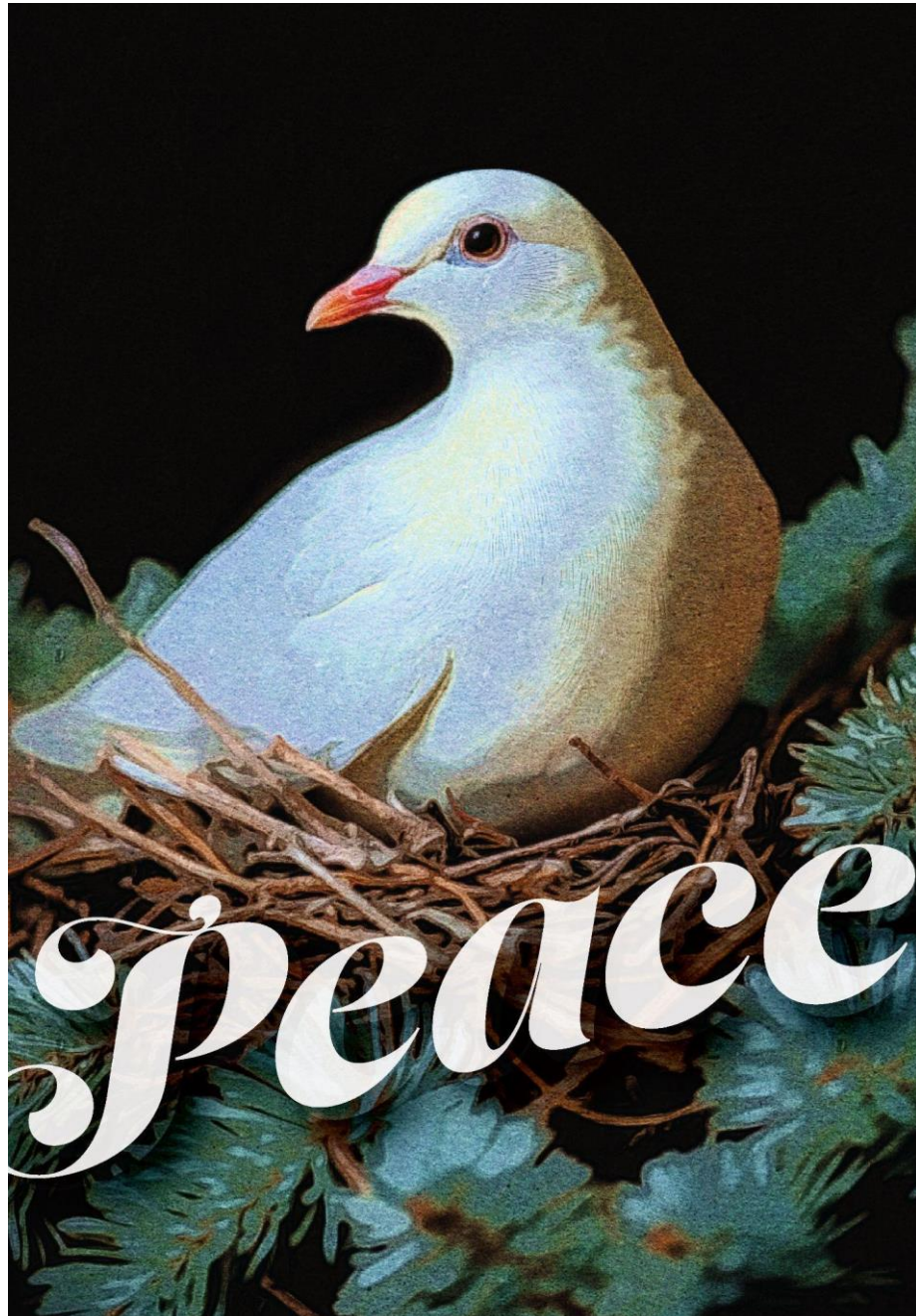


*Tappahannock Memorial
United Methodist Church*

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

Second Sunday Of Advent

“Peace”

December 8, 2024

Malachi 3:1-4; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

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Prelude

“O Holy Night”

Beth Harvey & Dr. Lewis Wilkins

“O Holy Night” Contributors: Adolphe Adam. Permission to reprint, podcast, and /or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

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

“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 love in us 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

How shall we prepare for the coming of the Lord?

With hearts filled with love and peace.

How shall we prepare for the coming of Christ?

With prayers filled with adoration and devotion.

How shall we prepare for the coming of our savior?

With songs filled with joy and hope.

