



**BLESSED ARE
THE POOR IN SPIRIT
FOR THEIRS IS
THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

Matthew 5:3

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 **Visitor's Card**, we would love to meet you and help you get connected. Please visit **tcPCA.org/visitor** or scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera.

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship...

“Come with me, come wander,
Come welcome the world,
Where strangers might smile
Or where stones may be hurled;
Come leave what you cling to,
Lay down what you clutch
And find, with hands empty,
That hearts can hold much.”

- John L. Bell

Liturgy Notes

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

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.

Order of Worship

October 3, 2021 at 9:00AM and 11:15AM

REJOICE Declare the praises of God

Call to Worship from Hebrews 10

LEADER: Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put new and right spirits within us.

PEOPLE: Do not cast us away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from us.

LEADER: Restore to us the joy of Your salvation

PEOPLE: and sustain in us a willing spirit.

ALL: Let us worship God!

Hymn of Rejoicing *Holy Holy Holy*

John Bacchus Dykes | Reginald Heber | ©Public Domain

Holy holy holy
Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy holy holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity

Holy holy holy
All the saints adore Thee
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim
Falling down before Thee
Which wert and art
And evermore shalt be

Holy holy holy
Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy
There is none beside Thee
Perfect in power
In love and purity

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Holy holy holy
Lord God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea
Holy holy holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity

Welcome & Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Please pray for ongoing blessing upon Hope Presbyterian in downtown Lexington and Covenant Community Church in Richmond this morning!

UNISON: 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.

RENEW Receive the grace of God

Scripture Reading Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to Your steadfast love;
according to Your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

Against You, You only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that You may be justified in Your words
and blameless in Your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,
and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

(continue on next page)

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
Hide Your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence,
and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

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

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.

Confession of God's People

UNISON: Merciful Lord, Your pursuing love causes us to see ourselves for what we are, ever-wandering sheep. We confess that we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the sinful desires of our own hearts. We have broken Your laws. We have left undone those things we ought to have done, and we do things that are wrong. There is no forgiveness or comfort in ourselves. Some of us have done things that we feel are beyond forgiveness. We wish that we could take back what we have done. We have wrongly kept back our confession of sin and we suffer from guilt. Hear our confession. Father, we repent of our sinful wandering. Forgive us our sins and cause us to follow You faithfully. Amen.

- Silent Prayers of Confession -

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.

Repentance of God's People

LEADER: Has your strength failed you?

PEOPLE: Always

LEADER: Has your God failed you?

PEOPLE: Never.

LEADER: Will you turn from yourself and return to your God?

PEOPLE: By grace, we will.

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.

Assurance of God's Pardon from Exodus 14

LEADER: The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Hymn of Renewal *He Leadeth Me*

Joseph Gilmore | William Bradbury
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He leadeth me O blessed thought
O words with heav'nly comfort brought
Whate'er I do, Where e'er I be
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me

REFRAIN:

**He leadeth me He leadeth me
By His own hand He leadeth me
His faithful foll'wer I would be
For by His hand He leadeth me**

Lord I would clasp Your hand in mine
And never murmur or repine
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 'tis my God that leadeth me. **(REFRAIN)**

And when my task on earth is done
When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
Since O, my God You leadeth me. **(REFRAIN)**

RESPOND Embrace the call of God

Confession of Faith *The Apostles Creed*

UNISON: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried: He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic[†] Church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

[†] Worldwide communion of faith, past, present, and future.

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.

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.

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Solo *Come Find His Rest*

Erik Dewar
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CCLI #247013

Come weary one, leave thy labors;
Come lift thy head, see thy Savior and Friend
His arms are opened wide. O soul, be satisfied.
Come find His rest.

Take His yoke upon thee,
For He is gentle and lowly in heart.
So learn from Christ the Lord, thy Portion and Reward.
Come find His rest.

GOSPEL STORYTIME

At this time, children ages 4 - Kindergarten may be dismissed to Room 103 for prayer, singing, and a lesson from the Gospel Story Bible. They will return to the Sanctuary at the end of the sermon to be with their families during Communion.

