

The Service for the Lord's Day



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2017

8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Assemble in God's Name

We joyfully welcome you to worship this morning!
All are invited to use the Prayer and Prelude as a time of silent preparation.

Prayer of Preparation

Roddy Hamilton

In your name, Lord Jesus, we pray.
May we honor your name
 not by paying it lip service,
 but by trusting the vision it reveals
 and the way it calls for.
May we honor it by following you,
 speaking into the world with our actions
 and showing who we've chosen to follow.
May we love in your name,
 speak in your name,
 care in your name,
 touch the outcast,
 feed the hungry,
 remember the sick,
 visit the imprisoned,
 clothe the naked,
 give water to the thirsty
 in your name.

Prelude

Air for Organ

Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

Welcome

Rev. Carter

****Call to Worship***

Rev. Strom

Leader: *Gaze through the Gospel lens
and behold the glory of God.*

People: **God is our rock and our refuge.
God calls us and guides us
throughout each and every day.**

Leader: *Then let us set our troubles at Christ's feet and surrender in trust.*

People: **Let us enter the Kingdom life God prepares for us.**

Leader: *We have come for the way, the truth, and the life.*

People: **We are here to ask and to receive and to serve!**

****Hymn #246***

"Christ Is Alive!"

Truro

****Call to Confession***

Elder Chuck LaBerge

****Prayer of Confession***

Almighty and Merciful One,

You have charged us

to be the evidence of your presence with humanity,
but we have made you seem far away,
uncaring and unnecessary.

You have made us for each other

so that no one should be left alone,
but we have neglected, hurt, and abused those close to us
and those far away.

Forgive us, O God,

for our struggle to trust in the way of Jesus Christ.

Forgive that so often people would never have known

that we have pledged ourselves to Jesus.

Forgive that we so often have denied with our lives

that which we said with our lips.

Forgive the difference between our creed and our conduct,

our profession of faith and our practice of it.

O Loving One, help us learn to place our trust in you,

that we live into the way and truth and life of Jesus Christ.

- silent prayers of confession -

****Assurance of Grace***

Leader: *Friends, do you trust God's grace for you?*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are loved and freed for Kingdom life.**

Leader: *How shall we respond?*

People: **We rejoice, and commit ourselves to extending God's
love to all the world!**

**Response to Grace*

Glo - ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.
and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.
and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.
As it was in the begin - ning, is now and ever shall be. A - men.

GTG: #582

**Passing of the Peace*

- Leader: On the evening of Jesus' resurrection, the disciples were gathered in fear and sadness, wondering how everything had gone so wrong.
People: But the risen Christ appeared in their midst, saying, "Peace be with you."
Leader: Friends, may the peace of Christ with you.
People: And also with you!

- All are invited to share the "peace" of Christ with one another -

- Children are invited to come forward -

Children's Message & Presentation of Bibles (10:00)

- Children through Middle School are invited to the Education Wing -

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Issac Hemm, Norah Meyers
Charlie Buchanan

Scripture Lesson (10:00)

John 14: 1-14 (Pew Bible, pp108-9, N.T.)

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word!

People: Thanks be to God!

Scripture Lesson

Acts 7: 55-60 (Pew Bible p. 126, N.T.)

Leader: For the Word of God in Scripture,

For the Word of God among us,

For the Word of God within us,

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"A Practicing Church—Practicing Trust"

Respond in Thanks & Faith

**Hymn #3* (10:00)

"Womb of Life and Source of Being"

Raquel

**Affirmation of Faith*

A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God; preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People & 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;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call to Commitment

Offertory

We Are Walking

Ed Thompson

We are walking with the light of Christ. We are walking in the love of God.
Peace the goal and peace the way, no matter where the road may lead;
Patience the goal and patience the way, this we hold in thought and deed.

**Doxology #609*

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God, from who all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures high and
low. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Praise God, in Je-sus ful-ly
known: Cre-a-tor, Word, and Spir-it one. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia

****Prayer of Dedication***

Leader: Generous God, here are our gifts of time;
here are our gifts of talents;
here are our gifts of money.

People: Use them and us, we pray,
for the building, shaping, and spreading
of your Kingdom and your purpose.

****Hymn #432***

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

Repton

****Benediction***

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune in E-flat”

David Johnson (1922-1987)

*Congregation standing, as able.

**Large print bulletins & hymnals and hearing assistance devices are available;
please ask an usher (with a red nametag) for assistance.

THE TOWSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

400 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204

www.towsonpres.org 410.823.6500 tpc@towsonpres.org

Ministers	All the members of the church
Pastor, Senior	The Rev. Rob Carter
Pastor, Associate	The Rev. Joel Strom
Director of Music and Organist	Stephen Harouff
Administrative Coordinator	Tara Flynn Runge
Business Administrator	Kathryn Bojanowski
Director, Towson Presbyterian Preschool	Leslie Foretich
Childcare Coordinator	Kati Kruger
Sexton	Walter Austin
Pastor Emeritus	The Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole

Our Mission:

Towson Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith
growing as disciples of Christ.

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TPC is a PC(USA) *Earth Care Congregation* and
a member of the *Covenant Network* (striving for a fully inclusive church).

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