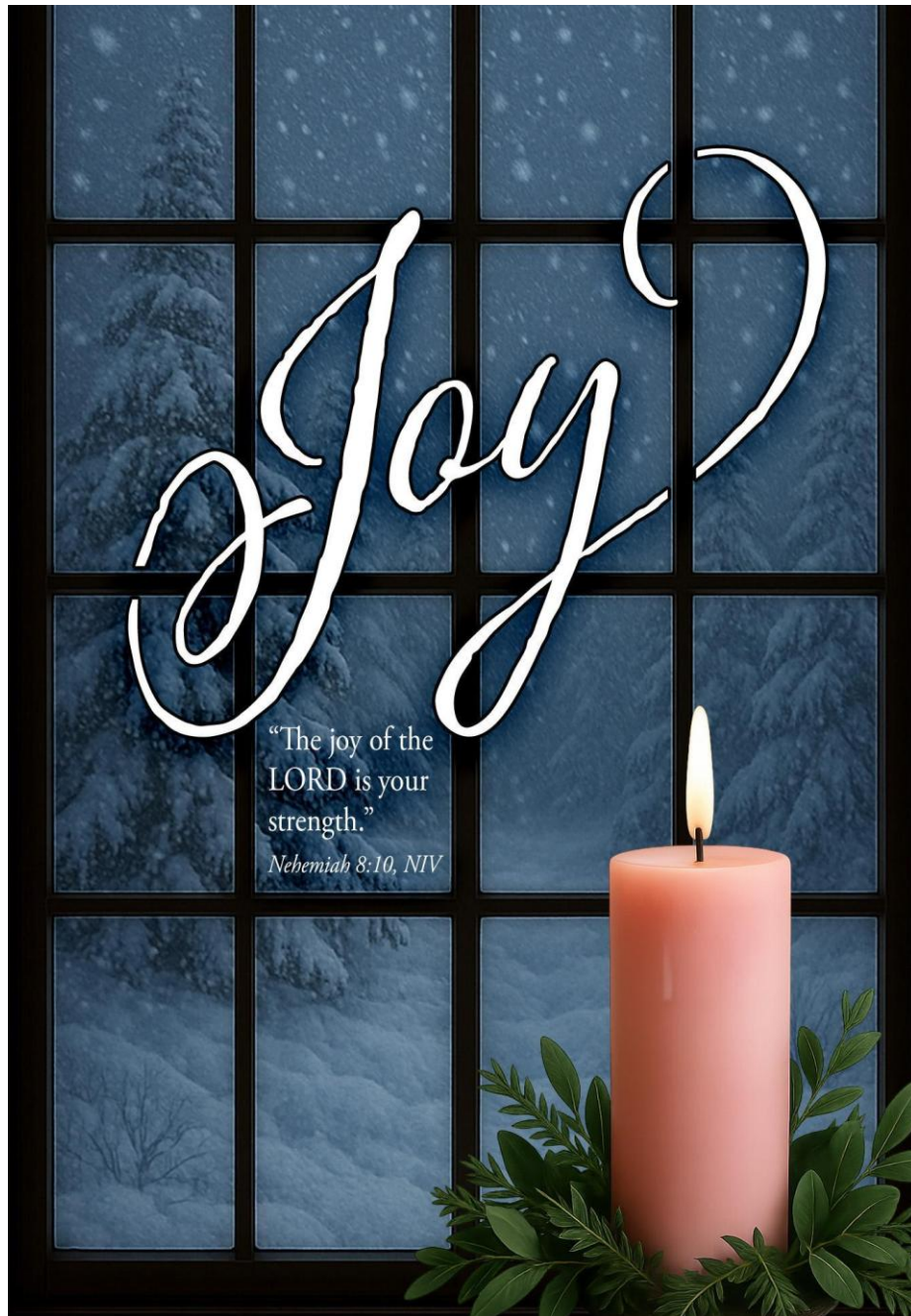


Tappahannock Memorial United Methodist Church

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

Third Sunday of Advent

“Joy”

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Prelude

“O Holy Night”

Dr. Lewis Wilkins & Beth Harvey

“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**

“Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

UMH #196

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

*** Call To Worship**

We gather today in great hope,
longing to see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

The Almighty has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.

