



# *Welcome to our church!*

We're glad you're here! We hope you experience the warmth and welcome of Christ our Savior in this community.

---

**If this is your first time visiting**, please fill out a Connect Form. We would love to meet you and help you get connected. Please visit [tcpca.org/connect](https://tcpca.org/connect) or scan this QR code.



---

**Officers On Duty** Today's points of contact for spiritual or physical needs.

**Elders on duty:**

Tim Bickel

**Deacons on duty:**

Nicholas Jackson and Ethan Johnson

---

*Preparing Our Hearts for Worship...*

“I have two days on my calendar: This day and that Day.”

- Martin Luther

**COVER ARTWORK:**

*River bank in winter* | Paul Gauguin, 1881

# Order of Worship

December 31, 2023 at 9:00 and 11:15 AM

## Liturgy Notes

Do you have questions about how we worship? This column answers the “what” and “why” of each element of our liturgy.

### PLEASE NOTE:

During responsive readings, the part of the Leader will be in plain text, **and the part of the People will be in bold.**

## Call to Worship

The Call to Worship is traditionally the first element in a Christian liturgy, serving as the moment of consecration. God’s Word is used to invite us into the sacred time of corporate worship, and we respond with our voices as an answer to His call.

## Congregational Singing

A unique aspect of Christian worship is that we sing together. Our singing is an expression of love for God and joy in His gospel. Singing strong hymns grounded in the truths of our theology raises our eyes from awe of the created to awe of the Creator. Scripture commands us to sing. Beautiful voices are not required, but a community joining together to sing truth and to sing it with passion and conviction is beautiful to our God.

## REJOICE Declare the praises of God

### Call to Worship from Psalm 72, Luke 2

May His name endure forever, His fame continue as long as the sun!

**May people be blessed in Him, all nations call Him blessed!**

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be His glorious name forever,  
may the whole earth be filled with His glory!**

**ALL: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those  
with whom He is pleased!**

### Hymn *In Christ Alone*

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend  
©2001 Thankyou Music  
CCLI #247013

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again

**(continue on next page)**

And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

*No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand*

## Welcome & Announcements

### Membership Vows

9:00 - Ben & Sidney Fisher

## RENEW Receive the grace of God

---

### Scripture Reading

 Isaiah 25:1-9 (Pew Bible p. 586)

All men are like grass, their glory like flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, **but the Word of the Lord stands forever.**

### Confession of God's People

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that Your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward Your purposes, our refusal to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of Your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what You love, and do what You command. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

- *Silent Prayers of Confession* -

### Confession of God's People

In the Confession of Sin we humbly agree with Scripture's claim that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. This is the most honest moment of our week, as we confess our sin and shame together. We do this corporately through a unison litany or prayer and individually through a moment of silence for private confession.

## Repentance of God's People

Are you able to save? **Never.**

Is Christ able to save? **Always**

Do you return to Him as your only hope? **We do.**

## Assurance of God's Pardon

From 1 John 3:1-2

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are...Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is.

## Greeting of the Peace of Christ

### Hymn *Our God, Our Help In Ages Past*

Isaac Watts | William Croft

© Public Domain

Our God our Help in ages past  
Our Hope for years to come  
Our Shelter from the stormy blast  
And our eternal Home

Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone  
And our defense is sure

Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received her frame  
From everlasting Thou art God  
To endless years the same

A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun

Our God our Help in ages past  
Our Hope for years to come  
Be Thou our Guide while troubles last  
And our eternal Home

## Repentance of God's People

Our time of confession becomes a time of fresh commitment through corporate repentance. Together we boldly turn from all evil and offer our lives again to God. Only say these words if you are indeed willing to repent of your sins.

## Assurance of God's Pardon

Confession and repentance is always met with the surety of God's grace. The minister proclaims to the penitent community words of pardon from Scripture, assuring our hearts of the grace that is already ours in Christ Jesus.

## Greeting of Peace

We extend to others the grace that God has extended to us, greeting each other with the peace of Christ. In the midst of a fractured world filled with prejudice, hatred, and violence, we are a demonstration of God's reconciliation. Worshipers greeted one another with the words of Christ after His resurrection, which became the customary greeting of the early Church: "Peace be with you."

## Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism Question 1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.**

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heav'nly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.

## Offertory Prayer

### Hymn *How Deep The Father's Love For Us*

Stuart Townend  
©1995 Thankyou Music  
CCLI #247013

How deep the Father's love for us how vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss the Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross my sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything no gifts no pow'r no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom

### **GOSPEL STORYTIME**

*The Gospel Storytime group will not be meeting today.*

---

### Confession of Faith

We confess together the convictional truths of orthodoxy by reciting the ancient creeds of our faith. We share these words with saints throughout the centuries as well as those throughout the world today. This also serves as a bold proclamation to the watching world of what we believe is true.

