



27th Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024 || Virtual Campus

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Assemble in God's Name

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

Prayerful Reflection

Rev. Susan Blain (*adapted*)

Holy God,
We long for your peace,
and trust in your promise.
Meet us here and fill
our minds with your wisdom
and our hearts with your peace,
that our worship together
may open us to the challenge
of your dream of wholeness for all. Amen!

Prelude

My Lord! What a Morning

arr. Robert Lau

Welcome

**Call to Worship*

Thom Shuman (*adapted*)

Leader: Come, let us give thanks to God!
People: We gather together to praise the One
who strengthens the weak,
and hears the prayers of the forgotten.
Leader: Come, let us give thanks to Jesus!
People: We gather together to sing of the One
who calls us to service and justice,

mercy and compassion.
Leader: Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit!
People: We gather together to exalt the One
who provokes us to love
not only our family and friends,
but the guest among us.

**Hymn #463*

How Firm a Foundation

Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

**Invitation to Confess*

**Prayer of Confession*

ChristianAid.org (*adapted*)

Lord Jesus,
You came boldly proclaiming,
 courageously demonstrating,
 generously offering love that leads to life.
You call us to do the same.
But so much within our broken world frightens us;
 we turn away from the openness your love requires
 in order to shield ourselves as best as we can.

Generous One,
When we shut our eyes
 because we're afraid to see another's pain...
When we cling tightly to what we have
 because we're afraid to share what another needs...
When we ignore the bigotries around us
 because we're afraid to confront them...
When we close ourselves off from those we don't know
 because we're afraid of those different from us...
 forgive us.
Give us the courage to live the faith you place within us,
and the way of love that leads to life.

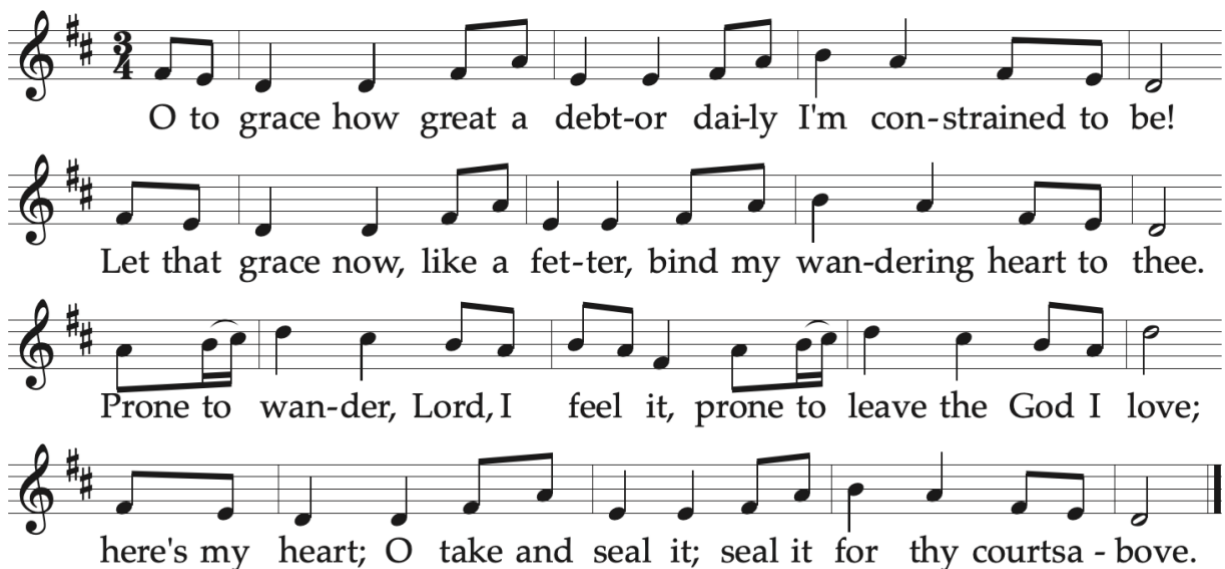
- silent reflection and confession -

**Assurance of Grace*

Leader: *Friends, God comes to us not in anger or judgment,
 but with mercy and compassion. God's will for us is life!
 By the grace of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and redeemed.*
People: May we proclaim God's praise,
 as we boldly share God's transformational love!

**Response to Grace*

Nettleton



O to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be!
 Let that grace now, like a fet-ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.
 Prone to wan-der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courtsa - bove.

GTG: #475

**Passing of the Peace*

Leader: *The peace Jesus revealed is not won or earned,
 but experienced amid a deep trust in God's love and care.
 May the peace of our Lord be with you.*

People: *And also with you.*

Children's Message

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Mark 13:1-8

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

The Jesus We Often Don't Want
 But Sometimes Need

Respond in Thanks & Faith

Anthem

Shalom

Dan Forrest

Offering Our Gifts to God

- Towsonpres.org – click orange “Give” button at top of page
- Text “CheerfulGiver” (one word; no spaces; case sensitive) to 73256
- Drop off or mail check to the church
- Scan this QR code →



Anthem

The Storm Is Passing Over

arr. Barbara Baker

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.

