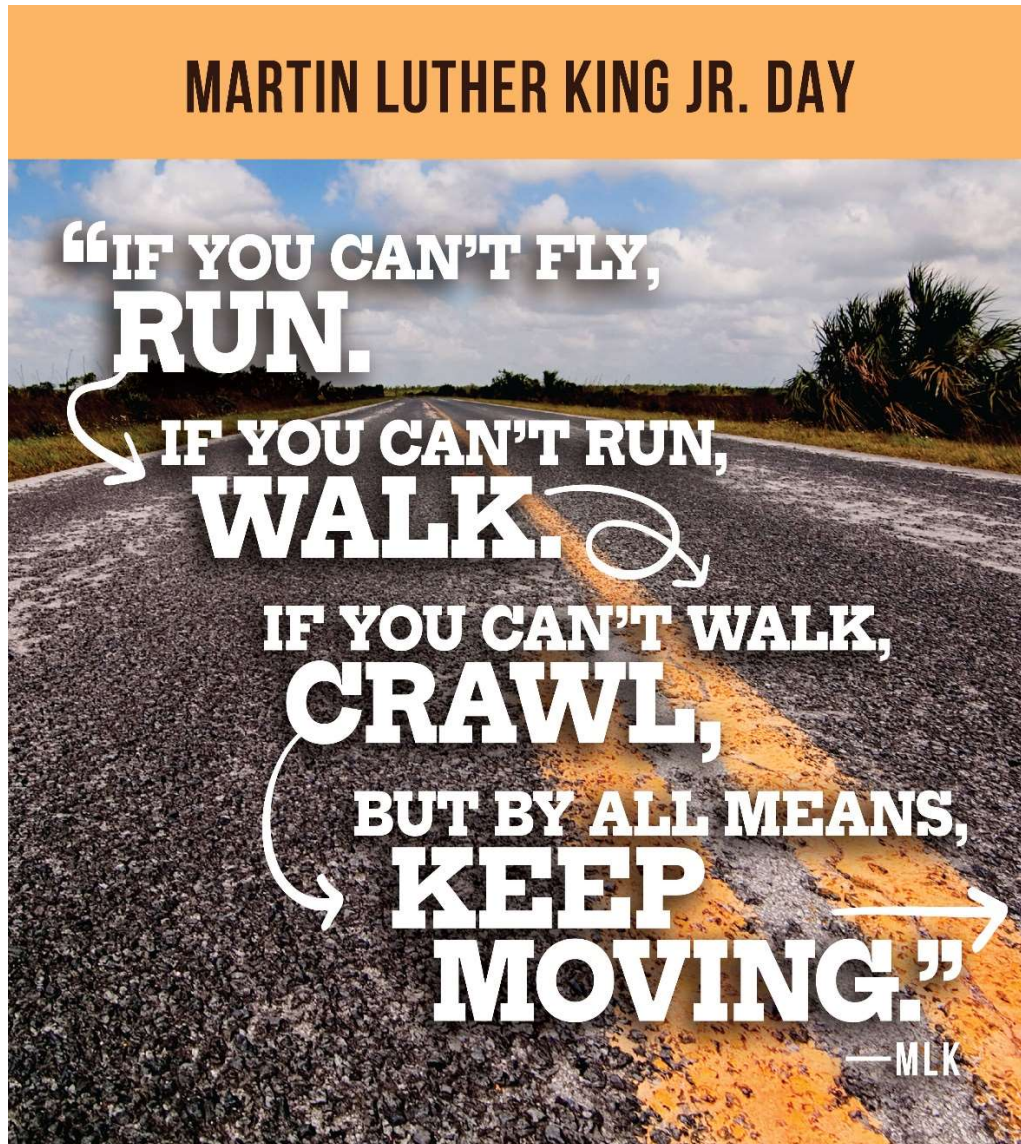


# TAKOMA PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*January 14, 2024*

*Live streamed at 11:00 a.m.*



Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor  
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church  
310 Tulip Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912  
Website: [www.takomaparkpc.org](http://www.takomaparkpc.org)  
Email: [office@takomaparkpc.org](mailto:office@takomaparkpc.org)  
Tel: 301-270-5550  
**A Church for all People**

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*(\*) Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

**+Facemasks are currently optional. If you have a vulnerable health condition or just prefer to wear a mask, please feel free to do so.**

*Health and Safety Committee.*

## Preparation for the Word

*"There is a sort of poverty of the spirit which stands in glaring contrast to our scientific and technological abundance. The richer we have become materially, the poorer we have become morally and spiritually. We have learned to fly the air like birds and swim the sea like fish, but we have not learned the simple act of living together as (siblings)."*

*-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Nobel Prize Lecture*

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

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

**Prelude      Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen**

Traditional Spiritual

Arr. Lani Smith

**Welcome**

**Opening Prayer (Unison)**

We turn to you often, O God, as we seek through prayer to find the meaning of life. Sometimes it's a fervent prayer in the midst of serious meditation, but more often it's a fleeting prayer on the run. We pray for patience when there are too many things to be done. We pray that you will awaken us to hear the cries of the poor, the homeless, the broken-hearted, the imprisoned, those devastated by war. Help us to redirect more of our resources to bring about justice, peace, and the flourishing of all life. Open our hearts and minds, O God, to be willing vessels of your spirit. Amen.

