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TOWSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Inclusive ~ Curious ~ Compassionate ~ Courageous

Service of Worship

24th Sunday After Pentecost

November 8th, 2026 || 10:00 a.m.

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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 Christopher Ney, *Worship Ways* (*adapted*)

Gracious and Eternal God,
You invite us to a banquet overflowing with your good gifts.
Help us open our eyes to behold our blessings.
Help us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity.
Help us give and receive without counting any cost.
Help us see the world as you created it to be,
as you created us to be.
Amen.

Prelude *"Pastorale" from Sonata No. 12* Joseph Rheinberger
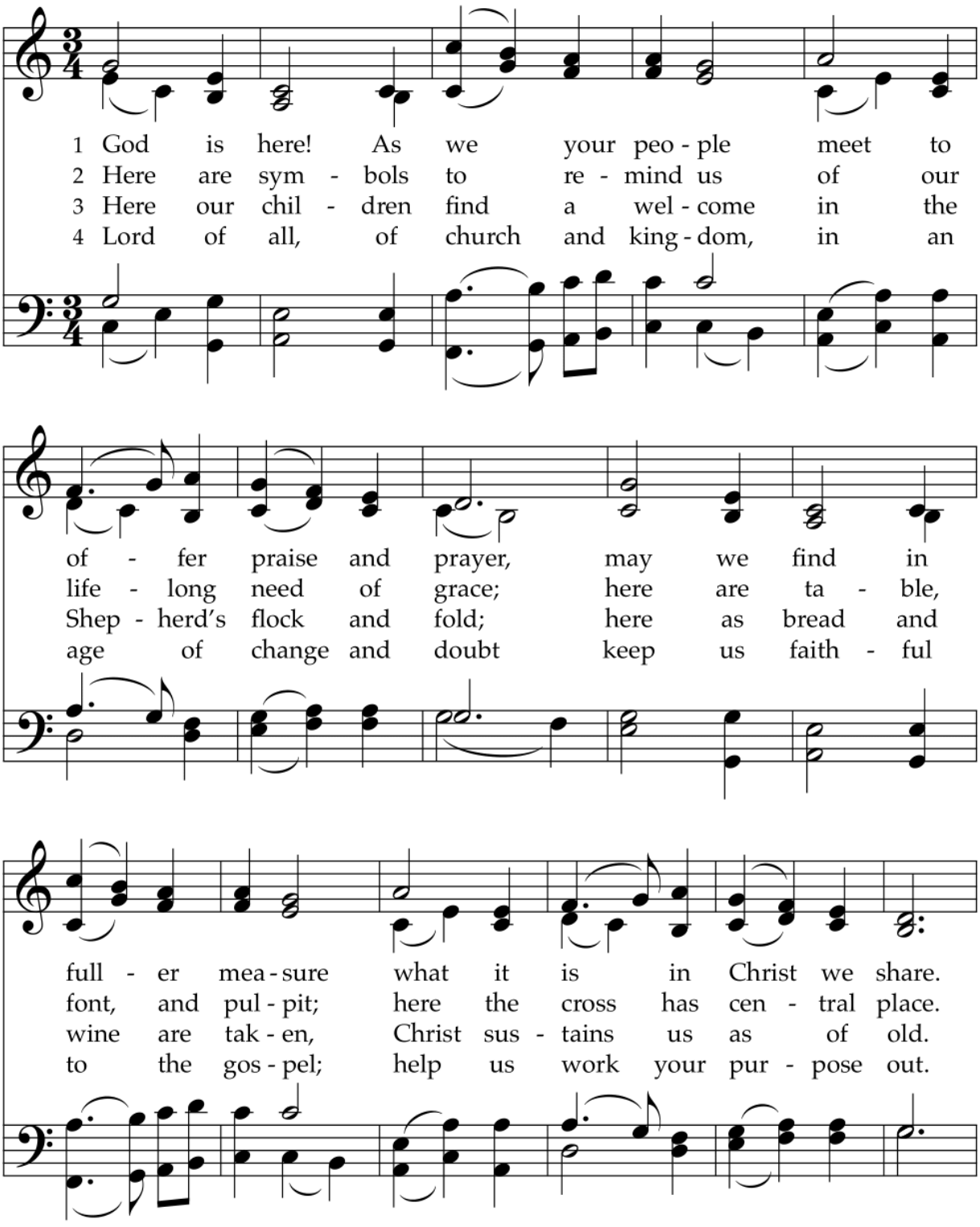
Welcome
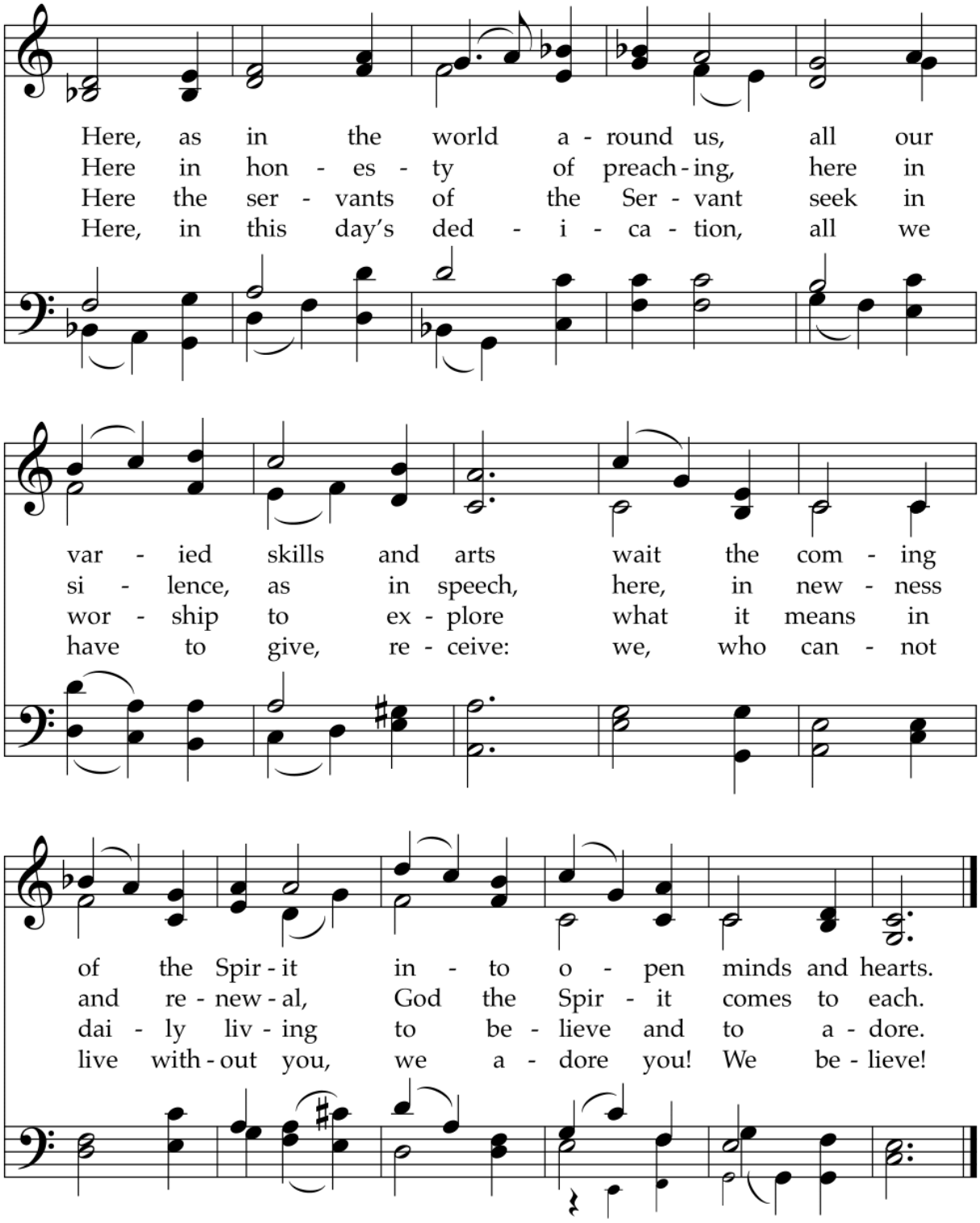
****Call to Worship***

Leader: *Come, all who are hopeful, all who are worried,*
all who wonder what tomorrow may bring.
People: **We come to worship the God**
whose goodness is greater than we can imagine.
Leader: *God's love welcomes us, God's grace sustains us,*
and God's blessings surround us in ways both seen and unseen.

