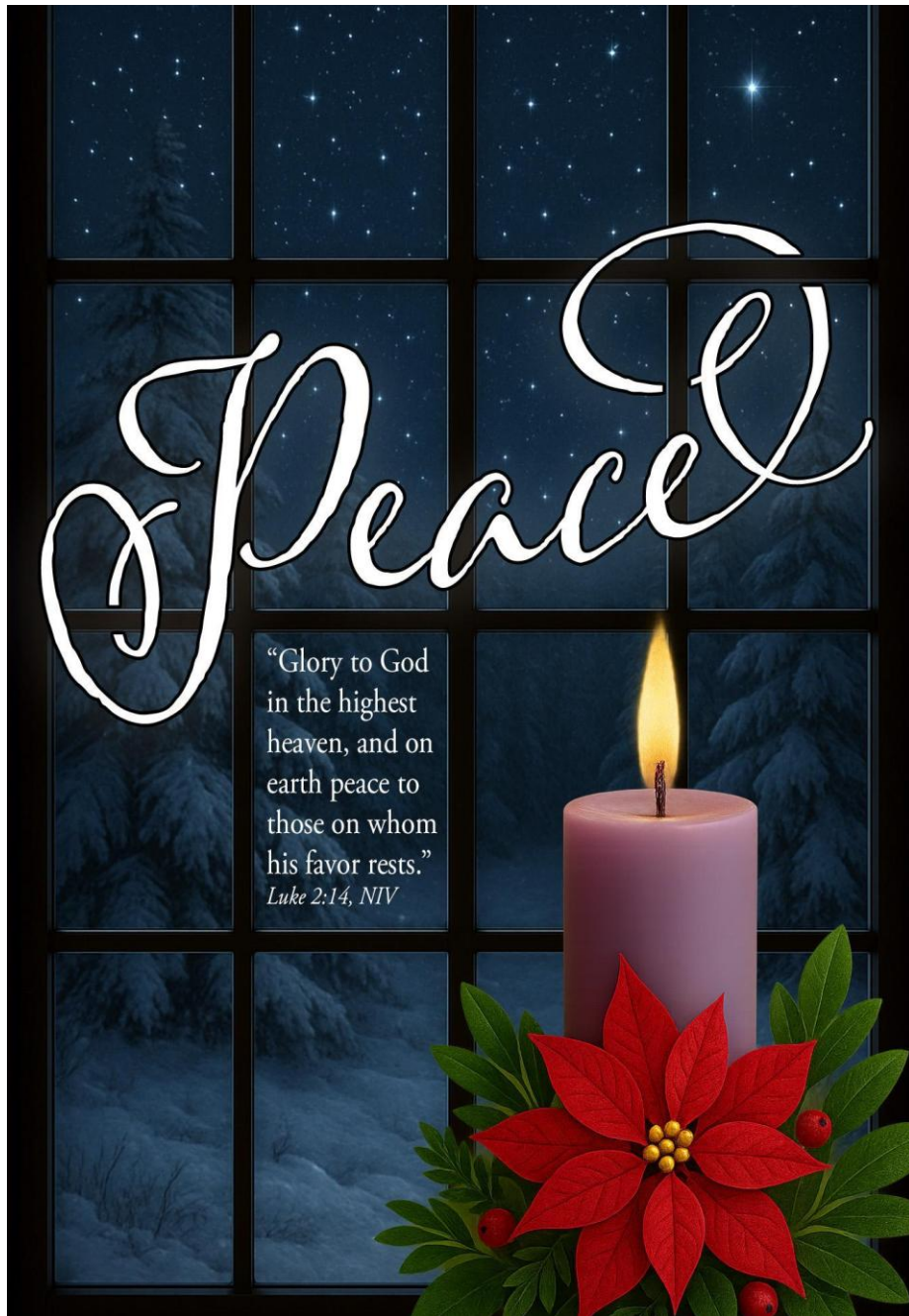


Tappahannock Memorial United Methodist Church

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

Second Sunday of Advent

“Peace”

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

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Prelude

“One Small Child”

“One Small Child” Contributors: Joy F Patterson. ©2005, Selah Publishing Co, Inc. 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, with your attendance information.

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!!

*** Opening Hymn**

“Hail To The Lord’s Anointed”

UMH #203

1. Hail to the Lord’s Anointed, great David’s greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.
2. He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.
3. He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.
4. To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.

*** Call To Worship**

People of God, Christ has invited us here!

We gather to praise God, who brings justice and righteousness to all.

We gather to give thanks to God for hope and peace.

