

# TAKOMA PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*March 17, 2024*  
*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent*

*Live streamed at 11:00 a.m.*



Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor  
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church  
310 Tulip Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912  
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**A Church for all People**

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*(\*) Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

*Please join in speaking and singing the parts in bold.*

**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.*

## Preparation for the Word

*"What didn't you do to bury me  
but you forgot that I was a seed."*

*-Dinos Christianopoulos (1931-2020)*

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

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

**Prelude**

**God's Time Is the Best**

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

**Welcome**

### **Opening Prayer (unison)**

Joyful Giver of unending hope, pour your Holy Spirit into us until it overflows, remind us of the call to service that you bring us through the risen Christ, and turn us out to face the pain and suffering of this time, so we can let your living water flow into those painful places where hope and joy have lost their foothold. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Call to Worship**

*Responsively*

from Psalm 51

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.**

You desire truth in our deepest selves, so teach our hearts wisdom.

**Let us hear your joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God; put new and right spirits within us.  
**Sustain in us willing spirits and restore us to the joy of your salvation.**  
**Let us worship God!**

### **\*Hymn 23 God you Spin the Whirling Planets**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Dear Friends, we are God's people, created in God's image. Even so, we bend away from God's will and way of unconditional love. Trusting in God as our merciful covenant partner, let us confess our sin together.

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

**Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross, we confess that we are always looking for an easier way. We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know. We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to our old ways that keep us distant from you and our neighbors. You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to "me and mine." Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was so that you might bring us into the wonder of what will be. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*Silent Prayer*

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

The living God of resurrection keeps extending forgiveness and a new beginning for us each day. With hope and courage let us receive this gift!  
**Thanks be to God! 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.)*

## LISTEN FOR 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

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

### Anthem Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant (c.1530-1580)

### Time with the Children

**Rev. Mark Harper**

### Second Scripture Reading

**John 12:20-33**

### Sermon

**Seeds**

**Rev. Mark Harper**

### \*Hymn 822

**When We Are Living**

## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Prayers of the People

**Rev. Mark Harper**

*Prayers will be read from the Prayer Book and the "Chat box"  
then the congregation will be invited to share their prayers.*

**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      Though Knowest, Lord**

**Henry Purcell  
1659-1695**

## **\*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)**

Gracious God, it is our joy to return the gifts of our lives to you. May our offering this morning, help us to center our hearts in you and work towards the well-being of all creation. Amen.

## **WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD**

### **Announcements of the Community's Life**

**\*Sending Hymn 79    Light Dawns on a Weary World**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude            Trumpet Tune**

**Giuseppe Torelli  
1658-1709**

*Community worship ends; discipleship and service begin anew.*

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*Participants in this morning's service*

Rev. Mark Harper, Pastor

Brad Dickey, Liturgist

Takoma Park Presbyterian Church Choir

Dr. James Bingham, organist

Jay Clouse, Zoom Technician

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Schedule for upcoming events**

**\*\* Zoom events**

Monday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Tuesday, March 19, 12:00 p.m.	Virtual coffee hour**
Wednesday, March 20, 7:00 p.m.	Lenten Worship Service ( <i>hybrid</i> )
Wednesday, March 20, 8:15 p.m.	Presbyterians for Police Transformation**
Sunday, March 24, 9:30 am	Adult Sunday School on Reparations ( <i>hybrid</i> )
Sunday, March 24, 11:00 a.m.	Worship Service ( <i>hybrid</i> )

+Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,  
**you are welcome here.** We are pleased you are with us today.

**+Please continually pray for peace** - - in our homes, in our lives,  
neighborhoods, in the nation and the world.

+There will be a brief and informal **Good Friday Service** on Friday, March 29 at noon. The community is warmly invited to join us, so consider inviting a friend or neighbor who might be interested.

**+A New Adult Sunday School Class Begins.**

Please join us for a book study of Reparations: A Christian Call to Repentance and Repair by Duke Kwon and Gregory Thompson.

This hybrid class meets in the church parlor and through Zoom March 17 and 24 and April 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. All classes will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will be facilitated by Mary Pat Brennan and John Peacock.

