

THE PRAYERS OF OUR SAVIOR

JOHN 17

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 Form**. We would love to meet you and help you get connected. Please visit **tcpca.org/visitor** or scan this QR code with your smartphone camera.



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

Elder on duty:
Ron Whitley

Deacons on duty:
Dylan Shoulders and Seth White

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship...

“Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would seek to overthrow Your Son
And to destroy what He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your Christendom that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.”

- Martin Luther,
trans. Catherine Winkworth

Order of Worship

August 13, 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 9

The LORD reigns forever; He has established His throne for judgment.

He will judge the world in righteousness; He will govern the peoples with justice.

The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

Those who know Your name will trust in You, for You, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek You.

ALL: Sing praises to the LORD, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what He has done.

Hymn *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing*

Carl Gotthelf Glaser | Charles Wesley
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O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer’s praise
The glories of my God and King
The triumphs of His grace

My gracious Master and my God
Assist me to proclaim
To spread thru all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name

Jesus the name that charms our fears
That bids our sorrows cease
'Tis music in the sinner’s ears
'Tis life and health and peace

He breaks the pow’r of canceled sin
He sets the pris’ner free
His blood can make the foulest clean
His blood availed for me
*His blood can make the foulest clean
His blood availed for me*

Welcome & Announcements

Scripture Reading

 Genesis 1:1-5 (Pew Bible p. 1)

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

 Adapted from the French Reformed Church

O God our Father, whose will it is that all Your children should be one in Christ; we pray for the unity of Your Church. Pardon all our pride and our lack of faith which are causes of divisions. Deliver us from narrow-mindedness, bitterness, and our prejudices. Save us from considering as normal that which is a scandal to the world and an offense to You. Teach us to recognize the gifts of grace among all those who call upon You and confess the faith of Jesus Christ our Lord.

- *Silent Prayers of Confession* -

Repentance of God's People

 from 1 Corinthians 13

Love is patient... **Forgive our impatience**

Love is kind... **Forgive our bitterness**

Love does not envy... **Forgive our jealousy**

Love does not boast... **Forgive our arrogance**

Love does not insist on its own way... **Forgive our stubbornness**

Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing... **Forgive our transgressions**

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things...
Forgive our failure to love in all things

Assurance of God's Pardon

 from 2 Corinthians 5

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old is gone, the new has come!

Greeting of the Peace of Christ

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

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.

Hymn *Complete In Thee* (**Music on Page 9**)

Text: Aaron Wolfe and James M. Gray

Music: Ben Nyce

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Complete in Thee! No work of mine
Could take, dear Lord, the place of Thine
Thy blood hath pardon bought for me
And I shall stand complete in Thee

REFRAIN:

Yea, justified! O blessed thought!
And sanctified! Salvation wrought!
Thy blood hath pardon bought for me
And glorified, I too, shall be!

Complete in Thee, each want supplied
And no good thing to me denied
Since Thou my portion, Lord, will be
I ask no more, complete in Thee (**REFRAIN**)

Complete in Thee! No more shall sin
Which Thou has conquered, reign within
Thy blood shall bid the tempter flee
And I shall stand complete in Thee (**REFRAIN**)

Dear Savior, when, before Thy bar
All tribes and tongues assembled are
Among the chosen I will be
At Thy right hand, complete in Thee (**REFRAIN**)

RESPOND Embrace the call of God

Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism Question 1

LEADER: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

UNISON: 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.

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.

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 *He Will Hold Me Fast*

Ada Ruth Habershon | Matthew Merker
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When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

REFRAIN:

*He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast **(REFRAIN)**

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last **(REFRAIN)**

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

6 *the end of the sermon to be with their families during Communion.*

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.

Scripture Reading John 17:7-11 (p. 903)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Mark Randle

“Jesus Prays for Unity”

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 *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Charles Wesley | Mark Hunt | Rowland Hugh Prichard
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Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel’s strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

(continue on next page)

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.

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.

Joy to those who long to see Thee
Dayspring from on high appear
Come Thou promised Rod of Jesse
Of Thy birth we long to hear
O'er the hills the angels singing
News glad tidings of a birth
Go to Him, your praises bringing
Christ the Lord has come to earth

Come to earth to taste our sadness
He whose glories knew no end
By His life He brings us gladness
Our Redeemer Shepherd Friend
Leaving riches without number
Born within a cattle stall
This the everlasting wonder
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

Benediction

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



Giving Report

For more information, visit tcpc.org/give.

