

TAKOMA PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 4, 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
Email: 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.

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

Preparation for the Word

*"Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."
-Isaiah 40:31*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

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

Prelude **O Thou In Whose Presence** DAVIS
 My Soul Takes Delight Arr. Gilbert Martin

Welcome

Opening Prayer (Unison)

God of compassion, you have shown us in Christ that your love is never-ending. Enable us to love you with all our hearts and to love one another as Christ loves us. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Call to Worship

Responsively

from Psalm 147

Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God;
God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The Lord gathers the outcasts and heals the brokenhearted, binding up their wounds.

God determines the number of the stars and gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; the Lord lifts up the downtrodden and casts the wicked to the ground.

Let us worship God together!

***Hymn 401 (v.1-3)**

Here in This Place

Prayer of Confession

The God who is working to restore us to right relationship with the One who gives us life also calls us to heal broken communities. Let us ask God for the grace and wisdom to do this holy work.

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

Holy God, our vision for a good life and wellbeing is often limited to 'me and mine,' and seldom extends to neighborhood and world. We forget that you created us for community, and that we thrive when we recognize you have woven us into a web of mutuality. Expand our imaginations beyond individualism and move us closer to Beloved Community.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

God is gracious and merciful, lifting us up to new life and healthy relationships. Know that you are loved and empowered by God's Spirit to be instruments of Christ's peace.

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

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Anthem **How Can I Keep From Singing?** Robert Lowry
Arr. Craig Courtney

Time with the Children

Pastor Mark Harper

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 1:40-45

Reflection on the Word

Sermon **"Half-free."** **Rev. Mark Harper**

***Hymn 797** **We Cannot Measure How You**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark Harper

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

Prayer Response: Lord, in your mercy, **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 Let Us Break Bread Together Traditional Spiritual
John Ness Beck

***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)**

Thank you, O Holy God, for the blessings of life you have given us. May these offerings become blessings for our siblings and neighbors, and a witness to your justice and mercy.

We pray in Jesus' name. 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. It is not Takoma Park's table.
It is the Lord's Table, so come - for all is made ready.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

God is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

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. . .

Yes, all thanks and praise be to you, most holy God, giver of all life.

You made us for companionship and shaped us for love;

You gave us your good earth and taught us to care;

You established your law that we might learn justice

and give you honor with our lives; we give thanks to you.

Creating God, breath of all being;

The earth is yours and all that is in it,

And all who dwell therein.

And so we sing with all the Saints on earth and all the saints in heaven:

Sung Sanctus 552

LAND OF REST

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are filled with your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest,

hosanna in the highest.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

The Acclamation

Let us praise the Lord.

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

In Christ shall all be made alive.

**Blessing and honor and glory and power be to our God
forever and ever. Amen**

Prayer After Communion (unison)

O God who feeds us, guide us to extend this table of welcome into our neighborhood and world so that all who hunger and thirst for justice might be fed. We offer our thanks for the sustenance you keep giving for the journey.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

Announcements of the Community's Life

***Sending Hymn 852 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least**

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"Hyfrydol"

Gordon Young

Community worship ends; discipleship and service begin anew.

Participants in this morning's service

Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor
Carolyn Tilley, Communion Officiant
Mary Jackstiet, Liturgist
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church Choir
Dr. James Bingham, organ
Jay Clouse, Zoom Technician

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Schedule for upcoming events

** Zoom events

Monday, February 5, 7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Tuesday, February 6, 12:00 p.m.	Virtual coffee hour**
Wednesday, February 7, 7:00 p.m.	CCE Ministry Meeting**
Wednesday, February 7, 8:15 p.m.	Presbyterians for Police Transformation**
Thursday, February 8, 8:30 p.m.	Committed Racial Mindfulness Meeting**
Saturday, February 10, 10:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
Sunday, February 11, 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.

+The **Annual Congregational Meeting** of TPPC will be held today, immediately after our worship service. Please join us.

+**Thanks and appreciation** to the **Leo Family** for providing Coffee Hour refreshments after worship today.

+Our annual **Church Polar Bear Plunge** team is this Saturday **February 10th**, a dip in the Potomac River to fight climate change.

This year we are also honoring the memory of our brother and church member David Olson.

To join the plunge, 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.

If you'd rather donate to another church plunger, that is also fine.

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

+TPPC is again joining with **Christ Congregational Church** this winter/spring to offer the **Our Whole Lives curriculum to young people** in our congregations. **OWL** focuses on building age-appropriate knowledge, self-esteem, and tools for healthy relationships and self-care as kids go into and through adolescence.

This year, there will be two classes - one for kids in 4-6 grades and one for kids in 7-10. Classes will be at CCC on Sunday nights, 6 to 7:30 PM.

Orientation for parents and kids will be February 4, and the first class will be February 25.

This is a terrific, fun, and fully inclusive curriculum! If you have any questions, contact Mary Beth Hastings at hastings.marybeth@gmail.com.

The sign-up link is here -

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvzyP4jHtY4ARRQjtUdm8SEY9Yjgb_qHAWAtUB_i2wUcMHQA/viewform

+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 persons 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 see:

<https://www.takomaparkpc.org/jashemski-scholarship>.

Questions can be directed to Jashemski@takomaparkpc.org

+Environmental Legislative Briefing

The TPPC Green Team invites you to learn about environmental issues being considered in the Maryland General Assembly. Assembly. Interfaith Power & Light and Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake will be hosting a virtual legislative briefing today, **February 4th, from 2-3:30 pm**.

You will hear from issue experts about priority legislation, why it's important for Maryland, and how, as people of faith, we can be advocates from a moral and religious perspective. Topics will include legislation to establish watershed restoration, how to help households make the switch from gas to electric, and a variety of environmental justice issues.

RSVP by clicking

https://www.interfaithchesapeake.org/2024_maryland_legislative_briefing_20240204 and a webinar link will be sent to you.

+Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Supper & Talent Show: February 13.

Our annual TPPC Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Show is Feb 13 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Church Assembly Room. Come join friends and family at 6:30p.m., for a meal of hearty flapjacks, followed by laughter, song, dance and other fun at the talent show starting at 7:00 p.m.

Help us carry on this fun tradition that began around 600 AD as a way of celebrating life and using up yummy stuff that couldn't be eaten during Lent (wow).

To help flip pancakes and prepare the feast please signup using this signup genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094BAFAD23A0FDC61-47226609-tppc>

To sign up to share your jokes, songs or other talents at the talent show please contact johoge@verizon.net

+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. Cynthia Barron.

+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 sign up using this signup genius link:

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

Questions contact rogergriffis61@gmail.com or 301-980-4694 Thank you!

+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.

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

SESSION

Clerk of Session - Kurt Lawson

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
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

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

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.