**Here are some sample reviews:**

*“What hope do we have of racial reconciliation unless we right the wrongs of the past? Kwon and Thompson have argued convincingly that reparations is a necessary part of the healing of the churches and our nation, and that people of faith should be leading the way. Read this book and learn how to be a bridge builder for reparations.”* - **Latasha Morrison**, founder of Be the Bridge and NY Times Best-selling author -

*“In love, the authors direct the White American church to tell the truth to itself and its complicity in and endorsement of racism at the expense of their Black brothers and sisters in Christ. Wrestle with this book alone or in small groups, but don't call it quits. Let the book's inevitable discomfort lead to growth, understanding, and the beauty of repentance.”* - **Christina Edmondson**, cohost of the Truth's Table podcast.

Below is a link to a week-by-week outline of the class:

<https://tinyurl.com/SundaySchoolOnReparations>

+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 signup using this signup genius link:

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

Questions contact [rogergriffis61@gmail.com](mailto:rogergriffis61@gmail.com) or 301-980-4694 Thank you!

+Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) is a movement of the Ecumenical Christian community, and its recognized partners and allies. EAD is grounded in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation.

EAD “summit” is **May 17-19**.

+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](mailto:finance@takomaparkpc.org).

## EASTER LILIES

The Worship Committee is providing an opportunity for us to purchase Easter lilies to decorate the Sanctuary. You may purchase lilies in honor of, or in memory of a loved one.

The price is \$25 per Lily pot. March 24, is the last day to order lilies.

Please use the form in the bulletin or the online link below

<https://www.takomaparkpc.org/tppceasterlilies>

Please contact Jean Dickey for more information

I wish to purchase ..... Easter Lilies

In memory of .....

In honor of .....

Enclosed is \$.....Signed.....



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Enclosed is \$.....Signed.....





## **+Choral Post-Easter Service**

The Takoma Park Presbyterian Church Choir and Friends will present a service of celebration at on Sunday, April 14, at 11:00 a.m. This service will feature sacred music from largely British composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

The *Five Mystical Songs* of Ralph Vaughan William, the most substantial musical part of the service will feature baritone, Trevor Scheunemann, who enjoys an international operatic career, including performances in leading roles with such houses as: The Metropolitan Opera, Washington National Opera, Opera de Monte Carlo, and San Francisco Opera among many others. Mr. Scheunemann is a graduate of Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park, and a distinguished alumnus of the world-renowned Domingo-Cafritz Artist Program at Washington National Opera.

The *Five Mystical Songs* were written for baritone solo, choir and orchestra, however, this performance will feature the composer's orchestral reduced for string quintet and piano. The words are taken from four poems ("Easter" divided into two parts) by

George Herbert (1593 – 1633), a metaphysical Welsh poet, orator and priest of the Church of England; and were selected by Vaughan Williams from the poet's 1633 collection, *The Temple: Sacred Poems*.

Other musical presentations will include *O Clap Your Hands*, by Ralph Vaughan Williams and *Gloria in excelsis "Coronation"* by Charles Villiers Stanford, composed for the coronation of George V in Westminster Abbey, on June 22, 1911. Both anthems will be accompanied by a brass septet.

The service promises to be a joyful post-Easter musical celebration, reflecting the joy of the resurrection and by it, the promise of eternal salvation. Please plan on attending and bring friends, so that this joyful festivity can infuse this season of renewal.

## STAFF

2024

<b>Rev. Mark Harper</b>	<i>Pastor – markharper@takomaparkpc.org</i>
<b>Dr. James Bingham</b>	<i>Director of Music</i>
<b>Joanna Tipton</b>	<i>Bookkeeper</i>
<b>Gary Cardillo</b>	<i>Buildings Manager</i>
<b>Miliadi Rodas-Cruz</b>	<i>Nursery Assistant</i>
<b>Sabrina Tyson</b>	<i>Nursery Assistant</i>
<b>Una Kettering</b>	<i>Office Administrator</i>

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

## SESSION

**Clerk of Session – Kurt Lawson**

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Phil Boyer	Samuel Kalibala	Kathy Belyeu
Jean Dickey	Karol Keane	Kurt Lawson
Rebecca Woodings	Thomas Showalter	Roger Griffis
Alphonso Williams	Karen Lange	George Martin

## DEACONS

**Moderator of Deacons – Lisa Kiely**

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Brian Forbin	Ethan Bailey	Cynthia Barron
Lisa Kiely	Carol Christensen	Neel Hunter
Madline Morsha-Taylor	Martha Kiger	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**” and then 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.