How shall we prepare for the coming of God’s Son?

With worship filled with passion and spirit.

Call to Worship from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024, pg. 244. ©2023 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

God of our deliverance, you meet us in our need.
You fill the valleys of our insecurities with hope
and bring low the mountains of our pride and conceit.
As we await your Son and the glory of your salvation,
guide our feet in the ways of peace. Amen.

Opening Prayer from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024, pg. 244. ©2023 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Yearning

**We need the tender mercy of your grace, Holy One,
as we seek to comprehend the light of your love.**

**Disperse the shadows in our lives
and release those who sit in darkness,
that they may find peace and hope
in all places where fear holds sway.**

**Come to us like a refiner's fire and fullers' soap,
for we long to be purified in body and soul
and made ready to see the light of your salvation. Amen.**

Prayer of Yearning from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024, pg. 245. ©2023 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

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Knight Family

Reader One: The prophet Malachi calls us to watch for the messenger God will send us, a messenger who burns with a passion for God's coming salvation. "For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness"

Congregation: In a world driven by a passion to maintain the status quo, we choose to live with a passion for God's peace, to listen to those who call us to righteousness, and to submit ourselves to God's grace, that we might be refined and purified until we reflect God's love throughout the earth.

Reader Two: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kin-dom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.

Hymn: “Light The Advent Candle”

TFWS 2090, verse 2

**Light the Christmas 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.**

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

Children’s Time

Pastor Becca

Scripture

Malachi 3:1-4

pg. 889

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Scripture

Philippians 1:3-11

pg. 196

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Malachi 3:1-4 & Philippians 1:3-11 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

“Love Has Come”

Choir

“Love Has Come!” Contributors: Ken Bible ©1996 LNWhymns.com (Admin by Music Services) All Rights Reserved. ASCAP Permission to reprint, podcast, and /or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

R: Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who has come to set the chosen people free.

**The Lord has raised up for us
a mighty Savior from the house of David.**

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old
to save from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us;

**to show mercy to our forebears
and to remember the holy covenant.**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship without fear,
holy and righteous in the Lord's sight,
all the days of our life.**

R

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

**to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

R

* **The Gloria Patri**

UMH #70

*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**

Luke 3:1-6

pg. 60

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Luke 3:1-6 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”

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

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

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

*** Affirmation of Faith**

The 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, 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

UMH #895

**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

"Away In A Manger"

Beth Harvey & Dr. Lewis Wilkins

*** 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 #220

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**

“Go Now In Peace”

UMH #665

Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you,
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

“Go Now In Peace” Authors: Natalie Sleeth ©1976 Hinshaw Music Inc. (Admin by Fred Bock Music Company) CCLI Song #194317.
CCLI License #2350408.

*** Postlude**

“Mary’s Boy Child”

Beth Harvey & Dr. Lewis Wilkins

“Mary’s Little Boy” Authors: Hagen Roesler ©2021 Roesler, Hagen CCLI Song #7181439. CCLI License #2350408.

Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Wright Andrews, the family of Claude Beasley, Eddie Bliss, Nancy Brumfield, Tom Burgess, Bob Burke, Faye Brooks, the family of Jim Climaldi, Sally Conway, the family of George Croxton, Cookie Evans, Tinker Fornash, Christian Foster, Betty Gregory, Roxanne Griffith, Bill Hendricks, Cindy Huber, Shirley Johnson, Carolyn Lewis, Ron Lucas, Jacob Magruder, Tawana Murry, the family of Jean Rhines, Gerry Rose, Leslie Shaver, Cathy Short, Colin Smith, Rev. Dr. John Tate, Rev. Dr. Robert Taylor, Allen Turner, Bryan Wachsmuth, Barbara Watkins, Ellie Wawner, 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 during this time of war.

MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS

SSGT Jonathan Simpson

PRAYERS AND CARDS ARE WELCOME FOR THESE MEMBERS

Lee Black, Barbara Brooks, Jean Edwards, Cecile Farmer,
Carol Nicholas and Edna Parrish.

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

SERVICE AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

| | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Today, December 8th: | 10:00 AM | Second Sunday of Advent |
| | 11:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 4:30 PM | Tappahannock Christmas Parade |
| Tuesday, November 10 th : | 7:00 PM | Choir |
| Wednesday, December 11 th : | 10:30 AM | Wednesday Morning Group |
| Sunday, December 15 th : | 10:00 AM | Third Sunday of Advent |
| | 11:15 AM | Sunday School |
| | 3:00 PM | Christmas Sing-Along |

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