## **Call to Worship**

*Responsively*

We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

**We need not look up to find God; we need only look around:**

Within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.

**We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God;**

We need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.

**We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.**

Let us worship God!

**\*Hymn 66 Every Time I Feel the Spirit** Traditional Spiritual

## **Prayer of Confession**

The vision of God's Beloved Community remains a work in progress. Let us pray for the guidance and strength of the Holy Spirit that we might continue marching in the light of God.

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

God of all people, today we remember and give thanks for your servant, Martin Luther King, Jr. His words and sacrificial action moved a nation toward justice and equity. His witness called forth the best of us, casting a vision of unity and reconciliation we have yet to achieve.

**We know that remembering the saints is not enough, and so we ask for the wisdom and strength to emulate their bravery, their tenacity and willingness to stop at nothing to speak truth to power.**

As we see the rise of hatred and white supremacy, the explosion of division and bigotry, we boldly ask for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

**Do again, Lord God, what you did at Pentecost. Upend our expectations, break through our tribal loyalties, knit us together as one humanity, give us the ability to speak and hear each other's languages, unite all of us to dream your dreams, see your visions, speak your words and not only understand each other, but long to be with one another.**

This day is not simply a day on the calendar, but a day on which we serve and work, pray and hope, struggle and strive to bend the arc of history closer to justice.

Lord God, abide with us, inspire us, shape us into the people your prophets call us to be: united, beloved, and a beautiful reflection of your glory. Amen.

### *Silent Prayer*

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Hear the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free to love and serve the Lord!

**Alleluia! Amen.**

#### **\*Praise 582    Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me**

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

#### **\*Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
*(Worshippers on Zoom may unmute themselves and share the peace.)*

## **WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

#### **Prayer of Illumination    458**

*Thy word is a Lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2x)*

#### **First Scripture Reading**

**Exodus 3:1-12**

#### **Anthem**

**Deep River**

Traditional Spiritual  
Arr. Mark Hay

#### **Time with the Children**

**Pastor Mark Harper**

#### **Second Scripture Reading**

**Luke 4:16-21**

#### **Reflection on the Word**

**Sermon**

**Rich in the Spirit**

**Rev. Mark Harper**

**\*Hymn**

**Down by the Riverside**

Traditional Spiritual  
Arr. Clarence C. White

I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside,  
I ain't gonna study war no more.

**Refrain:** I ain't gonna study war no more, I ain't gonna study war no more,  
I ain't gonna study war no more. I ain't gonna study war no more,  
I ain't gonna study war no more, I ain't gonna study war no more.

Second stanza:

I'm gonna knock down those racist walls, down by the riverside,  
down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
I'm gonna knock down those racist walls, down by the riverside.  
I ain't gonna study war no more.

**Refrain**

Third stanza:

I'm gonna share more with my neighbors, down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
I'm gonna share more with my neighbors, down by the riverside.  
I ain't gonna study war no more.

**Refrain**

Fourth stanza:

I'm gonna love all my neighbors, down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
I'm gonna love my neighbors down by the riverside  
I ain't gonna study war no more.

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## Prayers of the People

Rev. Carolyn Tilley

*Prayers will be read from the Prayer Book and the "Chat Box"*

**Prayer Response:** God of glory, **hear our Prayers.**

## The Lord's Prayer (unison)

O Holy Trinity of Love,

Holy are you and holy is your name.

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

Give us our daily bread,

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

Walk with us through times of trial and save us from evil.

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

## 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**      **There Is a Balm in Gilead**

Traditional Spiritual  
Arr. James T. Bingham

## \*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.

## \*Litany of Dedication and Recommitment to Justice - Responsively

O God, who has created your children to be free, we attest in word and deed that you are our God and we are your people. From our earliest days as the people whom you intend to be free, O God, you have called us forth from self-seeking bondage, comfort, complacency, and complaint, to freeing and redeeming action for justice everywhere in the world.

**You are our liberating God, and we would be your free and liberating people.**

O God of Exodus and the Burning Bush, of the Prophets and Jesus, we hear your powerful calling to be your servants in the service of all those who are oppressed. At every turn we hear your voice in the cries of the poor, the hungry, the imprisoned, and the broken, for you made yourself one with those who seek justice, freedom, and peace. We share a vision, a promise, and a yearning for the day of your reign, O God.

