

*Tappahannock Memorial  
United Methodist Church*

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



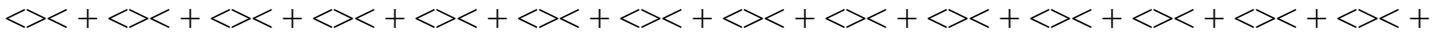
*“To all who mourn and need comfort,  
to all who are tired and need rest,  
to all who are lonely and need companionship,  
to all who sin and need a Savior, and to all who will,  
this church opens wide its doors.”*

# 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

## “Foolishness”

January 29, 2023

Micah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Psalm 15 (UMH 747); Matthew 5:1-12



### Prelude

### “Give Thanks”

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### 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](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

### “Fairest Lord Jesus”

UMH # 189

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Fairest Lord Jesus,<br/>ruler of all nature,<br/>O thou of God and man the Son,<br/>thee will I cherish,<br/>thee will I honor,<br/>thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.</p> <p>3. Fair is the sunshine,<br/>fairer still the moonlight,<br/>and all the twinkling starry host:<br/>Jesus shines brighter,<br/>Jesus shines purer<br/>than all the angels heaven can boast.</p> | <p>2. Fair are the meadows,<br/>fairer still the woodlands,<br/>robed in the blooming garb of spring:<br/>Jesus is fairer,<br/>Jesus is purer,<br/>who makes the woeful heart to sing.</p> <p>4. Beautiful Savior!<br/>Lord of all the nations!<br/>Son of God and Son of Man!<br/>Glory and honor,<br/>praise, adoration,<br/>now and forevermore be thine.</p> |
|---|--|

### \* Call to Worship

What does God require of us?

**God wants justice.**

What else does God want?

**God wants faithful love.**

Anything else?

**God wants us to walk humbly with God.**

Call to Worship from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pg. 19. © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

### \* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Come, Holy Wisdom, and show us your ways. In our confusing world, many voices demand our attention. Teach us to look with your eyes. Help us walk humbly beside you - doing what is right, speaking your truth. You alone are our guide and guardian on paths of peace and reconciliation. Amen.

Opening Prayer from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pg. 19. © 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

### Prayer of Confession

**God of compassion, we are overwhelmed by the struggles of life. We hunger and thirst for righteousness, but find ourselves feeling empty. We grieve in seasons of loss, feeling hopeless and lost. We want to show mercy, but we hold on to old resentments. We want to make peace, but we don't even know where to begin. Come with your wisdom and guide us in your ways. Renew us and inspire us to live faithfully, as you walk beside us. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 19-20. © 2022 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!**

### Children's Time

#### The Scripture Reading

**Micah 6:1-8**

**pg. 866**

**6**Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. **2**Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. **3**"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! **4**For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. **5**O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

**6**"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? **7**Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" **8**He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

**1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

**pg. 166**

**18**For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19**For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." **20**Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the

world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. <sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Micah 6:1-8 and 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 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**

**"I've Found a Friend"**

**Glory Ringers**

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\* **Psalter**

**Psalm 15**

**UMH # 747**

<sup>1</sup>O Lord, who shall abide in your tent? Who shall dwell in your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**The one who walks blamelessly, and does what is right, and speaks truth from the heart;**

<sup>3</sup>who does not slander with the tongue, and does no evil to a friend, nor takes up a reproach against a neighbor;

<sup>4</sup>**in whose eyes a reproach is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord;**

<sup>5</sup>who does not put out money at interest, and does not take a bribe against the innocent.

**The one who does these things shall never be moved.**

\* **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 5:1-12**

**pg. 4**

<sup>5</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. <sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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**

**“Foolishness”**

**Rev. Rebecca L. Minor**

**\* Hymn of Response**

**“Goodness is Stronger than Evil” (Sing 2X) FWS # 2219**

Goodness is stronger than evil;  
love is stronger than hate;  
light is stronger than darkness;  
life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours,  
victory is ours  
through him who loved us.  
Victory is us.

