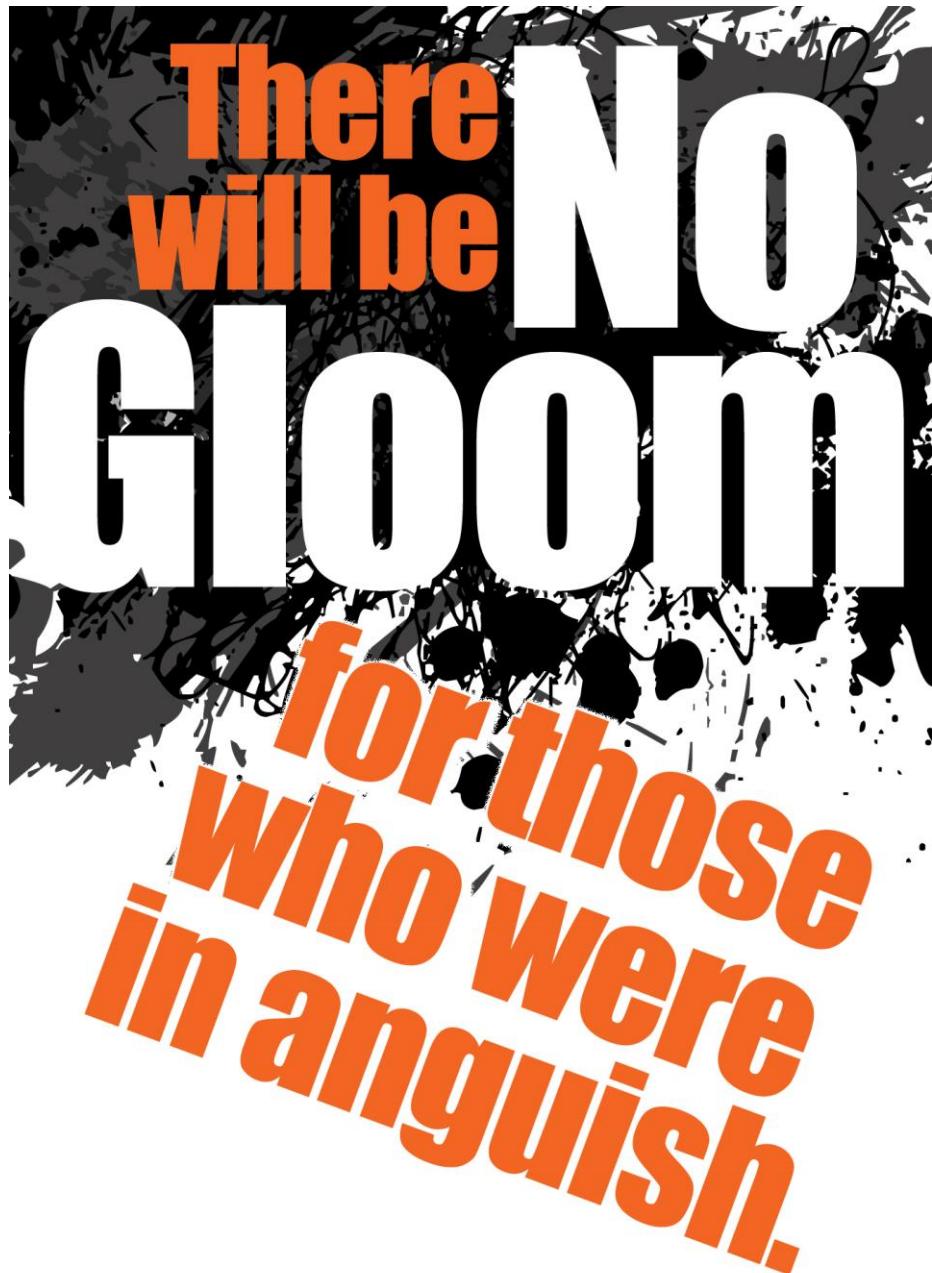


**Tappahannock Memorial United Methodist Church**

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



**Isaiah 9:1, 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

## Third Sunday After Epiphany

### “Life Interrupted”

**Isaiah 9:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23**

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#### Prelude

#### **“All Things Bright And Beautiful”**

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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 worshiping 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](mailto: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

#### **“Gather Us In”**

**TFWS #2236**

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in the lost and forsaken, gather us in the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young- our lives are a myst’ry, we are the old- who yearn for your face,  
we have been sung throughout all of hist’ry, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in- the rich and the haughty, gather us in- the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts and that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light-years away,  
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in- all peoples together, fire of live in our flesh and our bone.

“Gather Us In” Contributors: Marty Haugen. ©1982, GIA Publications, Inc. Permission to reprint, podcast, and /or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

#### \* Call To Worship

Friends of God, today Jesus calls to each of us:  
“Come! Follow me!”

**The kingdom of heaven has come near.**

Some say, "But we are walking in darkness."

**In Christ, we have seen God's light.**

**The kingdom of heaven has come near.**

Some say, "But divisions tear us apart."

**In Christ we are united in mind and purpose.**

**The kingdom of heaven has come near.**

Friends of God, today we gather to worship God  
and to follow Jesus.

**The kingdom of heaven has come near.**

*Call To Worship from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 17. ©2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.*

### \* **Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Inviting God, help us to hear Jesus calling us  
and help us to follow him.

