

*Tappahannock Memorial  
United Methodist Church*

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



# The Golden Calf

*“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

## 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### “Impatiently Waiting”

October 15, 2023

Exodus 32:1-4; Psalm 106(829); Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

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#### Prelude

#### *“Lord Listen to Your Children Praying”*

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#### 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](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

#### *“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”*

UMH # 126

1. Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation. With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled: To God all praise and glory.
2. The Lord is never far away, but through grief distressing, an ever present help to stay, our peace and joy and blessing. As with a mother’s tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band: To God all praise and glory.
3. Thus, all my toil-some way along, I sing aloud thy praises, that earth may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises. Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part: To God be all praise and glory.
4. Let all who name Christ’s holy name give God all praise and glory;  
let all who own his power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!  
Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Chrsit alone:  
To God all praise and glory

#### \* Call to Worship:

Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!

**Take heart; the Lord is near.**

Make it known among the people: God reigns.

## **Proclaim it from the rooftops.**

Let gentleness and mirth be your guide.

## **Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!**

Take heart; the Lord is near.

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### **\* Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. .

Holy God, we come before you this day with praise in our lips and songs of joy in our hearts.

When we abide in your kingdom and live according to your ways, good triumphs over evil, love is stronger than hate, and truth wins the day. Focus our hearts and minds on things that are worthy of praise, and bless us with a peace that passes all understanding. Amen.

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### **Prayer of Yearning**

**We seek your goodness, O God, for we search our hearts and find them wanting. We seek your joy, source of mirth and laughter, for our limbs are weary and our hearts our heavy. Set our minds on things that are excellent, admirable, and worthy of praise. Shine the light of your love far and wide, that the world might strive after things that are just, righteous, and true. Amen.**

Prayer of Yearning from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*, pp. 193. Copyright © 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**

#### **Scriptures**

**Exodus 32:1-14**

**pg.**

*When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land*

*of Egypt!” When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, “Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord.” They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.*

*The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’” The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.” But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.*

#### **Philippians 4:1-9**

**pg.**

*Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.*

Exodus 32:1-14; Philippians 4:1-9 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**

**“Sweet Hour of Prayer”**

**Glory Ringers**

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” Contributor(s). Words and Music: Sandra J. Eithum, William Batchelder Bradbury. © 2009 Choristers Guild. CCLI Song # 7027070 CCLI License #2350408.

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord!

**O give thanks to the Lord who is good;  
whose steadfast love endures for ever!**

<sup>2</sup> Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord,  
or show forth all God's praise?

<sup>3</sup> **Blessed are they who observe justice,  
who do righteousness at all times!**

<sup>4</sup> Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people:  
help me when you deliver them,

<sup>5</sup> **that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,  
that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation,  
that I may glory with your heritage.**

<sup>6</sup> Both we and our forbears have sinned;  
we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.

<sup>7</sup> **Our forebears, when they were in Egypt,  
did not consider your wonderful works;**  
they did not remember the abundance of your steadfast love,  
but rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.

<sup>8</sup> **God saved them for the sake of his holy name,  
to make known the mighty power of God.**

<sup>9</sup> God rebuked the Red Sea, and it became dry;  
and led them through the deep as through a desert.

<sup>10</sup> **So God saved them from the hand of the foe,  
and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.**

<sup>11</sup> And the waters covered their adversaries;  
not one of them was left.

<sup>12</sup> Then they believed God's words;  
they sang God's praise.

<sup>19</sup> They made a calf in Horeb  
and worshipped a molten image,

<sup>20</sup> **They exchanged the glory of God  
for the image of an ox that eats grass.**

<sup>21</sup> They forgot God, their Savior,  
who had done great things in Egypt,

<sup>22</sup> **wondrous works in the land of Ham,  
and terrible things by the Red Sea.**

<sup>23</sup> Therefore the Lord intended to destroy them  
had not Moses, his chosen one,  
stood in the breach,  
to turn away God's wrath from destroying them.

<sup>47</sup> **Save us, O Lord our God,  
and gather us from among the nations,  
that we may give thanks to your holy name**

**and glory in your praise.**

<sup>48</sup> Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
from everlasting to everlasting!

**And let all the people say, “Amen!”  
Praise the Lord!**

**\* 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 21:33-46**

**pg. 24**

*Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”*

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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**

**“Impatiently Waiting”**

**Rev. Rebecca L. Minor**

**\* Hymn of Response**

**“Jesus Calls Us”**

**UMH # 398**

1. Jesus calls us o’er the tumult of our life’s wild, restless sea;  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth, saying “Christian, follow me!”
2. As of old the apostles heard it by the Galilean lake,



turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus' sake.

3. Jesus call us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more!"
4. In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these!"
5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

**\* 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.**

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

**The 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**

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 e-giving app identified on the last page of today's bulletin. Thank you for your continued support!

### **The Offertory**

#### ***"Blessed Assurance"***

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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.*

### **\* Closing Hymn**

#### ***"It's Me, It's Me O Lord"***

**UMH # 352**

Refrain: It's me, it's me, O Lord, Standing in the need of prayer.

It's me, it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

1. Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
2. Noth the preacher, not the deacon, but it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.
3. Not my father, not my mother, but it's me, O Lord, Standing in the need of prayer.

### **\* Benediction**

### **\* Postlude**

#### ***"This Is The Day"***

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**Thank you for joining us in worship!**



## PRAYER LIST

Bill Black, Eddie Bliss, Lois Bonhouse, Royce Burrus, Roxanne Griffith, Bertie Harding, Susie Hardwick, Maurice Hawa, Madeline Hawkins, the family of Jessica Hayes, Bill Hendricks, Lauma Hill, Cindy Huber, Betty Gregory, Carolyn Lewis, Bill Loser, Ron Lucas, Ray Massie, Dakota Minor, Nate Parker, the family of Eleanor Rehm, Mary Lou Simpson, and Betty Whitten. 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:** SSGT Jonathan Simpson. SA Ethan Minor while at Navy Advanced Schooling.

### 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>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost Worship Service</b>
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Group
Saturday:	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Farmers Market
Sunday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 AM	21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service

*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