

**Tappahannock Memorial United Methodist Church**

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



**Light**  
*of the  
World*

*“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 After Epiphany**  
**February 8, 2026**  
**“Don’t Dim The Light”**

**Isaiah 58:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20**

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**Prelude**

**“There Is A Balm In Gilead”**

“*There Is A Balm In Gilead*” Contributors: Mark Hayes. 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 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**

**“I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light”**

**UMH #206**

1. I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world. The start of my life is Jesus.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
2. I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
3. I’m looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

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**\* Call To Worship**

Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who delight in the Lord!

**We come to this place, where generations before us have gathered.**

Here we remember the light of God that shines in our lives.

**Here we allow God’s light to shine through us.**

Let us worship our radiant God.

**Praise the Lord!**

**Happy are we who delight in the Lord!**

### \* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Amazing God, you have gathered us from many places  
to come together and praise you this day.

For this we are grateful!

As we worship today,

    may our minds be opened to learn your wisdom.

May our eyes be opened to places that need healing.

May our hands be opened to do your good work.

May our hearts be opened to your Holy Spirit,

    who gifts us and guides us.

In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Opening Prayer* from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026*, pg. 27. ©2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

### Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, forgive us when we ignore you  
or your lessons for our lives.**

**Forgive us for allowing oppression and discord  
to flourish.**

**Forgive us for not feeding those who are hungry.**

**Forgive us for not providing shelter  
to those who have no place to lay down at night.**

**Forgive us for not repairing the broken places  
in our community.**

**O Lord, forgive us and then help us  
do your work of bringing about justice and healing.**

**Shine your light through us,  
so that all may come to know your abundant love.**

**Amen.**

*Prayer of Confession* from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026*, pg. 28. ©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**

***"Mighty To Save"***

**Choir**

## Children’s Time

Pastor Becca

### Scripture

**Isaiah 58:1-9a**

**pg. 688**

*<sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. <sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. <sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? <sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”*

### Scripture

**1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

**pg. 166**

*<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. <sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But we speak God’s wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup> and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him”—<sup>10</sup> God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.*

Isaiah 58:1-9a & 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 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.

**Response: Light rises in darkness when justice rules our lives.**

Praise the Lord.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord,  
who greatly delight in God's commandments!

**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches are in their house,  
and their righteousness endures for ever.

**They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful and righteous.**

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.

**For the righteous shall never be moved;  
they will be remembered for ever.** R

They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, trusting in the Lord.

**When they see their adversaries,  
their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid.**

They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures for ever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.

**The wicked see it and are angry;  
they gnash their teeth and melt away;  
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.** 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 5:13-20**

pg. 4

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot." <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid." <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house." <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." <sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill." <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished." <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:13-20 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**

### **“Don’t Dim The Light”**

**Rev. Rebecca L. Minor**

#### **\* Hymn of Response**

#### **“As A Fire Is Meant For Burning”**

**TFWS #2237**

1. As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God’s name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.
2. We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit we would live to God’s delight.
3. As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness ‘mid earth’s peoples, many hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,  
may our lives reflect the radiance of God’s new and glorious dawn.

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#### **\* 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](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****“You Raise Me Up”**

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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****“Pass It On”****UMH #572**

1. It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.  
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;  
you spread his love to everyone; you want to pass it on.
  
2. What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding;  
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.  
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;  
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.
  
3. I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found;  
you can depend on him, it matters not where you're bound.  
I'll shout it from the mountaintop; I want my world to know,  
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

“Pass It On” Authors: Kurt Kaiser. ©1969 Bud John Songs, Inc. (Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI Song #14284. CCLI License #2350408.

**\* 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. CCLI License #2350408.

**\* Postlude****“We Are Walking In The Light Of God”**

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

## PRAYER LIST

Faye Brooks, Bill Croxton, Frauke Darnell, the family of Dr. Dudley, Phyllis Dunn, Jean Edwards, Bruce George, Jim Glass, Bill Hendricks, Cindy Huber, Kelly Lafollette, Warren Minton, Andrea Mitman, Thomas Mundie, Whitney Orlando, Nate Parker, Russ Riles, Jack Robertson, Jane Ruffa, Jay Ruffa, 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, February 8<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday After Epiphany</b>
	<b>11:15 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
<b>Wednesday, February 11<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 15<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Transfiguration Sunday</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