**You are our servant God, and we would be your serving people.**

O God our Sustainer, search our hearts and reveal to us our sinfulness, all the way we contribute to injustice and to self-destroying bondage. Give us deep courage to find the true path of your way, ready to give our very selves as living sacrifices of your will. We have heard your calling. Hear us now as we make our pledge.

**You are our God and we are your people.**

**Receive the offerings we present today.**

**And we pledge ourselves now to pursue relentlessly that living, breathing justice which transforms persons and peoples.**

**To your will for justice we recommit ourselves and dedicate ourselves, our gifts, and our actions.**

**Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

## **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD**

### **Announcements of the Community's Life**

**\*Sending Hymn 339      Lift Every Voice and Sing**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude      All My Hope in God Is Founded      MICHAEL  
Herbert Howells  
Michael Burkhardt**

*Community worship ends; discipleship and service begin anew.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Participants in this morning's service*

Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor  
Elizabeth MacGregor, Liturgist  
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church Choir  
Dr. James Bingham, organ  
Jay Clouse, Zoom Technician  
Erol Kalayoglu, Zoom Technician

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Schedule for upcoming events**

**\*\* Zoom events**

Monday, January 15, 7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Tuesday, January 16, 12:00 p.m.	Virtual coffee hour**
Tuesday, January 16, 3:30 p.m.	Critical History Project**
Wednesday, January 17, 8:15 p.m.	Presbyterians for Police Transformation**
Friday, January 19, 7:00 p.m.	Men's Gathering
Sunday, January 21, 9:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday School ( <i>hybrid</i> )
Sunday, January 21, 11:00 a.m.	Worship Service ( <i>hybrid</i> )

+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.

**+Please continually pray for peace** - - in our homes, in our lives, neighborhoods, the nation and the world.

**+Friday January 19, 7-9p.m.,** will be our next "Men's Gathering" at the home of Matt Kaiser, 7108 Holly Ave.

Please bring yourself, a beverage of choice, and one to share.

Matt and I will provide snacks. We will take some time to remember the life of Dave Olson who was himself a great host of our gatherings. As always, we look forward to seeing you there for food, fellowship and robust conversation. Rev. John Seaman.



+ Our annual **Church Polar Bear Plunge** team is forming up now in preparation for the **February 10th** dip in the Potomac River to fight climate change. This year we are also honoring the memory of church member David Olson.

To join the plunge, access the TPPC Polar Bear Plunge page (<http://tinyurl.com/TPPCPolarBear2024>) and select the button "Join the Plunge Team." It's an amazing experience on the beach at National Harbor. You'll love it and the money you raise benefits both the TPPC Social Witness in Action Committee as well as the Chesapeake Climate Action Network.

I hope you join us on February 10th! Mike Tidwell.

+**The Deacons** are called to a ministry of “compassion, witness, and service” in the life of the Church. Please contact the Deacons with any suggestions or requests concerning care of the people in the congregation and within the community (email: [deacons@takomaparkpc.org](mailto:deacons@takomaparkpc.org)).

#### +**The Wilhelmina and Stanley Jashemski Memorial Scholarship**

Wilhelmina and Stanley Jashemski, long time members of Takoma Park Presbyterian Church sponsored a Sunday school forum in which young adults could explore their faith in an intellectually challenging environment. Their shared commitment to encourage the development of people with potential for inspired, enlightened leadership is reflected in the goals and purposes of the Fund.

The Scholarship provides financial assistance for students of outstanding intellectual ability as evidenced by prior academic performance, and significant religious commitment as evidenced by formal membership in a religious body, regular participation in its worship life, and active involvement in its service ministry.

Deadline for applications is February 15. For more information, please access <https://www.takomaparkpc.org/jashemski-scholarship>

Questions can be directed to [Jashemski@takomaparkpc.org](mailto:Jashemski@takomaparkpc.org)

#### +**Thank you for your continued support of TPPC.**

As a reminder, there are several ways to give to TPPC. Information on giving, including giving online, can be found at

<https://www.takomaparkpc.org/give>.

Checks may be mailed to

Takoma Park Presbyterian Church,  
310 Tulip Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912.

If you have questions, please contact [finance@takomaparkpc.org](mailto:finance@takomaparkpc.org).

+We need **volunteers to host coffee hour!** Hosting is easy and fun. Help support this important time of fellowship and sharing by signing up to host coffee hour - pick your Sunday and signup using this signup genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094BAFAD23A0FDC61-tppc>:

Questions contact [rogergriffis61@gmail.com](mailto:rogergriffis61@gmail.com) or 301-980-4694 Thank you!