People: **There is more to celebrate, more to discover,**
and more to share than we often realize.
Leader: *May our gratitude deepen, our hearts grow wider,*
and our lives reflect the generosity of God.
People: **With open hearts and joyful praise,**
let us worship God!

***Hymn #409** *God Is Here!* Abbot's Leigh


1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an
of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful
full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.



**Invitation to Confess*

**Prayer of Confession*

Generous and Gracious God,
You have filled our lives with gifts of love,
but we often focus far more on what we lack

than what we have.
We allow fear to narrow our vision,
worry to diminish our joy,
and uncertainty to keep us from living fully.
We cling to the things and perspectives that help us feel safe,
hesitate to share what we have,
and overlook opportunities to bless others.

Forgive us, O God.
Open our eyes to your goodness,
our hearts to your grace,
and our lives to all that your love makes possible.
Grant us the courage to trust more deeply,
and to give more freely,
that we might live into the joy of generosity.
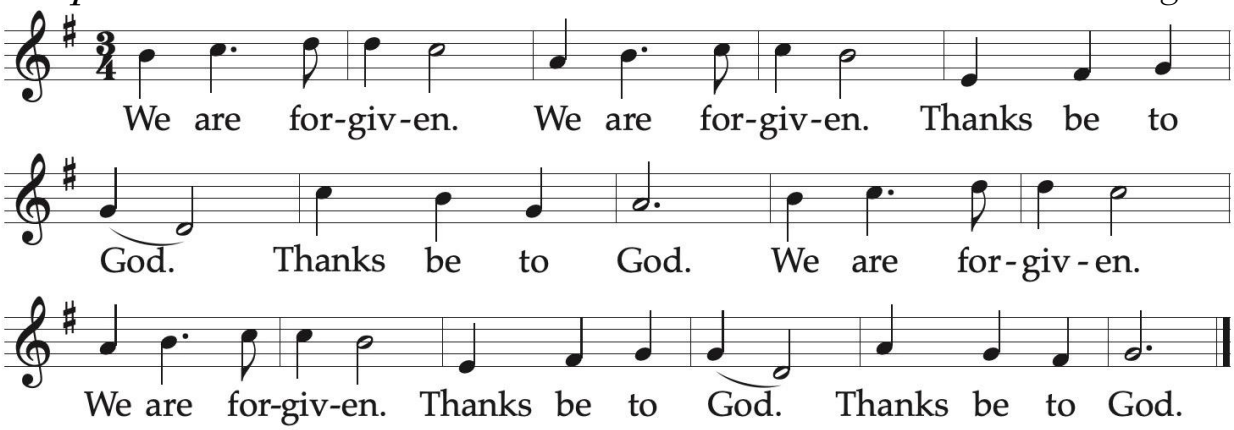
~ silent prayers of confession ~

Assurance of Grace

Leader: *Friends, celebrate the Good News!*
The love of God claims you. The grace of God redeems you.
God welcomes you into new life with boundless mercy.

People: Through Christ we are forgiven,
and invited into the fullness of life—
lives marked by generous love and compassion. Amen!

