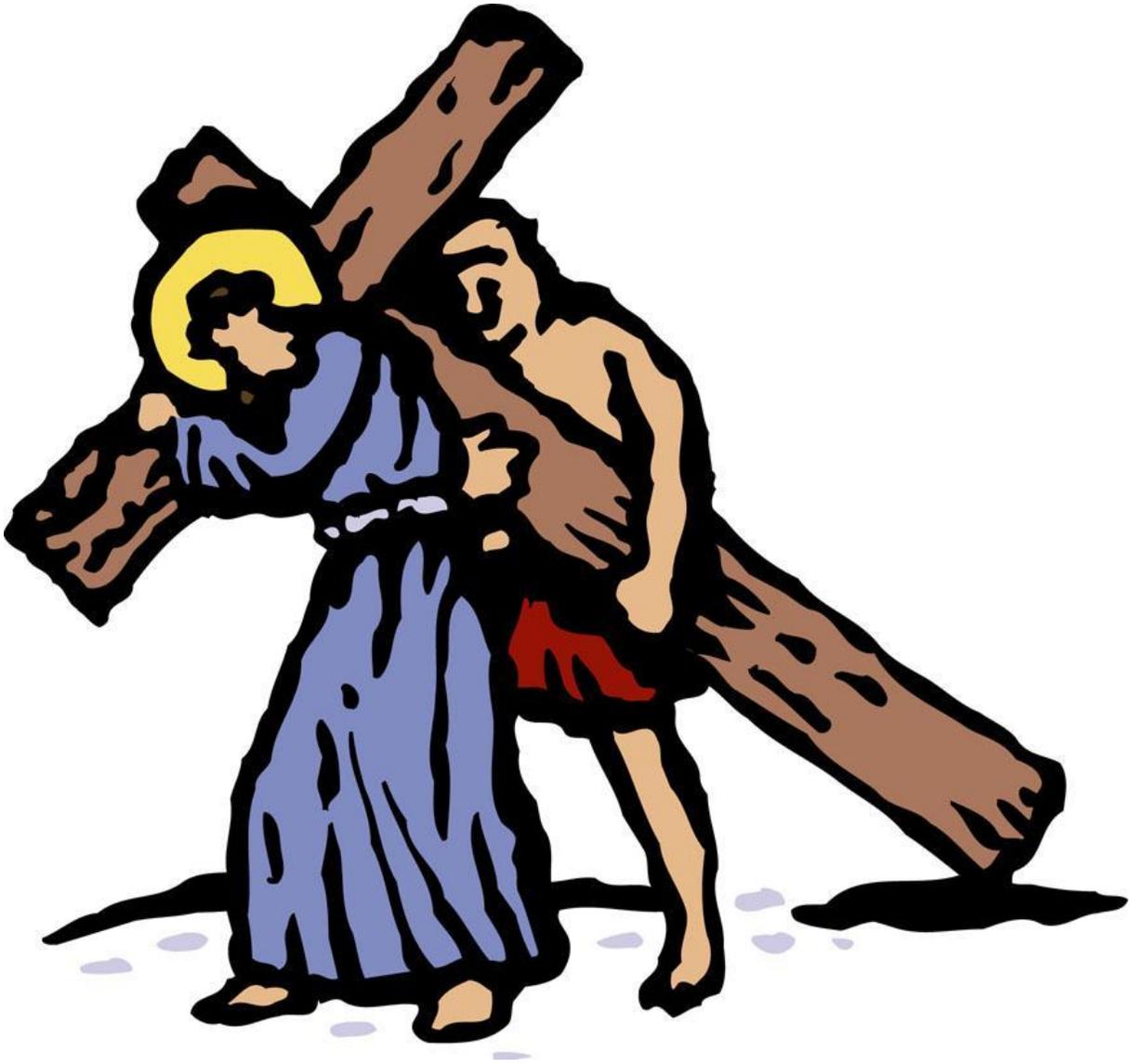


Tappahannock Memorial United Methodist Church

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

Fourth Sunday In Lent

March 15, 2026

“Unlikely Companionship”

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; Luke 23:26-37

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Prelude

“I Believe In A Hill Called Mount Calvary”

“I Believe In A Hill Called Mount Calvary” Authors: Dale Oldham, Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither. ©1968 William J. Gaither, Inc (Admin by Gaither Copyright Management). CCLI Song #20041. CCLI License #2350408.

