

# The Service of the Lord's Day



## Youth Sunday

*Strength – Leaning Into the One Who Holds Us Up,  
Gives Us Purpose and Fills Us With Power*

February 25, 2018

8:30 & 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 Reflection

Loving God,

what a gift it is to be your daughters and sons,  
to live knowing that you are always as close as our breath,  
to be known and welcomed in this community of faith,  
to be fed by your generosity,  
and to feel accepted and forgiven.

We come with gratefulness and joy to be with you today.

### *Prelude*

*Toccata on "Gather Us In"*

Donald Verkulilen

### *Welcome*

Rebecca McKenna

### *Call to Worship*

Middle School Youth

*Leader: We are invited to lean into the One who holds us up, who gives us purpose, and who fills us with power.*

**People: Let us worship God!**

### *\*Hymn #401*

*"Gather Us In"*

Gather Us In

### *\*Invitation to Confess*

Max Fisher

***\*Prayer of Confession***

Merciful God,

You gave us your son, Jesus, so that we might grow  
and find strength in your abiding love for us.

Yet we acknowledge that we so often struggle to believe in  
and experience your strength.

We question your abiding presence in our lives.

We ignore the countless blessings that you shower upon us.

Loving God,

Give us the strength

to share your love and forgiveness with others.

Give us the strength to not hold ourselves above others. Give us the strength to open  
our eyes

and see your presence in everyone around us.

- silent reflection and confession -

***\*Assurance of Grace***

Caroline Coker

Leader: *Let us celebrate the Good News of our faith!*

People: Rich, poor, young, old, sinner and saint. We are all God's  
children, and God transforms each of us into the people  
we are meant to be. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

***\*Response to Grace***

Living God

Musical notation for the hymn 'Response to Grace'. It consists of three staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: 'Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.'

GTG: #288

***\*Passing of the Peace***

Ryan Krugman

Leader: *Let us share the peace that fosters justice, kindness, love, forgiveness and mercy. May the peace of  
Christ be 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*** (10:00)

Caitlin Johnson  
Rebecca McKenna  
Caroline Miller

- Children through Grade 2 are invited to the Education Wing -

## Proclaim God's Word

*Prayer for Illumination*

Emilie Bowerman

*Scripture Reading*

1 John 4: 7-12 (Pew Bible p. 241, N.T.)

Leader: *Holy Wisdom, Holy Word;*

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*Scripture Reading*

Elijah Sharp

John 15: 1-11 (Pew Bible p. 109, 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*

“Strength”

Max Burkett

Drew Evans

Caroline Miller

## Respond in Thanks & Faith

*\*Hymn #649*(10:00)

“Amazing Grace”

Amazing Grace

*Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer*

Thomas Sheggrud

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*

Jeffery Bowerman

*Offertory*

*Men of Faith, Rise Up and Sing*

Martin Smith (b. 1970)

*You can find this song at #319 in your hymnal.*

*Please join us in singing the third verse!*

*\*Doxology*

Wild Mountain Thyme

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of  
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing  
and in giv-ing. Spir-it, o - pen my heart.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Molly Bugg

Leader: *Gracious God, we thank you for the gifts before us  
and ask that you bless them, so we might use them to be a blessing to others.*

People: **May these gifts be used to express the joy we find in you  
by sharing it with those who need it most. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #700**

*"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"*

I'm gonna live

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*"Postlude" from Partita on New Britain* Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

**\*\*Large print bulletins with Hymns and hearing assistance devices are available;  
please ask a deacon (with a red nametag) for assistance.**

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**THE TOWSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

400 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204  
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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
Director of Children and Family Ministry	Jeness Hall
Administrative Coordinator & Communications	Tara Flynn Runge
Business Administrator	Kathryn Bojanowski
Director, Towson Presbyterian Preschool	Leslie Foretich
Childcare Coordinator	Kyanne Fields
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...

TPC is a member of the *Covenant Network* (striving for a fully inclusive church).

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**Please Pray for:** Barbara Beard (Leslie Strawhand's sister), Barbara Davis, Elsie DeGarmo Smith, Betsy Griffin, Jackson Herbert, Chrissie Kahan, Ed Lehwald, Julie Mertus, John Rietz, Michael Strawhand (Leslie's son), Lydia White (Phyllis Gray and Bob Bickel's niece). *Names remain on prayer list for four weeks; unless otherwise requested.*

**The flowers in the sanctuary** are given by Mary Jane Pennell in loving memory of her sister, Harriet Schooley Sanderson, on the first anniversary of Harriet's death.