Blessed be the Lord, who has done marvelous things.

Let us praise God together!

Call To Worship from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025, pg. 280. ©2024 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

*** Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of hope and peace, as we worship you this day,

may we catch a glimpse of your peace;

may we open ourselves to receive your grace;

may we welcome one another,

as you have welcomed us;

may we prepare hearts and our lives,

for Christ to be born in us once again.

And when our worship is done,

may we be renewed in body and spirit,

prepared to bring your righteousness and justice to the world.

In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

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Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, there are days when we lose our way.

We forget, or simply don't trust, your vision of peace.

We ignore the cries of those seeking justice.

We fail to bear good fruit in our lives.

Forgive us.

Remind us that we are yours.

Teach us how to make peace with ourselves and with our neighbors.

Help us proclaim your message of hope

and continue our journey to Bethlehem—

a journey of faith to a cradle of love.

In the name of Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025, pg. 281. ©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.

Reader One: Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them”

Congregation: Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation.

Reader Two: We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

Hymn: “Light The Advent Candle”

TFWS 2090, verse 2

**Light the Christmas candle, two:
Think of humble shepherds, who
filled with wonder at the sight
of the child of Christmas 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.

Anthem

“Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine”

Choir

Children’s Time

Pastor Becca

Scripture

Isaiah 11:1-10

pg. 640

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Scripture

Romans 15:4-13

pg. 163

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by

the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”; ¹⁰ and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”; ¹¹ and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; ¹² and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.” ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 11:1-10 & Romans 15:4-13 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 72 (response 1)

UMH #795

Response 1: I will give you as a light to the nations, my salvation to the ends of the earth.

Give the king your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the royal son!

May he judge your people with righteousness,

and your poor with justice!

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,

and the hills, in righteousness!

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,

give deliverance to the needy,

and crush the oppressor!

May he live while the sun endures,

and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,

like showers that water the earth!

In his days may righteousness flourish,

and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

May he have dominion from seat to sea,

and from the river to the ends of the earth!

R

May his foes bow down before him,

and his enemies lick the dust!

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,

may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

May all kings fall down before him,

all nations serve him!

For he delivers the needy when they call,

the poor and those who have no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight. R

Long may he live,
may gold of Seba be given to him!
May prayer be made for him continually,
and blessings invoked for him all the day!
May there be abundance of grain in the land;
may it wave on the tops of the mountains;
may its fruit be like Lebanon;
and may they blossom forth in the cities
like the grass of the field!
May his name endure for ever,
his fame continue as long as the sun!
May people bless themselves by him,
all nations call him blessed! 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 3:1-12

pg. 2

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’ ” ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Matthew 3:1-12 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.

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

“Peace”

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

UMH #213

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
be hold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!
2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven’s employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.
3. Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.
4. Thy Holy Spirit lead us on
until our glorious goal is won;
eternal praise, eternal fame
be offered, Savior, to thy name.

Affirmation of Faith

Apostles’ Creed

UMH #881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. 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 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

"Mary Did You Know"

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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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR ADVENT

A Service of Word and Table III

UMH # 15-16

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day
when justice shall roll down like waters
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away. Your own Son came among us as a servant to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

AMEN.

And now with the confidence of children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

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 Breaking of the Bread and Offering of the Cup and Sharing in the Feast

I invite all of you here in the sanctuary and those of you at home to take and receive now.

The Body of Christ.

The Blood of Christ.

Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name

of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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*** Closing Hymn**

“Heralds Of Christ”

UMH #567

1. Heralds of Christ, who bear the King’s commands,
immortal tidings in your mortal hands,
pass on and carry swift the news you bring;
make straight, make straight the highway of the King.
2. Through desert ways, dark fen, and deep morass,
through jungles, sluggish seas, and mountain pass,
build now the road, and falter not, nor stay;
prepare across the earth the King’s highway.
3. Lord, give us faith and strength the road to build,
to see the promise of the day fulfilled,
when war shall be no more, and strife shall cease
upon the highway of the Prince of Peace.

*** 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.

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*** Postlude**

“Hark The Herald Angels Sing”

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Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Faye Brooks, Jean Edwards, Bruce George, Bill Hendricks, Benji Klemm, Kelly Lafollette, the family of Mel Lockhart, 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 7th:	10:00 AM	Second Sunday of Advent
	11:15 AM	Sunday School
	3:00 PM	Christmas Concert
Monday, December 8 th :	6:00 PM	Leadership Board
Wednesday, December 10 th :	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, December 14 th :	10:00 AM	Third 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