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

“Take my Life, And Let It Be”

UMH #399

1. Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
2. Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
3. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasurestore.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

* Call To Worship

Come into the light of God.

Christ’s brightness will guide our way.

Come into the wisdom of God.

The Spirit’s insight will reveal new truths.

Come into the praise of God,

Worship opens new doors in our hearts.

Call To Worship from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 55. ©2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Shepherd of love, guide our steps,
open the eyes of our hearts,
and fling wide the doors of our minds
to perceive as you perceive.

Open our lives to love as you love.
Open our world to become the world you envision
for your creation.

In the light of your love, we pray. Amen.

Opening Prayer from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 55. ©2025 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Yearning

Christ our Healer, we want to see and be seen fully.

We long to heal and be healed fully.

We yearn to love and be loved fully.

**Yet, these desires seem beyond our reach
when our minds are set on earthly things.**

Set our minds instead on you.

**Help us perceive the possibilities of fullness,
of shalom, of your realm on this earth.**

**Then guide us to help live into the reality
you show us. Amen.**

Prayer of Yearning from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026, pg. 55. ©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

“This Is My Father’s World”

Glory Ringers

“This Is My Father’s World” Contributors: Janet Van Valey, Susan Berry. ©1988 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation (Admin by Music Services). Permission to reprint, podcast, and /or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-737731. All rights reserved.

Children’s Time

Pastor Becca

Scripture

1 Samuel 16:1-13

pg. 259

¹ The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ² Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will

kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?”⁵ He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the LORD.”⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.”¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Scripture

Ephesians 5:8-14

pg. 194

⁸ for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

¹ Samuel 16:1-13 & Ephesians 5:8-14 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 23

UMH #754

Response 2: The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures,

leads me beside still waters,

restores my life,

leads me in right paths

for the sake of the Lord's name.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil;

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

R

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
**you anoint my head with oil,
my cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
**and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
as long as I live.**

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**

Luke 23:26-37

pg. 89

²⁶ As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸ But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" ³² Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

Luke 23:26-37 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 Companionship"

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

"O Master Let Me Walk With Thee"

UMH #430

1. O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;

tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love; teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.
3. Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company, in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong;
4. In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way, in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

Affirmation of Faith

UMH # 883

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God:

**We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada, *United Methodist Hymnal*, no. 883, by permission of The United Church of Canada.

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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**

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

UMH #454

1. Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine.
2. Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine.
3. Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my Heart, illumine me, Spirit divine.

*** 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**

"Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing"

"Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing" 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.

Thank you for joining us in worship!

PRAYER LIST

Faye Brooks, the family of Nancy Ball, the family and friends of Xzayviia “Zay” Bundy, Bill Croxton, Frauke Darnell, Jean Edwards, Bruce George, Jim Glass, Beth Harvey, the family of Bill Hendricks, Cindy Huber, Kelly Lafollette, Warren Minton, Thomas Mundie, Whitney Orlando, Arty Ramirez, Russ Riles, Jack Robertson, Jane Ruffa, Jay Ruffa, Colin Smith, Regan Smith, Alison Sullivan, Beverly Taylor, Thomas Tignor, Nancy Tiller, Biddy Acree Walker, Barbara Watkins, Ellie Wawner, Jim Wawner, Betty Whitten, Ashley Wind. 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, 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, March 15th:	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday in Lent
	11:15 AM	Sunday School
Tuesday, March 17 th :	10:00 AM	Church Activity Group
Wednesday, March 18 th :	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
	6:30 PM	Choir
Sunday, March 22 nd :	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday in Lent
	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