In Christ, your kingdom draws near to us,  
whether we are seeking it or not.

When we are caught up in our anguish,  
you shine a great light in our darkness.

When we face days full of trouble,  
you shelter us.

When we are at odds with others,  
quarreling and breaking apart into factions,  
you save us with the unity won by Christ  
through the cross and his resurrection.

Whether we face danger or are at ease in our routines—  
the kingdom of heaven draws near and Jesus says:

"Now is the time to follow me."

You hear us, God, when we cry out to you.

May we hear you this day when you cry out to us.

Amen.

*Opening Prayer from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 17. ©2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.*

### **Prayer of Yearning**

**Jesus, you come into our lives**

**as a light shining in our darkness,  
and you call us to follow you.**

**We long to seek you.**

**We long to follow you.**

**Sometimes our losses and failures overwhelm us,  
and we don't hear your call.**

**Sometimes we are caught up in our disagreements  
and our desires to prevail,**

**and we don't hear your call.**

**Sometimes we are so busy with our responsibilities**

and our successes, comfortable in our routines,  
and we don't hear your call.  
Yet, we have seen your great light.  
We have heard your appeal to come together  
in mind and purpose.  
May we, like Peter and Andrew, and James and John,  
step away from our darkness and our conflicts  
and our devotion to our set ways.  
Help us to hear your call,  
for your kingdom draws near. Amen.

*Prayer of Yearning* from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026*, pg. 18. ©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

## ***Songs Of Worship And Praise***

## **Glory Ringers**

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## Children's Time

## **Pastor Becca**

### Scripture

### **Isaiah 9:1-4**

**pg. 638**

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

### Scripture

### **1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

**pg. 166**

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you

except Crispus and Gaius,<sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name.<sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.<sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

*Isaiah 9:1-4 & 1 Corinthians 1:10-18* 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 27

UMH #758

**Response: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?**

Though a host encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
though war arise against me,  
yet I will be confident.

One thing I asked of the Lord,  
that will I seek after:  
**that I may dwell in the house of the Lord**

all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord,  
and to inquire in the Lord's temple.

R

The Lord will hide me in his shelter  
in the day of trouble,  
will conceal me under the cover of his tent,  
and will set me high upon a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up  
above my enemies round about me;  
I will cry, if I die, to see the Lord my God.

and I will offer sacrifices in the Lord's tent  
with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the Lord. R.

I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Refrain

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,  
be gracious to me and answer me!  
**“Come,” my heart said, “seek the Lord’s face.”**

**Your face, O Lord, I seek.**

Hide not your face from me.

Turn not your servant away in anger,  
for you have been my help.

**Cast me not off, forsake me not,**

**O God of my salvation!**

**If my father and mother should forsake me,**

**the Lord would take me up.**

**R**

Teach me your way, O Lord;

and lead me on a level path  
because of my enemies.

**Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;**

**for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they breathe out violence.**

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living!

**Wait for the Lord;**

**be strong, and let your heart take courage.**

**Wait for the Lord!**

**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 4:12-23**

**pg. 3**

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>18</sup> As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup> Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. <sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Matthew 4:12-23 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

### “Life Interrupted”

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

#### \* Hymn of Response

*“Where Cross The Crowded Ways Of Life”*<sup>(verses 1-3, 6)</sup> UMH #427

1. Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of man.
2. In haunts of wretchedness and need, on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,  
from paths where hide the lures of greed, we catch the vision of your tears.
3. From tender childhood’s helplessness, from woman’s grief, man’s burdened toil,  
from famished souls, from sorrow’s stress, your heart has never known recoil.
6. Till all the world shall learn your love and follow where your feet have trod,  
till, glorious from your heaven above, shall come the city of our God!

#### \*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](http://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

### ***“Just A Closer Walk With Thee”***

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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

### ***“Blessed Be The Tie That Binds”***

UMH #557

1.      Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
  
2.      Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
  
3.      We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear;  
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
  
4.      When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;  
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

**\* The 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.  
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**\* Postlude**

**“Leaning On The Everlasting Arms”**

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**Thank you for joining us in worship!**

## PRAYER LIST

Faye Brooks, Frauke Darnell, Jean Edwards, Bruce George, Jim Glass, Bill Hendricks, Cindy Huber, Kelly Lafollette, Warren Minton, the family of Billy Mothershead, Thomas Mundie, Whitney Orlando, Nate Parker, Russ Riles, Jack Robertson, Jane Ruffa, Jay Ruffa, the family of Rev. Reggie Rumberg, Susie Shiriak, Colin Smith, Regan Smith, Alison Sullivan, Beverly Taylor, Thomas Tignor, Nancy Tiller, Jack Titmus, Marianne Towler, Biddy Acree Walker, Barbara Watkins, Ellie Wawner, Ashley Wind. 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

### PRAYERS AND CARDS ARE WELCOME FOR THESE MEMBERS

Lee Black, Jean Edwards, Betty Gregory, 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

<b>Today, January 25<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Third Sunday After Epiphany</b>
	<b>11:15 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
<b>Monday, January 26th:</b>	<b>5-6:30 PM</b>	<b>Community Dinner</b>
<b>Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Wednesday Morning Group</b>
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>:</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday After Epiphany</b>
	<b>11:15 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>

*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](mailto:tappmethodist@gmail.com)

**Pastor's Office Hours:** Tue - Thu: 9 am – 2 pm