

***Tappahannock Memorial
United Methodist Church***

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



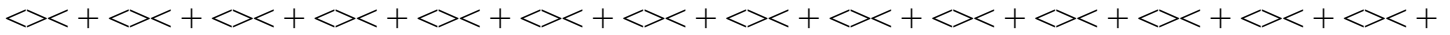
*“To all who mourn and need comfort,
to all who are tired and need rest,
to all who are lonely and need companionship,
to all who sin and need a Savior, and to all who will,
this church opens wide its doors.”*

4th Sunday of Advent

“From Fear to Faith”

December 18, 2022

Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (UMH 801); Matthew 1:18-25



Prelude

“O Holy Night”

**Beth Harvey, piano
Dr. Lewis Wilkins, organ**

“O Holy Night.” Contributor(s): Mark Hayes. Music © 1999 Jubilate Music. 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 & Registration of Attendance

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**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

UMH # 234, v. 1-3

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels; **{R}**
2. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created; **{R}**
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; **{R}**

*** Call to Worship**

O God, hear our call.

Stir up your strength and come to save us!

Restore us, O God.

Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

For we know that new life is coming.

A child will change us all.

Let your hand be upon him in blessing.

For he will bring you near.

He will be God-with-us.

Give us life, O God,

and we will forever call on your name,

Call to Worship from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022*, pg. 294. © 2021 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

*** Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy One, you send us new life in so many forms.

Open our minds, that we may recognize it.

Open our hearts, that we may receive it.

Open our bodies, that we may embrace it.

Open our souls, that we may live it.

Open us this day and all days. Amen.

Opening Prayer from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022*, pp. 294-295. © 2021 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Prayer of Confession

O God, you bring us life in ways we do not even realize, in forms we do not always understand.

We are so busy, the moments moving faster each day.

We do not always pay attention to your presence when it comes.

Often we cannot see what is right in front of us. We are asleep, even when awake.

And grace slips by us, unrecognized and unrequited.

We miss the opportunity to find you in one another.

We waste our chances for love.

We put you to the test, not with our unbelief, but with our distraction.

We think we are too busy for you.

But you, O God, still choose us.

You take our struggles and turn them into strengths, calling us apostles, making us friends.

You put your own self right into our hands, trusting that we can notice your gifts, recognize their meaning, and make a place for them in our lives.

Forgive us, O God, for our distractions. Slow our stride and calm our souls.

Remind our busy brains that there is nothing we have to do but be loved by you, nothing we have to make or even be.

For your new life is coming even now, awaiting to make us whole. Amen.

Prayer of Confession from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022*, pp. 295-296. © 2021 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

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

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.**

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING
The Wright Family

GIVE YOU A SIGN

Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25

Reader One: Isaiah said that the Lord spoke to the king and said, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven” (Isaiah 7:11 NRSV). But when the king refused, God would not be stopped. “Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14 NRSV).

Reader Two: God wants us to know, even when we aren’t sure ourselves. God wants us to experience God’s presence, even when we think we can handle life on our own. God sends us signs of God’s presence with us; all we need to do is keep our eyes open and look.

Reader One: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, ‘God is with us.’" When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus (Matthew 1:23-25 NRSV).

Reader Two: We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, of deep everlasting joy, and today of presence that speaks of love, as a sign that no matter our circumstance, we know we are not alone.

“Advent Song”

**Light the Advent candle, four: Think of joy forevermore;
Christ Child in a stable born, gift of love that Christmas morn. Candle,
Candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.**



“Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy 2022,” by Derek Weber. © 2022 Discipleship Ministries. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Children’s Time

The Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

pg. 636

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to

refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Romans 1:1-7

pg. 152

1Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, 6including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, 7To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 7:10-16 and Romans 1:1-7 from *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright © 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.

Anthem

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

Choir

“Jesus, the Light of the World.” Contributor(s): George D. Elderkin, Ken Bible. © 1998 LNWhymns.com (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.). CCLI Song # 6363190. CCLI License # 2350408.

*** Psalter**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

UMH # 801

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

²In the presence of Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,
stir up your might, and come to save us!

³Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁴O LORD God of hosts,

how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

**⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

⁶You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**¹⁷But let your hand be upon those of your right hand, the ones
whom you made strong for yourself!**

¹⁸Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name!

¹⁹Restore us, O LORD God of hosts!

Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

*** The Gloria Patri**

***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.***

*** Gospel**

Matthew 1:18-25

pg. 1

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25 from *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright © 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

"From Fear to Faith"

Rev. Rebecca L. Minor

*** Hymn of Response**

"What Child Is This"

UMH # 219

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

1. What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping? **{R}**
3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him. **{R}**

2. Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. **{R}**

*** 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.

Special Music

“Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion” (from *Messiah*)

**Kelly Wright, voice
Beth Harvey, piano**

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 and Russia; natural disasters; 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. Please let us know of other prayer concerns and needs.

Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

Special Offering: UM Family Services

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 app: Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Thank you for your continued support!