Hymn #100

Canticle of the Turning

Star of the County Down



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Benediction

Postlude

“Nimrod” from *Enigma Variations*

Edward Elgar

Towson Presbyterian Church

Inclusive - Curious - Compassionate - Courageous

www.towsonpres.org || 410-823-6500 || @TowsonPres

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Walter Austin

Parish Associate
Parish Associate
Parish Associate
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Harold Cahill
Rev. Mary Gaut
Rev. Roger Rice
Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole

Our Mission:

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

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

New Here? Welcome—*just as you are.*

We're so glad you're here! We hope you find meaning in our worship and connection within our community of faith. TPC offers two worship opportunities on Sundays: 10:00am in-person and 10:00am live-stream via Facebook, YouTube, and towsonpres.org.

While children are whole-heartedly welcome at all TPC's worship services, our professionally staffed nursery is available for children 0–4 (see a deacon with a red nametag for directions).

We'd cherish the chance to connect with you. If you feel led, please fill out a visitor form at towsonpres.org/contact, so we can get to know you! We appreciate your presence here today, and we hope you are blessed by your time worshiping with us.

Prayer List:

Bob Adams, Laura Adams Wentling, Dotsie Bregel, Walter Cesewski, Jim Flick, Jennifer Gettier, Bob Harvey, Aldean Howard, Bill Kladky, The Family of Peter LaPaglia, The Family of Cindy Maraj, Julie Mertus, Julie Morris, Phillip Pugh, Janice Searles, Calvin Symons, Sue Thompson, Mitzi Tyrie.

TPC News, Mission, and Ministry Updates

Assisting in Worship || Rob Culp, Norma Haynes, Kimberly Light, Julie Kreif, Tony Kreif, Susan Shockley, Steve Swift, Carol Whiteford.

We welcome guest singers this morning from Encore Creativity for Older Adults. These guests represent choral ensembles in Baltimore, Columbia, Annapolis, and Washington, D.C. They sing with Stephen Harouff through his work with that organization, the largest choral program in the country.

Brushes and the Bible: An Anecdotal Exploration of Faith and Art || Today, 11:20am–12:30pm || Join Jim Kuhlman in the Library today to explore oft heard Bible stories within equally familiar sculptures and paintings from the Renaissance and the Baroque periods of European Art.

Youth Group || Tonight, 5:30–7:30pm || 6th–12th Graders will meet tonight to sort through ACTC Thanksgiving bags and add any missing items, and they will assemble care packages for the Student Support Network.

ACTC Thanksgiving Service || Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7:00pm || The Assistance Center of Towson Churches will hold their annual Thanksgiving Prayer Service next Tuesday at Divinity Lutheran Church (1220 Providence Rd. Baltimore, MD 21286). Please visit actcserves.org for more information.

Men's Breakfast || Thursday, Nov. 21, 8:00–9:00am || Men are invited to the Towson Diner on the third Thursday of every month for coffee and conversation.

Confirmation Informational Meeting || Sunday, Nov. 24, 11:20am–12:00pm || Parents and youth in 8th-12th grade are invited to meet in the Conference Room to learn about the 2025 Confirmation program, which begins in January.

Christmas Poinsettia Honorariums || Now–Tuesday, Dec. 3 || Memorialize or honor your loved one by donating a chancel poinsettia this Advent. Visit towsonpres.org/forms to fill out the electronic form. Names will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

McKim Center Angel Tree || Now–Sunday, Dec. 8 || Grab a tag for a child (i.e. 10–12yo girl) from Thompson Hall or from the tree by the Chapel, and bless a child from the McKim Center this Christmas with age/gender-specific presents. *This is a great service opportunity for families to do together!*

Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal || Sundays, 11:20am–12:30pm, Dec. 8 and Dec. 22 || There will be two rehearsals for this year's Children's Christmas

Pageant, which will be performed on Christmas Eve at 4:00pm. Younger children (Age 2–5th) can participate in non-speaking roles, while older children and teens (6th–12th) will be narrators.

Christmas Wreath Fundraiser || Now–Sunday, Dec. 15 || Purchase a holiday wreath through Lynch Creek Farm to help underwrite the cost of the Montreat Youth Conference for our high school students this summer. Check Friday’s eNews or visit towsopres.org/forms for the direct link.

Request Home Communion || If you are interested in receiving Home Communion from our Deacons this Fall, please reach out to Pat Keller at pat10keller@gmail.com.

Make a 2025 Pledge || All are welcome to submit their 2025 pledge of giving electronically at towsopres.org/forms.

TPC This Week

Sun 11/17:	10:00am 10:00am 10:15am 11:00am 11:20am 11:30am 12:00pm 5:30pm	Noah’s Nursery, 0–4 (Lower Level) Worship (Sanctuary and Livestream) Church School, PreK–5th (Children’s Classrooms) Coffee Hour (Thompson Hall) Brushes and the Bible (Library) Children’s Music (Choir Room) Sunday Community Lunch (Thompson Hall) Youth Group (Thompson Hall)
Mon 11/18:	10:00am	Bible Study: New Testament Letters (Zoom)
Tue 11/19:	10:30am 1:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Staff Mtg. (Library) Prayer Shawl Knitting (Nook) <i>The Only Prayer You’ll Ever Need</i> (Zoom) Mission Outreach Mtg. (Zoom) ACTC Thanksgiving Service (Divinity Lutheran) Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Wed 11/20:	7:00pm 7:00pm	Session Mtg. (Zoom) Church Center Training for Leaders (Zoom)
Thu 11/21:	8:00am 6:30pm	Men’s Breakfast (Towson Diner) <i>Habits of the Household</i> (Library)

7:30pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Fri 11/22: 11:00am

Memorial Service for Mary Phillips (Chapel)