July Giving: \$196,439

July Goal: \$218,306

Difference: -\$21,867

FY Giving from Oct-Jul: \$2,092,534

Giving Goal for Oct-Jul: \$2,237,633

Difference: -\$145,099

FY Total Giving Goal (Oct-Sep): \$2,728,820

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

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

Complete In Thee

Text: Aaron Wolfe and James M. Gray

Music: Ben Nyce

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Com - plete in Thee, no work of mine could take dear
Com - plete in Thee, each want sup - lied, and no good
Com - plete in Thee, no more shall sin Thy grace has
Dear Sav - ior, when, be - fore Thy bar, all tribes and

Lord the place of Thine. Thy blood hath par - don bought for
thing to me de - nied, since Thou my por - tion, Lord, will
con - quered reign with - in; Thy blood shall bid the temp - ter
tongues as - sem - bled are, a - mong the cho - sen I shall

me, and I shall stand com - plete in Thee! Yea, jus - ti -
be, I ask no more, com - plete in Thee!
flee, and I shall stand, com - plete in Thee!
be, at Thy right hand, com - plete in Thee!

fied, oh bles-sed thought! And sanc - ti - fied sal - va - tion wrought! Thy blood hath

par - don bought for me, and glo - ri - fied I, too, shall be!

FALL KICKOFF

Learn about the new opportunities we are offering this ministry year to get involved, to meet other churchgoers like you, and to grow in your faith and understanding of God, and watch this section in the coming weeks as we add more Sunday School classes and Bible Studies.

FOR ADULTS

Join a Parish Group Parish Groups are multi-generational gatherings of people that live near you. These gatherings take place on a consistent basis throughout the year, and often involve food, fellowship, and discussion about that week's sermon. Even if you were in a group last year and want to remain in the same group, please sign up by August 31! This helps us plan well for these groups and place people in the best group according to where they live.



Parenting Sunday School Class This year we are offering a class for parents of children ages 2 to 10. The class will run thru May 2024, and will require a high level of commitment. In order to make the most of the class, we are taking a limited number of couples and we are having an application process. Please scan the QR code to access the application and read a cover letter that gives more information. If you have questions please contact Will Witherington at wwitherington@tcpca.org. Applications are due no later than August 28.



Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study The Wednesday Morning Women's Bible study will begin on September 13, 9:00 - 11:00 AM, with nursery provided. We will be studying the first half of the Gospel of Matthew using Jen Wilkin's study materials. There is also the option to watch the large group gathering via livestream and to join a small group via Zoom if you are unable to attend in-person. Cost of materials is \$10. Childcare is provided (please fill out the form on our website). If you have any questions, please contact Julia Meador at jamat10215@aol.com. Scan this QR code to sign up (look for "Morning Bible Study").



Serve in the Children's Ministry Our Children's Ministry program is growing and we need your help to "tell the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord" (Psalm 78). There are openings for Nursery, Sunday School and Gospel Storytime teachers. Scan this QR code to fill out an interest form and Nicole Dorton will be in touch with you soon to find the best fit!



Wednesday Men's Bible Study The Wednesday Men's Bible Study meets each Wednesday at noon in the lower-level boardroom. Our first class will be September 13th. We will be studying the gospel of Luke, the only gospel written by a gentile. God provides, through Luke, the story of Jesus and His ministry in a clear, chronological way. God's gift of salvation for all who believe unfolds in a well written, easily understood manner. All men of all ages are welcome to join us for a time of fellowship, study, and prayer. We have been known to enjoy some coffee and a donut or two, as well! If you would like more information, please email Harry Standing at hstanding@hotmail.com or just come and join us!