The Offertory

“Away in a Manger”

**Beth Harvey, piano
Dr. Lewis Wilkins, organ**

*** 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**

“Joy to the World”

UMH # 246

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

* **Benediction**

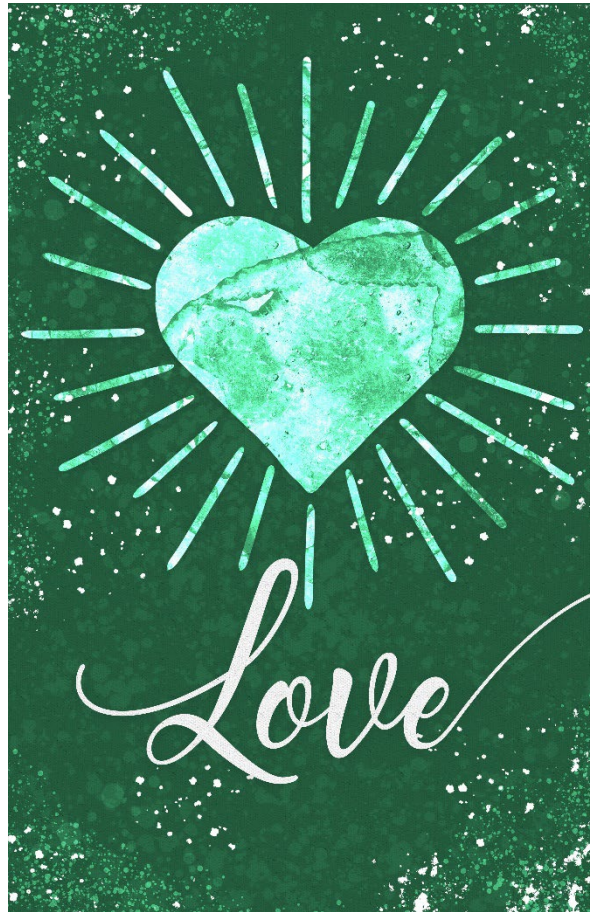
* **Postlude**

“Mary’s Little Boy Child”

Beth Harvey, piano
Dr. Lewis Wilkins, organ

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

Thank you for joining us in worship!



PRAYER LIST

Dave Baker, Tri Blanks, Eddie Bliss, Alice Boyd, Priscilla Carter and husband, family of Donna Gullstrand Davidson, Olivia Egge, Brock & Tammy Fielder, Peyton & Mae Lynne Guest, Ronnie Harvey, Bill Hendricks, Josh Hodges, Sarah Hundley, Rev. Steve Hundley, Rev. Barb & Alan Jacobs, Jean Johnson, Paige Klemm, Tenley & Hailey and Robin & Bill Kuhnert, Vicky La Follette's cousin Teresa, Carolyn Lewis, Kathleen MacDonald, family of Rev. Dr. Wayne A. MacDonald, Jacob McGuckin, Annie Machen, Janet Murphy, Monica Newsham, Nate Parker, Eleanor Rehm, Mary Lou Simpson, John & Debbie Snyder, Jackson Titmus, Lauriel Turner, and Brody Verlander. Inclusion & equality for the LGBTQ family & friends. All affected by critical weather and violence, everyone who struggles with drug addiction and alcoholism, those in peril, all missing persons, those who serve in the Armed Forces, students and educators, the people of Ukraine, Russia, and Europe during this time of war, everyone around the world as we fight the spread of COVID-19, and the UMC during the separation and as the church moves forward.

MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS: SSGT Jonathan Simpson.

PRAYERS AND CARDS ARE WELCOME FOR THESE MEMBERS

Lee Black, Barbara Brooks, Jim Climaldi, Jean Edwards, Cecile Farmer,
Don and Carol Nicholas, Edna Parrish, Eleanor Rehm, and Jean Rhines.

** Please contact the office for the phone number or address for any of these members of our church family*

SERVICE AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Today:	10:00 am	4th Sunday of Advent Worship w/ Choir Special Offering: UM Family Services
	11:15 am	Appreciation Luncheon for Rev. Barb
Monday:	6:00 pm	2022 & 2023 SPRC Meeting
	7:00 pm	Administrative Council Meeting
Tuesday:	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal: In-person only
Wednesday:	<i>WMG Meetings Will Resume on January 4th</i>	
Saturday, Dec 24:	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Sunday, Dec 25:	Merry Christmas	
	10:00 am	Christmas Day Worship Service

The church office will be closed from Saturday, Dec 24th through Monday, January 2nd.

Please contact Pastor Becca if you need assistance during this time.

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

Minister of Congregational Life: The Reverend Barbara M. Jacobs

Co-Music Directors: Rob & Kelly Wright

Pianist: Beth Harvey

Administrative Assistant: Cindy Huber, Cell Phone (540) 223-2835

Church: 804-443-2278 / **Church Administrative Email:** tappmethodist@gmail.com

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

Admin Hours: Working Offsite/Flexible Hours