+Do you feel called to serve the church in new ways?

**The Nominating Committee** is currently seeking nominations for a two-year position on Session, the governing body of our church. As a member of Session, or Ruling Elder, you would serve alongside 11 fellow Elders to set church policy, support the ministries of the church, manage the buildings and finances, and tend to the spiritual life of our congregation. The experience is both challenging and rewarding, and there are no special requirements to serve. If you'd like to learn more, let me know and I can connect you with current and past Elders. Nominations are open to all members, and you may nominate yourself.

Thank you for considering this opportunity; please contact me with nominations or questions. (email: [nominate@takomaparkpc.org](mailto:nominate@takomaparkpc.org))

Cynthia Barron, Nominating Committee Chair,

+**With gratitude** to our Pastor, Session, Ministries, Deacons, and Committees; it now is time to put on record our achievements of 2023. It is time for the Annual Report.

The **Annual Congregational Meeting** of TPPC will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024. **Annual Reports** are due from all Ministries and Committee leaders by **Thursday, January 18, 2024**, and preferably, no later than Monday January 22, 2024, so that they will be compiled, prepared, printed, and distributed before the meeting, on February 4. Please send your reports to the Clerk of Session, Kurt Lawson, as soon as you can. Your help will be much appreciated in getting this done on time. **Thank you.**

+In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church invites the congregation and wider Takoma Park Community to three Sunday morning discussions of King's 1964 Nobel Peace Prize Lecture "The Quest for Peace and Justice."

Discussions will take place in the church parlor and on zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/TPPCSundayBibleStudy> from 9:30-10:50 am.

Topics include:

January 14--Racial Justice;  
January 21-- Poverty; and  
January 28--War.

You can read the lecture:

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1964/king/lecture/>.

Excerpts are at:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1He8x9iwHo61jwa5U0-hl7TsbJPHYHd87/edit>

## STAFF

2024

Rev. Mark Harper -	Pastor markharper@takomaparkpc.org
Dr. James Bingham -	Director of Music
Joanna Tipton -	Bookkeeper
Gary Cardillo -	Buildings Manager
Miliadi Rodas-Cruz	Nursery Assistant
Sabrina Tyson	Nursery Assistant
Una Kettering	Office Administrator

<b>Parish Associates</b>	Rev. Rev. John Seaman Rev. Carolyn Tilley
<b>Parish Assistant</b>	Rev. Eugene Eastman
<b>Greeter</b>	Isaac Frazer
<b>Treasurer</b>	Aggie Patti

## SESSION

### **Clerk of Session - Kurt Lawson**

<b>Class of 2024</b>	<b>Class of 2025</b>	<b>Class of 2026</b>
Phil Boyer	Samuel Kalibala	Kathy Belyeu
Jean Dickey	Karol Keane	Kurt Lawson
Rebecca Woodings	Thomas Showalter	Roger Griffis
Alphonso Williams		George Martin

## DEACONS

### **Moderator of Deacons - Lisa Kiely**

<b>Class of 2024</b>	<b>Class of 2025</b>	<b>Class of 2026</b>
Madline Morsha Taylor	Ethan Bailey	Neel Hunter
Brian Forbin	Carol Christensen	Cynthia Barron
Lisa Kiely	Martha Kiger	Madeline Lindvall

Note: Elders and Deacons listed here take office in February.

## *About our Church*

+ **We welcome visitors to worship with us.** We pray that you will be blessed by your time with us this day. The gospel that we share and serve is a message of life and rebirth, love and reconciliation, hope and joy, peace and justice, and concern for the integrity of creation. If you are looking for a church home for your spiritual journey and service to God, we invite you to be our guest as often as possible as you discern if this is the faith community to which God is calling you.

+ **A Hearing System** is available for those who need it. See one of the greeters to get earphones.

+ **TPPC** welcomes **families** with infants and children to our worship services. The following are options for families:

A **Nursery** is available for **infants through 3** years old, 9:30 a.m. -12:15 p.m. in the Teddy Bear Room on the lower level of the education building (our greeters/ushers will direct you there.)

Children are invited to come forward for the **“Time with Children”** afterwards, pre-school and elementary age children are invited upstairs in the education building for Bible story movies followed by free play time. Your infant or small child is welcome to stay with you in worship. If the child becomes uncomfortable and needs care during the service, feel free to leave the sanctuary. There is a changing table and rocking chair in the room next to the exit door on the left of the sanctuary. Books to share with your children are in the back of the sanctuary. Please do not leave your child unsupervised at the back of the sanctuary.

+ **In our worship**, we seek to use **inclusive language** in hymns, prayers and Scripture lessons. If you find gender specific words in hymns or other text that cause you difficulty, please feel free to make appropriate substitutions.