---

### Offering

The offering is received, not merely as a way to pay the bills, but as an act of worship. In response to the God from whom all blessings flow, we give freely, joyfully, and sacrificially to His beloved bride, the Church.



## 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

---

### PLEASE NOTE:

You will be released from your pew to come forward and receive the communion elements, and we will take the elements together once everyone has been served.

## Words of Institution

Let us together proclaim the hope of the Church:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ shall come again!**

I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper, He took the cup saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

## Holy Communion

### Hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan  
© Public Domain

Great is Thy faithfulness O God my Father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not Thy compassions they fail not  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

***(continue on next page)***

---

### Communion

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is a holy ordinance, wherein Christ and his gospel are represented and applied to His people. Though the bread and wine are not literally the body and blood of Jesus, this meal is far more than a sentimental reminder. It is spiritual nourishment to our souls and a means of growth in His grace. Communion is the family meal of Christians, and all followers of Jesus who are in good standing with His Church are invited to partake.



**REFRAIN:**

*Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest  
Sun moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness mercy and love **(REFRAIN)**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside

*Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me*

**Benediction**

Go love your God. **Go love your neighbor.**



**Prayer Chain**

If you would like to share prayer requests with our church prayer chain, we would love to pray for you. Please feel free to send an email to:

Kathryn Lyon  
[KRL40502@aol.com](mailto:KRL40502@aol.com)

Janet Whitley  
[janetjwhitley@gmail.com](mailto:janetjwhitley@gmail.com)

**ACCESS Prayer Group**

The Access Prayer Group meets each Thursday at 12:30 PM to pray for our church and our community. Send prayer requests to:

Mary Beth Moore  
[mdmoorefamily@gmail.com](mailto:mdmoorefamily@gmail.com)

**Giving Report** For more information, visit [tcpca.org/give](http://tcpca.org/give).

November Giving:	\$162,732	Total Giving for Oct-Nov:	\$343,547
November Goal:	\$223,000	Giving Goal for Oct-Nov:	\$446,000
<b>Difference:</b>	<b>-\$60,268</b>	<b>Difference:</b>	<b>-\$102,453</b>

**FY Giving Goal (Oct-Sep): \$2,900,000**

**Year-End Giving**

An email letter was sent out recently with information about year-end giving to TCPC, as well as instructions about how to check your 2023 giving history for accuracy. If you did not receive that letter, please scan this QR code to read the email, but here are some bullet points:



- If you are led to give, you can do so online at [tcpca.org/give](http://tcpca.org/give) or by mailing a check to 3900 Rapid Run Drive, Lexington, KY 40515
- If you would like your gift to count towards the 2023 tax year, make sure it is postmarked or received by the church by 11:59 PM on December 31st.
- If you are interested in stock giving, email Bobby Pepiot at [bpepiot@tcpca.org](mailto:bpepiot@tcpca.org).

## Congregational Meeting on January 14

Our annual Congregational Meeting will be held in-between services on Sunday, January 14th in the Sanctuary.

## TCPC Office Closed This Week

The TCPC office will be closed this week, and will be open again on January 2. We will periodically check the voicemail, so feel free to call us at 859-272-4399 should a need arise.

## Ministries and Sunday School Classes Taking a Break During Winter Break

Most ministries and Sunday School Classes will not be meeting on December 31 or during Winter Break. This includes the Student Ministry, Women's Bible Study, our Sunday morning Nursery, all Children's Sunday School classes, and Adult Sunday School Classes (unless the leader of the class has announced otherwise). The Nursery, Children's Sunday School, and Student Ministry will start up again on January 7.

## New Year's Eve Prayer Time

Join us tonight at 5:00 PM for a time of prayer led by Mark Randle not only to reflect on what God has done this year but also to pray for Him to bless the new year.

## Next Senior Ministry Luncheon on Sunday, January 14

The next Senior Luncheon will be January 14th. Since this is a free luncheon, please RSVP by January 10th so that we have sufficient food for everyone. You can RSVP by sending an email to Susan Sylvester Kerfoot ([msscatter94@yahoo.com](mailto:msscatter94@yahoo.com)). We hope to see you there!

## Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet

Pray and ask the Lord to give you a word, verse, or even name of Jesus on which to focus in 2024. Join the Women's Ministry January 13th from 9:30-11:00 AM for a time of fellowship and a simple craft to help you keep that word before your eyes. Cost to participate is \$10, however, if you are unable to pay we will gladly cover it for you. So we can prepare materials, please provide your word(s) of no more than 12 characters when you register by January 3rd. Scan this QR code to register.



## Stephen Lynerd Group Concert on January 9

Join us on Tuesday, January 9th at 7pm for a FREE concert presented by The Stephen Lynerd Group. Old and new hymns, thoughtfully reimaged with jazz influences. Concert should last around 75 minutes.



# Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

**Phone:** 859-272-4399

**Email:** [contact@tcpca.org](mailto:contact@tcpca.org)

Learn more about our church online at [tcpca.org](http://tcpca.org)