

TAKOMA PARK PREBYTERIAN CHURCH
THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 4, 2022

Live streamed at 10:00 a.m.



Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor
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Facemasks are currently optional at TPPC. However, given the recent increase in local community transmission, we strongly encourage wearing a mask regardless of your vaccination status.

We recommend that everyone stay up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters. If you have a vulnerable health condition or just prefer to wear a mask, please feel free to do so.

Health and Safety Committee.

On Communion Sundays, we ask that all prayer concerns be written in the prayer book (instead of passing the microphone).

Preparation for the Word

“Freedom is not a state; it is an act. It is not some enchanted garden perched high on a distant plateau where we can finally sit down and rest. Freedom is the continuous action we must all take, and each generation must do its part to create an even more fair, more just society.”

John Lewis

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

Let the Prelude’s music open you to God’s presence as we begin worship.

Prelude

Offrande

Flor Peeters

Welcome *(Please sign the red friendship book and pass it down the pew.)*

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Lord, we commit ourselves to your costly way of holy disruption today and always. May your love strengthen us to endure the good trouble necessary to liberate all of your children. May your wisdom

guide us as we work to create a world full of compassion, grace, and justice – a world where love is the law of the land. Amen.

Call to Worship

Responsively

Psalm 116

What shall we return to the Lord for all the good things God has done for us?

We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Let us worship God.

Opening Hymn 386

Come, Worship God

O QUANTA QUALIA

Prayer of Confession

We come before God as we are, trusting that by grace and the power of the Holy Spirit we can be transformed into the people we were created to be.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

Steal, Jesus, steal from us the grudge we will not let go, the pain we will not let heal, the sin we most condemn in others and most disguise in ourselves.

Liberate, Jesus, liberate in us the hands that care for only one body, the eyes that focus on what they want to see, the tongues that condemn the petty but never challenge the powerful.

Love, Jesus, love in us the self we despair about, the self we hide, the self we throw at others because we cannot live with it on our own.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in

power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.

Response of Joy 750 Goodness is Stronger than Evil

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 God who loves us.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination 458

THY WORD

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2X)

First Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Anthem

How Firm a Foundation

Arr. Robert Keene

Time with the Children

Pastor Mark Harper

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 14:25-33

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Thanks be to God**

Reflection on the Word

Sermon
Harper

The Cost

Pastor Mark

***Hymn 716 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending**
RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People Pastor Mark Harper
Prayers will be read from the Prayer Book and the "Chat Box"

Prayer Response: *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer*

The Offering Invitation

The offering plate reminds us of the many contributions we all make to our church and God's realm. Please pass it to your neighbor and offer thanks for each other's gifts.

Offertory **Leaning on the Everlasting Arms**
Arr. Anthony Showalter

***Doxology 607** OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your Beloved Community.
Blessed be God forever! Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Christ welcomes us to receive this meal

Hymn 701 (2x)

Sanctuary

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

The Invitation

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the reign of God.

How good and pleasant it is when people dwell in unity.

O taste and see that the Lord is good.

Happy are all who find refuge in God.

This is the Lord's Table. Come, for all is made ready.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and it is indeed right to offer our praise ...

... Therefore we praise you.

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

Creator and Sustainer of Life, Holy is your name.

May your shalom come and your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us the bread we need for today.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Walk with us through times of trial; and deliver us from evil.

For the Beloved Community, the power for life, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Gary Cardillo, Cinematographer
Jay Clouse, Technician
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Schedule for upcoming events

**** Zoom events**

Tue. Sept. 6 12:00 p.m. Informal Coffee Hour**

Wed. Feb. 9, 8:00 p.m. Presbyterian for Police Transformation**

Sun. Sept 11, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (*hybrid*)

+Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome to our worship. We are pleased you are
with us today.

+Next Sunday, September 11, Worship Service begins at 11:00 a.m.

**+Monthly Sunday gatherings for children and youth begin
September 11,** during the worship service, after the "time with
children" in their own space upstairs. We will plan special service
projects and activities for all ages on September 11, October 2, and
November 7. On days when we are not planning a monthly
special activity, Sunday School teachers will be available for an
abbreviated lesson upstairs during the worship service if kids are
present and interested in joining. We will try this for a few
months as a beginning for more fellowship with the children and
youth.

+Choir rehearsal will resume Monday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m.
All are welcome to **"Sing God's Praise."**

+The Women's Bible Study begins with a new book,
Celebrating Sabbath. All are welcome to join us. Our first
meeting is Saturday, September 10 from 10:30 a.m. – 12.00p.m.
Please call Jo Hoge to obtain a copy of the book.

(301-589-4407, land line, or johoge@verizon.net) and **to receive the zoom link.**

+Let Justice Roll Down: Register Voters with the MD PPC Regional groups of the Maryland Poor People's Campaign, including one focused on Prince George's County, will be registering and mobilizing voters **September 16-18**. Volunteers are needed to speak with voters about justice issues, distribute and explain voting information, and assist with registering people to vote. maryland@poorpeoplescampaign.org

+The TPPC Women's Bible Study Group, of which Lowella Ganoczy was a member, invites you to a Memorial Gathering to honor Lowella, on **Saturday September 17, at 2 p.m.** To be held at TPPC. This will be followed by a reception. This celebration will be in addition to the worship service, which was held in honor of Lowella, in August.

+Would you like to learn about what the Critical History Project research is discovering but weren't able to attend the presentation and discussion on zoom earlier this summer? Here is an opportunity to listen to it online:

<https://tinyurl.com/TPPCHistoryAudioJune12> or watch the video <https://tinyurl.com/TPPCHistoryVideoJune12>

+TPPC Meditation Group meets Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Library. All are welcome.

+Deacons are called to a ministry of "compassion, witness and service" in the life of the church. Please contact the Deacons with any requests or suggestions concerning the care of people in the congregation and within the community.

Deacons meet the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm.

Please contact us at Deacons@takomaparkpc.org.

+Thank you to everyone for your continued support of TPPC.
As a reminder, there are several ways to give to TPPC.
Information on giving, including giving on line, can be found at
<https://www.takomaparkpc.org/give>.