“Goodness is Stronger than Evil.” Contributor(s): John Bell. Tune: © 1996, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent  
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**\* Affirmation of Faith**

**World Methodist Social Affirmation**

**UMH # 886**

We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people;  
and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us,  
who died and rose again;  
and in the Holy Spirit,  
present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

**We believe;**

**God, help our unbelief.**

We rejoice in every sign of God's Kingdom;  
in the upholding of human dignity and community;  
in every expression of love, justice and reconciliation;  
in each act of self-giving on behalf of others;  
in the abundance of God's gifts  
entrusted to us that all may have enough;  
in all responsible use of the earth's resources.

**Glory be to God on high;  
and on earth, peace .**

We confess our sin, individual and collective,  
by silence or action:  
through the violation of human dignity  
based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith;  
through the exploitation of people  
because of greed and indifference  
through the misuse of power  
in personal, communal, national, and international life;

through the search for security  
by those military and economic forces  
that threaten human existence;  
through the abuse of technology  
which endangers the earth and all life upon it.

**Lord, have mercy;**

**Christ, have mercy;**

**Lord, have mercy .**

We commit ourselves individually and as a community  
to the way of Christ:

to take up the cross;  
to seek abundant life for all humanity;  
to struggle for peace with justice and freedom;  
to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love,  
praying that God's kingdom may come.

**Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Amen.**

World Methodist Social Affirmation, *United Methodist Hymnal*, no. 886. Copyright © 1986 World Methodist Council, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. Used by permission.

#### **\* 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 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 Offering**

##### ***Special Offering: Safety & Security System***

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

**The Offertory**

*“To God Be the Glory”*

**\* 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**

*“The Old Rugged Cross”*

**UMH # 504**

**Refrain:**

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
and exchange it some day for a crown.

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
the emblem of suffering and shame;  
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
for a world of lost sinners was slain. **{R}**
2. O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,  
has a wondrous attraction for me;  
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above  
to bear it to dark Calvary. **{R}**
3. In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,  
a wondrous beauty I see,  
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,  
to pardon and sanctify me. **{R}**
4. To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,  
its shame and reproach gladly bear;  
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,  
where his glory forever I'll share. **{R}**

**\* Benediction**

**\* Postlude**

*“Great Is the Lord”*

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*Thank you for joining us in worship!*

## PRAYER LIST

Dave Baker, family of Donald Ray Bareford, Tri Blanks, Eddie Bliss, Alice Boyd, Priscilla Carter and husband, Brittany Clark, family of Holly Ditch, Olivia Egge, Brock & Tammy Fielder, Peyton & Mae Lynne Guest, Damar Hamlin, Bill Hendricks, Josh Hodges, Sarah Hundley, Rev. Barb & Alan Jacobs, Paige Klemm, Tenley & Hailey and Robin & Bill Kuhnert, Vicky La Follette's cousin Teresa, Carolyn Lewis, Bill Loser, Kathleen MacDonald, Jacob McGuckin, Don & Mariam McMahon, the local Mennonite community, Amy Mahan, Ray Massie, Yvonne Minor, Janet Murphy, Monica Newsham, Nate Parker, Eleanor Rehm, Terri & Shawn Schurer, Mary Lou Simpson, John & Debbie Snyder, Jackson Titmus, Brody Verlander, and Carolyn Williams. 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 these members of our church family*

### SERVICE AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

<b>Today:</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>4th Sunday after the Epiphany Worship w/ Glory Ringers</b>
	<b>11:15 am</b>	<b>Sunday School: In-person only</b>
Monday:	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday:	10:30 am	Wednesday Morning Group
Thursday:	8:30 am - 4 pm	Fellowship Hall & TMUMC Parking Lot Being Used by VCU Remote Medical
Sunday, Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> :	8:45 am	RockFish Band Rehearsal
	10:00 am	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany & Holy Communion Worship w/ Choir
Monday, Feb 6 <sup>th</sup> :	11:15 am	Sunday School: In-person only
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, Feb 8 <sup>th</sup> :	10:30 am	Wednesday Morning Group
Thursday, Feb 9 <sup>th</sup> :	9 am - 3 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved: Garden Club
<b>Saturday, Feb 11<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>FFC Final Readiness Meeting</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

**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