

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

Fifth Sunday In Lent

March 22, 2026

“Unlikely Courage”

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6-11; Matthew 27:45-46

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Prelude

“Near The Cross”

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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

“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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
4. 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.
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.

* Call To Worship

Cry out to God.

God listens to us.

Hope in God.

God forgives us.

Wait for God.

God's love is faithful.

Call To Worship from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 59. ©2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

*** Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Come, Spirit of God.

We wait for your presence.

We trust in your abiding promises.

Breathe the breath of your power into us this day,
that we may experience the power of new life,
the promise of forgiveness,

and blessing of community. Amen.

Opening Prayer from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 59. ©2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Yearning

We cry to you, O God.

It is so easy to be overwhelmed with all that is going on.

It is so hard to see any hope.

Everywhere we look, we see struggles and loss.

We feel we have failed.

**But where we see death,
you breathe new life.**

**Where we see failure,
your forgiving love changes everything.**

**You alone, O God, have the power
to bring forth new life, new hope,
and new beginnings.**

Be with us as we wait for you.

Teach us to place our trust in your faithful love. Amen.

Prayer of Yearning from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 59. ©2025 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.

Anthem

"Sweet Hour Of Prayer"

Glory Ringers

"Sweet Hour Of Prayer" Authors: Sandra J. Ethun, William Batchelder Bradbury. ©2009 Choristers Guild. CCLI Song #7027070.
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Scripture**Ezekiel 37:1-14****pg. 806**

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Scripture**Romans 8:6-11****pg. 157**

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Ezekiel 37:1-14 & Romans 8:6-11 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.

*** Psalter****Psalm 130****UMH #848**

Response: In my distress I cry to the Lord: "Deliver me, O Lord."

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

Lord, hear my voice!

**Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!**

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

**But there is forgiveness with you,
that you may be worshiped.**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
in the Lord's word I hope;

**my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
with the Lord is plenteous redemption.

**And the Lord will redeem Israel
from all iniquities.**

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.*

*** The Gospel**

Matthew 27:45-46

pg. 33

⁴⁵ *From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.* ⁴⁶ *And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*

Matthew 24:45-46 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

"Unlikely Courage"

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

"Hymn Of Promise"

UMH #707

1. In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
2. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

3. In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

“Hymn of Promise” Authors: Natalie Sleeth. ©1986 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI Song #126529. CCLI License #2350408.

***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

"My Tribute"

"My Tribute" Authors: Andrae Crouch. ©1971 Bud John Songs, Inc. (Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI Song #11218. 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

"Lord Of The Dance" (verses 1-4)

UMH #261

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.
Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said be.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.
2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.
Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said be.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.
3. I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame, the holy people said it was a shame;
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;
and they left me there on a cross to die.
Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said be.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.
4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned back;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.
Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said be.
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

"I Danced In The Morning (Lord Of The Dance)" Authors: Sydney Bertram Carter. ©Stainer & Bell Ltd (Admin by Hope Publishing Company).. CCLI Song #78529. CCLI License #2350408.

*** The Benediction**

“Shalom To You”

UMH #666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

*** Postlude**

“Just A Closer Walk With Thee”

“Just A Closer Walk With Thee” Contributors: CLOSER WALK, American folk song. Permission to reprint, podcast, and /or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Faye Brooks, the family of Nancy Ball, Bill Croxton, Frauke Darnell, Jean Edwards, Bruce George, Beth Harvey, the family of Bill Hendricks, Cindy Huber, George Carol Hundley, Sally Kone, Kelly Lafollette, Warren Minton, Thomas Mundie, Whitney Orlando, the family of Edna Parrish, Russ Riles, Jack Robertson, Jane Ruffa, Jay Ruffa, Colin Smith, Regan Smith, Beverly Taylor, Thomas Tignor, Nancy Tiller, Biddy Acree Walker, Barbara Watkins, Ellie Wawner, Jim Wawner, Betty Whitten. Missionaries overseas. 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

PFC Tri Blanks

PRAYERS AND CARDS ARE WELCOME FOR THESE MEMBERS

Lee Black, Jean Edwards, Betty Gregory, 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, March 22nd:	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday in Lent
	11:15 AM	Sunday School
Monday, March 23 rd :	5-6:30 PM	Community Dinner
Tuesday, March 24 th :	10:00 AM	Church Activity Group
Wednesday, March 25 th :	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
	6:30 PM	Choir
Sunday, March 29 th :	10:00 AM	Palm Sunday
	11:15 AM	Fifth Sunday Potluck Lunch

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