

**Invitation to Confess* Jenness Hall

**Prayer of Confession*

We need to confess, God of Abraham and Lazarus,
we are seldom content
with the gifts and lives you offer.

Tempted by everything,
we ignore those who have nothing.

Encouraged by the world to accumulate more,
we miss so many chances to live into your goodness.

Exhausted from chasing things that shimmer but never sustain,
we fall short of the faith, the love, the generosity
you intend for us.

Forgive us, God of Reversals.

You have sent us the One who modeled the way of real life.

Help us remember his way,
that we might emulate his compassion
and unyielding generosity,
as we live out the love and grace you intend for all.

- silent prayers of confession -

**Assurance of Grace*

Leader: Friends, let us celebrate the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ.

People: God has covered us with grace! Life is made new!
May our lives proclaim the truth of God's love!

**Response to Grace*

Hymn to Joy

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sun-ward in the triumph song of life.

**Passing of the Peace*

Leader: The peace of Christ reminds us who and whose we are.

People: No longer claimed by the pressures of this world,
Jesus' peace frees us to be our truest selves.

Leader: Let us share it. Peace 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

- Children through Grade 5 are invited to the Education Wing -

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Joan Pugh

Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 6: 6-19 (Pew Bible pp. 210-11, N.T.)

Leader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word;

People: Thanks be to God!

Scripture Lesson

Luke 16: 19-31 (Pew Bible pp. 79-80, 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

Letters from a Mentor—Part 3 of 4:
“Finding Contentment”

Respond in Thanks & Faith

**Hymn #773*

“Heaven Shall Not Wait”

Heaven Shall Not Wait

**Affirmation of Faith*

The Confession of Belhar (10.7; adapted)

We believe

- that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;
- that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged
- that God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;
- that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need;
- that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

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

Let Us Love In Deed and Truth

Larry King

**Doxology*

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication*

Leader: In your last-becomes-first kingdom, O God,
we measure our wealth not by what we have,
but what we share.

People: We dedicate these gifts and our living to your service,
that the hungry may be fed, the oppressed may receive
justice, and the stranger may be welcomed in our midst.

**Hymn #766*

“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

McKee

**Benediction*

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in E

David Johnson (1922-1987)

*Worshippers are invited to stand as able.

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

The Towson Presbyterian Church

Inclusive - Curious - Compassionate - Courageous

400 W. Chesapeake Ave., Towson, Maryland 21204

www.towsonpres.org 410.823.6500 tpc@towsonpres.org

Ministers

Pastor, Senior

Pastor, Associate

Director of Music and Organist

Director of Children and Family Ministry

Administrative & Communications Coordinator

Business Administrator

Director, Towson Presbyterian Preschool

Sexton

Pastor Emeritus

All the members of the church

The Rev. Rob Carter

The Rev. Joel Strom

Stephen Harouff

Jenness Hall

Tara Flynn Runge

Kathryn Bojanowski

Leslie Foretich

Walter Austin

The 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).

Let's connect:

Facebook @TowsonPres || Twitter @TowsonPres || Instagram @TowsonPres

Please pray for: Bob Adams, Davis Barkley (Roxanne Maffitt Harvey's grandson), Mary Grace Byrne, Cindy Cole (JoAnn Brooks' sister), Barbara Davis, Elsie DeGarmo Smith, Barbara & John Dillon, Kathleen Flynn (Tara's sister), Melanie Heckstall, Pat Hoopes, Mike Just, Kelsen LaBerge, Julie Mertus, Jane Messimer, Carol Morton and Bettie Tabeling *Names remain on prayer list for four weeks, unless otherwise requested.*

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Sandy Hallameyer in love and honor of her brother Stewart M. Harward.

New Here? Welcome—*just as you are.*

We're grateful you're here! Please take just a moment to note your name and email address in the **sign-in pads** on the inside of each pew.

We'd also cherish the chance to connect with you. An Outreach Minister (wearing a blue nametag) will be standing by the Communion Table after the service to meet with anyone who'd like to learn more about TPC. Outreach Ministers also staff TPC's two "Welcome Centers," located outside the rear of the sanctuary and in the Church Hall. Additionally, a visit to towsonpres.org reveals the breadth and depth of TPC's missions and ministries. You're warmly invited to participate in any church events or programs of interest.

For your worshipping comfort, large-print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available at the rear of the sanctuary. Deacons (wearing red nametags) are happy to assist you.

While children are whole-heartedly welcome within all of worship, our professionally-staffed nursery is available (see a deacon for directions).

Finally, we invite you to join us for light refreshments during our "Coffee Hour," located in the Church Hall (on the bottom level next to the parking lot) after the 10 a.m. service.

Thank you, again, for the blessing of your presence this morning.

Today at TPC

Assisting in Worship today: Dotsie Bregel, Beth Bugg, Sandi Burt, Joseph Clark, Cass Mairs, Liza Salemi, Bill Sherman, and Liz White.