Response to Grace We Are Forgiven



GTG: #447

Passing of the Peace

Leader: *The peace of Christ is a gift not to be kept, but shared.*

People: **May that peace fill our hearts and flow through out lives.**
Leader: *Let us share it together. May peace be with you.*
People: **And also with you.**

Livestream Check-In

~Children are invited to come forward~

Children's Message

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination
Scripture Lesson John 5: 1-9 Pew Bible p. 96 NT

For the word of God Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon That's Not God!
De- and Reconstructing Faith—Part 4:
"The God of Scarcity"

Respond in Thanks & Faith

Anthem *Crowded Table* Hemby, McKenna, Carlile

Offering Our Gifts to God

Ways to offer financial gifts

- Towsonpres.org – click the orange "Give" button at top of the page
- Text a dollar amount to 833-218-4418
- Drop off or mail check to the church
- Scan this QR code
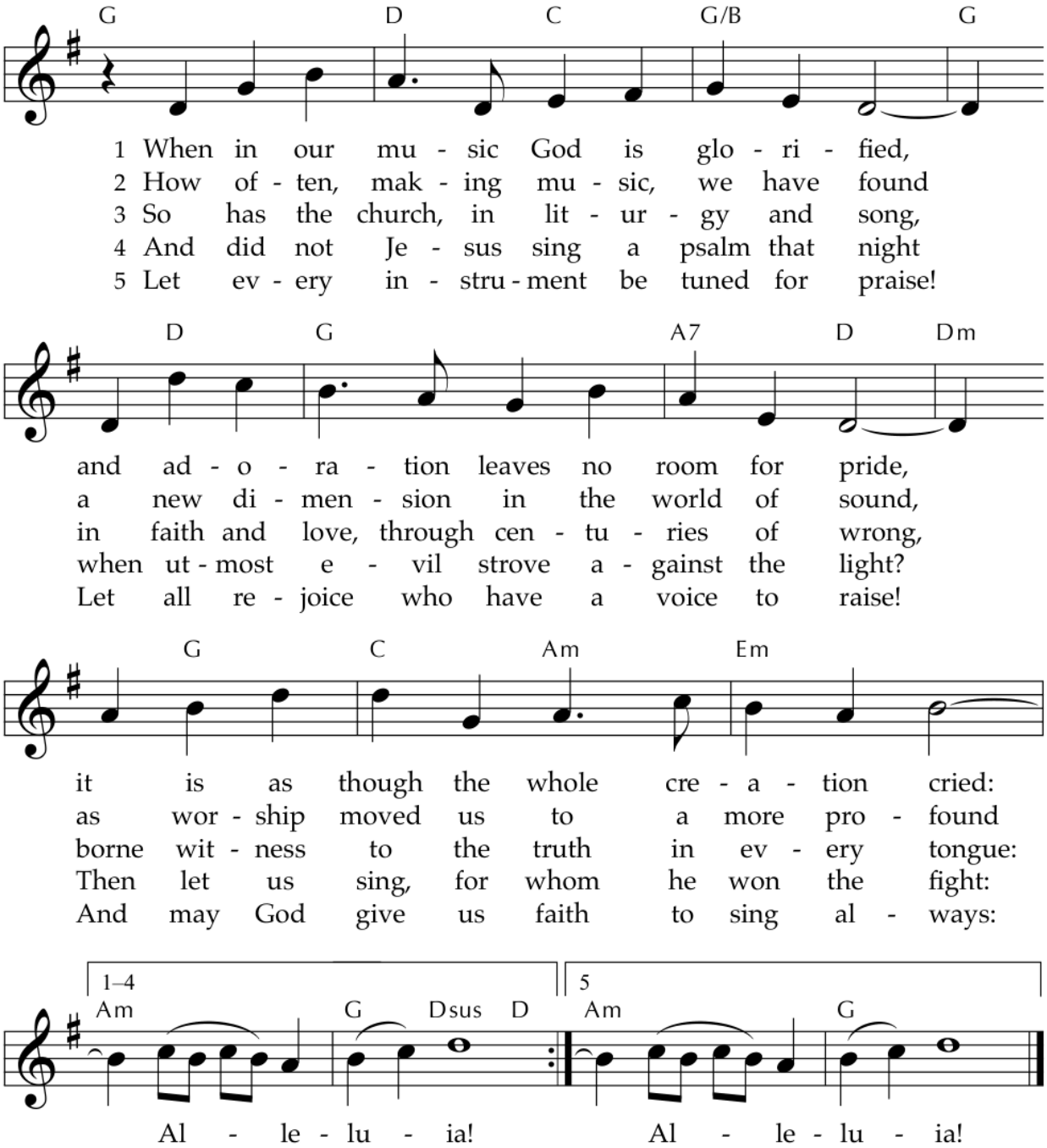
Offertory *So Many Reasons to Rejoice* Eddie Robinson

