

***Tappahannock Memorial
United Methodist Church***

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

“But I say to you that listen,

Love

your enemies,

do good

to those who hate you,

bless

those who curse you,

pray

for those who abuse you.”

Luke 6:27-28, 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

Seventh Sunday After The Epiphany

“Agape Love”

February 23, 2025

Genesis 45:3-11, 15; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

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Prelude

“I Love To Tell The Story”

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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

“Jesu, Jesu”

UMH #432

1. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, Master who acts as a slave, to them.
2. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
Neighbors are rich and poor, neighbors are black and white, neighbors are near and far away.
3. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you.
4. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
Loving puts us on our knees, serving as though we are slaves,
this is the way we should live with you.
5. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you.

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
“Jesu, Jesu” Author: Tom Colvin ©1969, 1989 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI Song #3049039. CCLI License #2350408.

* Call To Worship

Take delight in the Lord and receive
the desires of your heart.

**We will bring a generosity of spirit
and sing the harmony of mercy.**

The meek shall inherit the land
and rejoice in God's love.

**We praise the Lord of mercy,
pouring it out for all.**

Do good and trust the Lord.

Love first; forgive first; give first.

**We come to worship, to heed the Word,
and to grow in faith and love.**

Call to Worship from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025 pg. 45. ©2024 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Holy One, we come together to pause, pray, and praise.

Be with us in this place,

that we may touch your mercy.

You provide for us;

help us claim the power of your love

for our lives.

Help us to measure out grace,

shaking it together with forgiveness

and give them to others

as you would have us do. Amen.

Opening Prayer from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025 pg. 45. ©2024 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Yearning

Lord God, we come to you as imperfect creatures.

Like Joseph's brothers, we're afraid of the past

and are wary of the future.

Yet, we yearn to feel your warm embrace.

We long to touch your love and forgiveness,

despite our shortcomings.

Ease our journey toward mercy,

as we grow in faith and love.

Help us bless those who curse us

and to pray for those who mistreat us.

This is your direction for our lives

and we will follow as we are able. Amen.

Prayer of Yearning from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025 pg. 46. ©2024 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.

Children's Time

Pastor Becca

Scripture

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

pg. 42

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'

¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Scripture

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

pg. 177

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. ⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 & 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 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.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“God Himself Is With Us”

The Glory Ringers

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*** Psalter**

Psalm 37

UMH #772

Response 2: Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God.

Do not be angry because of the wicked,
do not be envious of wrongdoers!

**For they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.**

Trust in the Lord, and do good;
so you will dwell in the land, and enjoy security.

**Take delight in the Lord,
who will give you the desires of your heart. R**

Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in God, who will act,
bringing forth your vindication as the light,
and your right as the noonday.

**Be still and wait patiently before the Lord;
do not be angry because of those who prosper in their way,
because of those who carry out evil devices! R**

Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!
Do not be angry; it leads only to evil.

**For the wicked shall be cut off;
but those who wait for the Lord shall possess the land.**

Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look at their place, they will not be there.

**But the meek shall possess the land,
and delight in the abundant prosperity. R**

“Psalm 37:1-11” Contributors: Erik Routley. ©1969 Hope Publishing Company UMH #772 PSALTER. All rights reserved. Permission to reprint, podcast, and /or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731.

*** 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 6:27-38

pg. 64

²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who

love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Luke 6:27-38 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

“Agape Love”

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

“Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace”

TFWS #2171

1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
2. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, every joy.
3. Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.
4. Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

“Prayer Of St Francis” Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy. Contributors: Sebastian Temple. ©1967, OCP. All rights reserved.
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***Affirmation of Faith**

UMH # 884

**We believe in the one God,
creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations,
the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
God manifest in the flesh,
our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.
We believe in the forgiveness of sins,
in the life of love and prayer,
and in grace equal to every need.
We believe in the Word of God
contained in the Old and New Testaments
as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.
We believe in the church,
those who are united in the living Lord
for the purpose of worship and service.
We believe in the reign of God
as the divine will realized in human society,
and in the family of God,
where we are all brothers and sisters.
We believe in the final triumph of righteousness
and in the life everlasting. Amen.**

A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church, *United Methodist Hymnal*, no. 884. Adapt. ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. Used by permission.

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

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*** 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**

“For The Healing Of The Nations”

UMH #428

1. For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.
2. Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release;
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.
3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.
4. You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.

“For The Healing Of The Nations” Authors: Fred Kaan, John Hughes. ©1968 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI Song #1510804. CCLI License #2350408.

*** 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**

“We Are Marching In The Light Of God”

“We Are Marching” Authors: Anders Nyberg, Andrew Maries ©1987, 1991 Sovereign Music UK. CCLI Song #320947. CCLI License #2350408.

Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Eddie Bliss, Faye Brooks, Evy Campbell, Lynn Coates, Mark Cooper, Bill Hendricks, Cindy Huber, Rick Humphries, Richard Ledbetter, Bill Loser, Dennis Puccetti, Jack Robertson, Cathy Short, Colin Smith, Barbara Tate, the family of Rev. Dr. Robert Taylor, Jack Titmus, Bryan Wachsmuth, Barbara Watkins, and Jack Henry Whitaker. Inclusion and equality for the LGBTQ family and friends. All affected by critical weather and violence, everyone who struggles with drug addiction and alcoholism, 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, Edna Parrish, and Barbara Watkins.

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

SERVICE AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Today, February 23rd:	10:00 AM	7th Sunday After The Epiphany
	11:15 AM	Sunday School
Tuesday, February 25 th :	7:00 PM	Choir
Wednesday, February 26 th :	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Saturday, March 1 st :	5 PM - 7 PM	EHS Band Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, March 2 nd :	10:00 AM	Transfiguration Sunday
	11:15 AM	Sunday School

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