Sunday, September 29

8:30 a.m.	Worship Service – Chapel
9:45 a.m.	Noah's Nursery (infants to 3-year olds)
10:00 a.m.	Worship Service – Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Church School – Education wing
11:00 a.m.	"Reinventing Power Documentary Film – Library Coffee Hour – Thompson Hall
11:30 a.m.	Cherubs/ Children's Choir – Room 212/ Choir Room
12:00 p.m.	SCL – Thompson Hall
3:00 p.m.	Biking Small group – NCR Ashland Entrance
3:00 p.m.	Together We Serve – ShareBaby – Hampden
5:30 p.m.	Youth Group Meal – Thompson Hall

"Reinventing Power" documentary || Today || 11:15 a.m. || Library || Join us for this screening and discussion || Childcare is provided.

Small Group – Together We Serve || Today || 3-5 p.m. || First experience is with ShareBaby at Hampden Warehouse || Donations of wipes or diapers (even if they're open) can be placed in collection box outside Church Hall || Contact Julie Kreif to sign up: jkreif1@jhmi.edu

Electronic Giving: text "CheerfulGiver" (all one word/no spaces/case sensitive) to 73256 or scan the QR Code to the right. →



All God's People

Schedules to note:

- Rev. Strom is on Study Leave 9/30 – 10/6
- Kathryn Bojanowski is out of the office 10/2 & 10/4

Church School Schedule on Oct. 6 (Communion Sunday) || 3rd–4th graders in Chapel for "Children's Church" || 5th graders invited to remain in worship for its entirety

Small Groups || Hiking; Wine Tasting; MNF; Gentle Yoga; Bike Riding; Meet to Eat; Together We Serve; a follow up to Waking Up White; and more || Sign-up online at towsonpres.org/Grow/Adults.

New Church-Wide Book Study: We Make the Road By Walking || Purchase a book at a discounted price in the Church Hall and register for a 4-week Small Group || An audio version can be purchased on Audible || This week we read Ch. 4 – "The Drama of Desire."

Mission Trip Informational Meeting || Sunday, 10/6 || 11:15 a.m. || Chapel || Learn about our annual Honduras Mission Trip, as well as the Presbytery of Baltimore's Mission Trips to Cuba and Guatemala.

Mary, Martha & Me || Monday, Oct. 7 || 4:00 p.m. || Church Hall

Men's Group || Monday, Oct. 7 || 7:00 p.m. || Library

Blessing of the Animals || Sunday, Oct. 13 || 5-5:30 p.m. || In-between TPC's Labyrinth and Intergenerational Garden on Highland Ave.

MS & HS Youth Group || Tonight, Sept. 29 || 5:30-7:30 p.m. || Enter through Church Hall entrance for dinner at 5:30 p.m.

TPC This Week

Monday, September 30

7:00 p.m. Book Study (Bickel/Gray) – Bickel Home
Endowment Committee – Library

Tuesday, October 1

10:00 a.m. Book Study / Pugh – Thompson Hall
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting – Nook
4:00 p.m. Peabody Chorus – Thompson Hall, Chapel, Heartlights
7:30 p.m. Handbells – Choir Room

Wednesday, October 2

CORE – Conference Room
Book Study / O'Brien Home
Scout Leaders – Youth Room

Thursday, October 3

12:30 p.m. Gentle Yoga – Thompson Hall
2:00 p.m. Encore Chorale – Chapel
7:00 p.m. Troop 1729 – Youth Room / Room 212
Book Study / Nicolosi – Library
Chancel Choir – Choir Room

Sunday, October 6 Communion Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship Service – Chapel
9:45 a.m. Noah's Nursery (infants to 3-year olds)
10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
3rd & 4th Graders Children's Church – Chapel
10:15 a.m. Church School – Education wing
11:00 a.m. Book Study / Kuhlman – Library
Informational Mission Trip Mtg – Chapel
Coffee Hour – Thompson Hall
11:30 a.m. Cherubs/ Children's Choir – Room 212/ Choir Room
12:00 p.m. SCL – Thompson Hall
3:00 p.m. Biking Small group – NCR || Ashland Entrance
3:30 p.m. Together We Serve – ShareBaby – Hampden
5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meal – Thompson Hall

Towson Presbyterian Church



Sept. 29, 2019 || 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Assemble in God's Name

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

Prayerful Reflection

John Birch (*adapted*)

The blessings of each day:
food to eat, clothes to wear,
contentment with all we have
whether rich or poor.

In these moments of worship and praise,
teach us again, Lord,
to know the contentment
of having enough,
and sharing not only from our riches
but also from our poverty.

Prelude

Song of Peace

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

Welcome

Rev. Carter

Call to Worship

Rev. Strom

Leader: Come and worship!
We will praise the One between, within, and over.

People: Our hope is in the One who creates expansive love,
and calls us to do the same.

Leader: Follow the One who never breaks covenant.

People: We follow the One whose extravagant love calls us
to co-create justice for the oppressed,
feed the hungry, unlock prisons,
and welcome strangers, orphans, and widows.

Leader: Praise the One whose justice is grace-full and inclusive.

People: We praise the Spirit that spans the ages. Amen!

***Hymn #299** "You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

Hanover