ACCESS Prayer Group ACCESS is a group that has been meeting weekly for well over 20 years to intercede for the needs of TCP. The name is an acronym for the order of our prayers: Adoration, Confession, Contrition, Entreaties, Supplications, and Submission. We pray for our pastors, officers, staff, ministries, missions, and the personal requests of TCP members. A prayer guide is prepared and emailed every Wednesday afternoon, and the group meets to pray together in the parlor at the church on Thursdays at 12:30. However, for those who are called to this ministry but are unable to attend the meetings, the guide is also sent to those who commit to pray through it in the privacy of your closet. If you sense the Lord's leading for you to participate, whether it be in-person or on your own, please contact Preston Hicks at epnjphicks@twc.com. If you have a personal prayer request, please send it to Mary Beth Moore at mdmoorefamily@gmail.com, who prepares the guide every Tuesday.

FOR 6TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS

Student Ministry Kickoff The Student Ministry for 6th-12th grade students will begin with a kickoff event on Wednesday, September 6 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. The Sunday School class will begin on September 10.

FOR CHILDREN

TCPC Kids Sunday School Kickoff Our Sunday School program for kids ages 3 through 5th grade will start with a special kick-off during the Sunday School hour on Sunday August 27th. Kids will start in the Fellowship Hall at 10:20am and then after a short lesson they will go to the gym for inflatables and fun!

Nursery Childcare Program: Tuesdays this Fall Our nursery will be starting a playtime program on Tuesday mornings this Fall, led by Amber Waldrop. The program starts on August 22, 2023 This will be a time for parents to drop off their children for childcare from 9:00am-11:30am. The cost will be \$18 per child (additional siblings \$15). Scan this QR code to sign up!



Announcements

Combined Sunday School Today and the Next Two Weeks

AUGUST 13: Join us in the Fellowship Hall today between services to hear an update about the incredible ways God is using our church to meet the mercy needs of our community and to reach the ends of the Earth with the Gospel. This update will be led by Nate Jones and Will Witherington, and will feature video clips from many of our Global Missions partners. There will not be childcare available during this Sunday School, but all children are welcome to attend.

AUGUST 20: Join us in the Sanctuary between services on Sunday, August 20, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). Mark Randle will be leading our time to reflect on what God has done, to share about important initiatives happening in the PCA right now, and to pray that God would continue to bless the work of the PCA for years to come.

AUGUST 27: On Sunday, August 27, we will be hosting a Sunday School Kickoff Event. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:20, where there will be pastries, fruit, and coffee served. Children will join us at the beginning for a brief introduction and then will be dismissed to the gym with their teachers for inflatables and other fun activities. The adults will remain in the Fellowship Hall to hear about the Sunday School classes being offered this year.

Women's Retreat on September 8-9

The Women's Ministry invites you to join us for our Fall Retreat! The theme is "Bring Shalom" and the retreat will include teaching times, small group discussion, fellowship, music, activities, prayer, and lots of fun. We will meet starting with dinner on Friday, September 8th, and conclude around lunch the next day. This will all take place at the Origin Hotel, and we would love for you book a room and stay the night with friends (see website for discounted nightly rate). The registration fee is \$80. Learn more and register today by scanning this QR code or by going to tcpca.org/women.



Save the Date! Next Senior Ministry Luncheon on September 17

Our next Senior Ministry luncheon will be held right after the 11:15 service on September 17 in the Fellowship Hall. The topic of this luncheon will be mentoring, featuring Tom Gold and Nicole Dorton.

Register for Golf Outing by August 16

On Saturday, August 19, we will be holding the inaugural "Tates Creek at Tates Creek" golf outing at the Tates Creek Golf Course for all adults (18 and over) who would like to play. Scramble teams will be randomly drawn based on pre-determined handicap ranges. Golfers should plan on arriving at the course no later than 11:00 AM. Registration closes at the end of the day on August 16, so scan this QR code to register to play!



Game Night for Recent Grads

If you find yourself between the ages of 22-25, and you've recently graduated from college or are currently in grad school, join us for a Game Night at the Rouse House on Sunday August 27 at 6pm. If you'd like to attend, email Daniel Rouse at dmrouse13@gmail.com for more info.

Handbell Players Needed

The handbell choir is looking for 1 or 2 new players for our Aug/Sept session as well as people willing to substitute if the need arises. You do not need to have played bells before but an understanding of music rhythm reading is important. We will be rehearsing on Wednesday nights 8-9:10pm this session and plan to play in worship Sept. 17. Please contact Suzanne Dovel at sdovel@tcpca.org if you are interested or for more information.