Scripture Reading Matthew 5:2-3

2And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:
3“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

LEADER: The Word of the Lord. **PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The preaching of God’s Word in the context of holy worship is the primary means of God’s voice to His people. Our trust is not in the ability of the preacher, but in the promise that God, by His Spirit working in and through His word, is speaking to us in exceptional ways. Therefore, we open our minds and hearts to the uniquely formative power of ordained preaching.

Sermon Rev. Robert Cunningham

“Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit”

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Musical Reflection *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

Helen H. Lemmel
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Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth
Will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PLEASE NOTE:

Communion elements were passed out as you entered the Sanctuary. If you did not receive elements, please raise your hand and they will be brought to you. A gluten-free option is available as well.

Words of Institution

MINISTER: Let us together proclaim the hope of the Church:

UNISON: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ shall come again!

MINISTER: 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.

Profession of Faith

9:00 - Luke Ortiz

Holy Communion

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.

Hymn of Response *Blessed Assurance*

Fanny Jane Crosby | Phoebe Palmer Knapp
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Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
O what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation purchase of God
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

REFRAIN:

**This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long**

Perfect submission perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy whispers of love (**REFRAIN**)

Perfect submission all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest
Watching and waiting looking above
Filled with His goodness lost in His love (**REFRAIN**)

Benediction

MINISTER: Go love your God; **PEOPLE: 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

Janet Whitley
janetjwhitley@gmail.com

Giving Report: For more information, visit tcpca.org/give.

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|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| August Giving: | \$208,645 | Total FY Giving (Oct-Aug): | \$2,121,296 |
| August Goal: | \$168,455 | Giving Goal (Oct-Aug): | \$2,269,157 |
| Difference: | +\$40,190 | Difference: | -\$147,861 |

Announcements

Volunteer in the Nursery!

The Nursery will continue to be open during both services, but we need your help keeping it staffed! We'd love for you to consider serving in the nursery once or twice this fall. If you'd like to volunteer, scan this QR code, or email Jennifer Matocha (jmatocha@tcpca.org) with any questions you might have.



Sunday School Classes Start Today

We're excited to begin offering Sunday school classes in between services again! These classes start after the first service (about 10:20) and end ten minutes before the second service (about 11:05).

The VERITAS class has already begun, and you can join them in the Lower Level as they study 1 Samuel and explore the question, "What does God seek when He looks on the heart?" The class will be taught by Ron Whitley and Mark Deicher, and you can email Harry Standinger (hstandin@hotmail.com) if you would like to join the class via Zoom video call.

The Bridge Class, led by Luke Rakestraw in the Fellowship Hall, and will be studying the book of Ruth. The book of Ruth reorients us to what's truly important for our life with God and others in this world. While this class and its topic are targeted at those in their 20s and 30s, all are welcome!

The Vine Class, led by Mark Randle in the Lower Level, will be looking at the topic "What is a Presbyterian Church and What Does it Mean for Us?" referencing books such as "The Church" by Edmund Clowney and "The Glorious Body of Christ" by R.B. Kuiper.

Children's Sunday School is available for children ages Pre-K thru 6th Grade. Parents will receive communication from your child's teachers in the coming weeks. Email Will Witherington (wwitherington@tcpca.org) for information and questions.

And finally, Youth Sunday School is available for kids ages 7th grade through 12th grade. A light brunch will be served during this time as well. Email Mac Holt (mholt@tcpca.org) for information and questions.

Children's Gospel Storytime Starts Today

Today after the Offertory Anthem during worship, children ages 4 - Kindergarten may be dismissed to Room 103 for prayer, singing, and a lesson from the Gospel Story Bible. They will return to the Sanctuary at the end of the sermon to be with their families during Communion. If you have any questions about this please email Will Witherington wwitherington@tcpca.org.

Foundations Weekend on November 5-6

Registration is now open for our next membership class on November 5 & 6. The sessions will be Friday night and Saturday morning, and breakfast and dinner are provided. We invite anyone who is interested in pursuing membership and learning more about our church history and theology. To sign up, scan this QR code. Please email Nate Jones with any questions at njones@tcpca.org.



College Student Lunch on October 10 After 11:15 Service

If you're a college student at TCPC, join us next week right after the 11:15 service for free lunch! We will meet in the Lower Level Classroom.

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 859-272-4399 **Email:** contact@tcpca.org

Learn more about our church online at tcpca.org