May our worship strengthen our hands,
make firm our trembling knees,
and unburden our fearful hearts.

The Almighty has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.

Knowing that God is near, let us be patient with the times and with one another.

The Almighty has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.

To all who ask about our hope,
let us tell the good news
of what we have seen and heard.

The Almighty has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.

Call To Worship from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025, pg. 285. ©2024 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

*** Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Joyful and patient God,

you break into our Advent busyness

with your extravagant promise of glory and joy.

Fire up our imaginations with holy trust in your goodness.

Inspire us with a patience

that sees beyond our habitual

longing for past glories and understandings.

Move us beyond our too familiar criticisms of one another and of ourselves.

Open our eyes and help us see your compassion,

already at work in our world:

healing, restoring, strengthening,

and telling the good news that you are near.

Make us signs of your everlasting joy

for your people and for all the world

We pray in the name of Jesus,

whose nearness we proclaim. Amen.

Opening Prayer from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025, pg. 285. ©2024 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Yearning

Advent God, we yearn to rejoice,

as we tell of Jesus coming into our world.

We long to see your promise

of mercy, justice, and restoration,

fulfilled for all people everywhere.

In our yearning, we discover that our hands are weak, our knees are feeble,

and our hearts are full of fear.

Stuck in old stories and remembered glories,

we grow critical of one another and of ourselves.

We even wonder whether Jesus is near.

Then our desire to rejoice sputters

in frustration and impatience.

Restore us, yearned-for God.

for your joy is not our accomplishment,

but your gift.

Set us on the Holy Way of Advent,

forgiven, strengthened, and healed,

rejoicing in your glory and majesty. Amen.

Prayer of Yearning from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025, pg. 286. ©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.

Anthem

“The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy”

Choir

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Children's Program

Hark The Herald Angels Sing, verses 1 & 3

Congregational Hymn, UMH #240

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new born King;
peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”
3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Silent Night/Away In A Manger

Children's Choir

Go Tell It On The Mountain

Congregational Hymn, UMH #251

- Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.
1. While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;

go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

2. The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! Above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.
3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.



Lighting of The Advent Wreath

The Ramirez Family

Reader One: In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

Congregation: We choose to believe that the day is coming when "the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away"

Reader Two: We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

Light the first three candles of the Advent wreath.

Hymn: "Light The Advent Candle"

TFWS 2090, verse 3

**Light the Advent candle, three:
Think of heavenly harmony;
angels singing "Peace on earth"
at the blessed Savior's birth.
Candle, candle, burning bright,
shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright,
fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

"Advent Song" Author: Mary Lu Walker. ©1975, 2001 Butterfly Productions (Admin by William Walker). CCLI Song #216714. CCLI License #2350408.

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"

Dr. Lewis Wilkins & Beth Harvey

*** 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 We Have Heard On High"* verses 1 & 4**

UMH #238

1. Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
4. See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

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*** The Benediction**

“Prepare The Way Of The Lord”

UMH #207

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.

“Prepare the Way of the Lord” Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taize Community. ©1984, Les Presses de Taize, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Permission to reprint, podcast, and /or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

*** Postlude**

“Mary’s Boy Child”

Dr. Lewis Wilkins & Beth Harvey

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

Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Faye Brooks, Jean Edwards, Bruce George, Bill Hendricks, Kelly Lafollette, Timothy McKinley, the family of Yvonne Minor, Warren Minton, 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, and the family of Devin Woodland. 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

LTC Matt Redmond

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

Today, December 14th:	10:00 AM	Third Sunday of Advent
	11:15 AM	Sunday School
Monday, December 15 th :	6:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, December 17 th :	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Sunday, December 21 st :	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday of Advent
	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