



# *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.

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**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.



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

**Elder on duty:**  
Christ Matocha

**Deacons on duty:**  
Wes Anderson and Seth White

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## *Preparing Our Hearts for Worship...*

“In Genesis 3, Satan said to Adam and Eve, ‘take and eat’. So simple the act, so hard its undoing. It took God sending His Son into the world to taste poverty and death, before ‘take and eat’ become verbs of salvation.

- Derek Kidner

**COVER ARTWORK:**

Photo by Sajad Nori

# Order of Worship

November 26, 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 34

Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together!

**Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!**

Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack

**The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.**

### Hymn *How Firm A Foundation*

Unknown  
© Public Domain

How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word  
What more can He say than to you He hath said  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled

Fear not I am with thee O be not dismayed  
For I am thy God I will still give thee aid  
I’ll strengthen thee help thee  
And cause thee to stand  
Upheld by My righteous omnipotent hand

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie  
My grace all-sufficient shall be thy supply  
The flames shall not hurt thee I only design  
Thy dress to consume and thy gold to refine

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not I will not desert to its foes  
That soul though all hell should endeavor to shake  
I’ll never no never no never forsake

## Welcome & Announcements

## Hymn *Rock Of Ages* (**Music on Page 10**)

Augustus Montague Toplady | James Ward  
© Words: Public Domain  
Music: 1985 James Ward Music  
CCLI#247013

Rock of Ages cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in Thee  
Let the water and the blood  
From Thy wounded side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure  
Cleanse me from its guilt and power

Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfill Thy law's demands  
Could my zeal no respite know  
Could my tears forever flow  
All for sin could not atone  
Thou must save and Thou alone

Nothing in my hand I bring  
Simply to the cross I cling  
Naked come to Thee for dress  
Helpless look to Thee for grace  
Foul I to the fountain fly  
Wash me Savior or I die

While I draw this fleeting breath  
When my eyelids close in death  
When I soar to worlds unknown  
See Thee on thy judgment throne  
Rock of ages cleft for me  
Let me hide myself in Thee

## **RENEW** Receive the grace of God

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### **Scripture Reading** Exodus 12:1-13 (Pew Bible p. 53)

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

### 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.

### 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."

**O God beyond all thanksgiving, there is no God like You. You are the bread of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. But we have hungered after that which does not satisfy and sought life apart from You, the Giver of all life. Father, forgive us for our sinful desires, and fill us with Your Spirit, that we might be increasingly conformed to the image of Your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

- *Silent Prayers of Confession* -

## Repentance of God's People

Has the world failed you? **Always**

Has God failed you? **Never**

Will you return to trusting in God's ongoing grace? **We will.**

## Assurance of God's Pardon

 from John 1:29

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

## Greeting of the Peace of Christ

### Hymn *Were I To Cross (Psalm 139)* (Music on Page 11)

Gregory De Blieck  
© 2008 De Blieck, Gregory  
New Scottish Hymns  
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Were I to cross from land to land  
And sail afar by sea  
Descend the depths or climb the heights  
My Lord remains with me

Before the blood ran in these veins  
The days ordained for me  
Were written in Your book O Lord  
Before I came to be

I grieve to hear Your enemies  
Speak hatred, Lord, of You  
Long though they scheme with ill-intent  
Their days are numbered too

How precious are Your thoughts to me  
How countless, Lord, they are  
More than the shores have grains of sand  
More than the skies have stars

**(continue on next page)**

Come search and test this heart O Lord,  
Dispel each anxious thought  
And lead me onward evermore  
To tread the path I ought

How blessed I am, so bound with love  
Surrounded, yet so free  
In doubt or blessing, life or death  
My Lord remains with me

## **RESPOND** Embrace the call of God

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### **Confession of Faith** Westminster Shorter Catechism 96

What is the Lord's Supper?

**The Lord's Supper is a sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to Christ's appointment, His death is showed forth; and the worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of His body and blood, with all His benefits, to their spiritual nourishment, and growth in grace.**

### **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**

#### **Offertory Solo** *Be Ye Glad*

Michael Kelly Blanchard  
© 1980 New Spring  
CCLI #247013

*In these days of confused situations; in this night of a restless remorse; when the heart and the soul of a nation lay wounded and cold as a corpse; from the grave of the innocent Adam comes a song bringing joy to the sad, oh, your cry has been heard and the ransom has been paid up in full, be ye glad. Oh, be ye glad! Oh, be ye glad! Every debt that you've ever had has been paid up in full by the grace of the Lord. Be ye glad, be ye glad, be ye glad. Now from your dungeon a rumor is stirring, though you've heard it again and again. Now but this time your cell keys are turning and outside there are faces of friends. Though your body lay weary from wasting, and your eyes show the sorrow they had, oh the love that your heart is now tasting has opened the gate be ye glad! So be like lights on the rim of the water giving hope in a storm sea of night. Be a refuge amidst the slaughter of these fugitives in their flight. For you are timeless and part of a puzzle, you are winsome and young as a lad; and there is no disease or no struggle that can pull you from God, be ye glad!*

### **Confession of Faith**

We confess together the convictational 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.

## **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** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (p. 958)

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

## **Sermon** Rev. Luke Rakestraw

**“Our Thanksgiving Meal”**

## **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.

## **Profession of Faith**

11:15 - Maggie Willis, daughter of Casey & Erica

## **Holy Communion**

## **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.

## 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

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.**



## 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)

# Advent & Christmas Services

**December 3**  
9:00 & 11:15 AM

1st Sunday  
of Advent

**December 10**  
9:00 & 11:15 AM

2nd Sunday  
of Advent

**December 10**  
6:00 PM

Christmas  
Cantata

**December 17**  
9:00 & 11:15 AM

3rd Sunday  
of Advent

**December 24**  
9:00 & 11:15 AM

4th Sunday  
of Advent

**December 24**  
5:00 & 11:00 PM

Christmas Eve  
Services

**December 31**  
9:00 & 11:15 AM

Typical Sunday  
Worship

*Childcare will not be  
offered at these services*

## Announcements

To receive announcements via email, please contact Paul Adams at [padams@tcpca.org](mailto:padams@tcpca.org)

### Christmas Cantata on December 10

Join us on December 10th at 6:00 PM for a wonderful night celebrating the sounds and stories of Christmas! Childcare will be provided during the Cantata in the Nursery.

### Sunrise Children's Christmas Party

On Sunday, December 3rd from 2:30-4:30pm in the Fellowship Hall, TCPC is hosting the Sunrise Foster Care Christmas Party. Sunrise is one of our partners in the city that is doing amazing work in foster care and we are so glad to be able to host their annual Christmas Party for children. Volunteers are needed to help set-up, greet, serve food, etc, so if you are available I would love to have your help and be involved with this incredible ministry. If you are available to volunteer please RSVP to Luke Rakestraw ([lrakestraw@tcpca.org](mailto:lrakestraw@tcpca.org)).

### Mexico Missions Trip Fundraising

Several young men are participating in the upcoming missions trip to Mexico, and as part of their fundraising efforts for this trip, they are available to help with manual labor jobs in exchange for a donation to their trip! If there are any jobs around the house that include heavy lifting, yard work, or other manual labor, please contact Marcela Garrison so that she can put you in touch with them! You can reach Marcela at 859-475-7716 or at [marcelagarrison@gmail.com](mailto:marcelagarrison@gmail.com).

### Giving Report

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

October Giving: \$180,814

October Goal: \$223,000

**Difference: -\$42,186**      **FY Giving Goal (Oct-Sep): \$2,900,000**

# Rock Of Ages

Augustus Montague Toplady | James Ward

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Music: 1985 James Ward Music

CCLI#247013



1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in Thee;  
2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill Thy law's de-mands;  
3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to Thy cross I cling;  
4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from Thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
na - ked, come to Thee for dress; help - less, look to Thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un-known, see Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the Foun-tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I \_\_\_ die  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in \_\_\_ Thee.

# Were I To Cross (Psalm 139)

Gregory De Blicek

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New Scottish Hymns

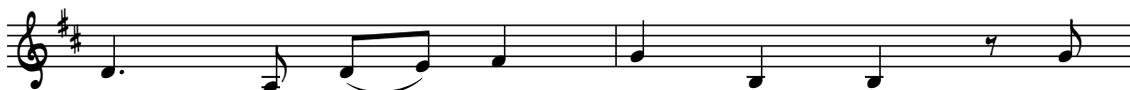
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1. Were\_\_ I to cross from land to land and  
2. Be - fore the blood ran in these veins the  
3. I\_\_\_\_\_ grieve to hear\_\_ Your en - e - mies speak  
4. How\_\_ pre - cious are\_\_ Your thoughts to me, how  
5. Come search and test\_\_ this heart, O Lord, dis -  
6. How\_\_ blessed I am,\_\_ so bound with love, sur -



sail a - far\_\_\_\_\_ by sea, de -  
days or - dained\_\_ for me were\_\_  
ha - tred, Lord,\_\_ of You, long\_\_  
count - less, Lord,\_\_ they are: more\_\_  
pel each an - xious thought and\_\_  
round - ed yet\_\_\_\_\_ so free. In\_\_



scend the depths\_\_ or climb the heights, my  
writ - ten in\_\_\_\_\_ Your book, O Lord, be -  
though they scheme with ill - in - tent, their  
than the shores\_\_ have grains of sand, more  
lead me on - ward ev - er - more to  
doubt or bless - ing, life, or death, my



Lord re - mains with me.  
fore I came to be.  
days are num - bered too.  
than the skies have stars.  
tread the path I ought.  
Lord re - mains with me.

# Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

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