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 #641 *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*
Engelberg



***Benediction**

Postlude *So Many Reasons to Rejoice (reprise)* Robinson

Towson Presbyterian Church

Inclusive ~ Curious ~ Compassionate ~ Courageous

www.towsonpres.org || on socials @TowsonPres

Ministers	All members of the church
Pastor, Senior	Rev. Rob Carter
Pastor, Associate	Rev. Joel Strom
Director of Music and Organist	Stephen Harouff
Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministry	Whitney Grimm
Director of Communications & Connections	Andy Koo
Business Administrator	Kathryn Bojanowski
Mission Coordinator	Rev. Dr. David Britt
Administrative Assistant	Barbara Patrick
Sexton	Walter Austin
Parish Associate	Rev. Dr. Harold Cahill
Parish Associate	Rev. Mary Gaut
Parish Affiliate	Rev. Mark Smiley
Pastor Emeritus	Dr. George Gray Toole

Our Mission:

Towson Presbyterian Church is called to cultivate curious disciples of Christ who grow in faith, strive for justice, care for creation, and embody God's inclusive love.

Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) || Certified Earth Care Congregation || Affiliated with the Covenant Network of Presbyterians (seeking full equity for LGBTQ+ people in the life and ministry of the Church)

New Here? Welcome—*just as you are*.

We're so glad you're here! Whether you're exploring faith for the first time, new to the area, asking questions, or returning after time away, you are genuinely welcome at TPC.



To connect with us or learn more, scan this QR code to complete a virtual Connect Card (or fill out a printed card from the pew rack), or stop by the Welcome Kiosk outside the sanctuary to receive a welcome gift! You can also use it to join our email mailing list and stay up to date on church news and events.

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:00 a.m., in person and online. Children are always welcome, with a professionally staffed nursery and Church School available during the service. Stay after worship for Coffee Hour at 11:00 a.m.!

We celebrate your presence today and hope this time of worship helps you experience the depth of God's love for you.

Prayer List

Patricia Bickel, Jim Flick, Melvin Heckstall, The Family of Harrison Rosenblum, Barbara Kays, Bob Latshaw, Ann Lehwald, The Mercer Family, Julie Mertus, Janet Novak, George Openhym, Claire Reisler, Joan Strout, The Family of Wendy Wallace.
Names are listed for three weeks unless otherwise requested.

TPC News, Mission, and Ministry Updates

Assisting in Worship: Shirley Albert, Jason Fitzsimmons, Matt Hemm, Karen Morris*, Ro Nicolosi, Liz Piel, Judith Rietz, Paul Schwab.

We welcome singers from Encore Creativity to worship this morning. These are friends from choral ensembles that Stephen conducts in Annapolis, Baltimore, Columbia, and Washington, D.C.

TPP Early Enrollment Period || Beginning Monday, November 9 || Families who are members of Towson Presbyterian Church may begin registering.

ACTC Thanksgiving Baskets || Nov. 2-Nov. 15 || Drop Off in Thompson Hall || Each November, we collect Thanksgiving meals for families in need through ACTC. Packing lists are available at towsonpres.org/events or outside the sanctuary. Drop off filled bags beneath the clock in T.H.

Christmas Poinsettia Honorariums || Sunday, Nov. 8– Wed., Nov. 25 || Memorialize or honor your loved one by donating a chancel poinsettia this Advent. Forms are available online through Church Center or as paper copies in the Narthex. Completed paper forms may be returned to the church office. Names will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

Graul's Pickup for Coffee Hour & Sunday Community Lunch || Ongoing || We'd love your help picking up food donations from Graul's Market in Ruxton! More details are available on the sign-up page via the QR code.

Young Adult Group || Tuesday, Nov. 10th, 6:30pm || Jon & Chen Lin Bregel's Home || For all post-college adults through their 30s seeking deeper community and spiritual growth. Scan the QR code to register so our hosts can coordinate the potluck dinner with you! Facilitated by Jon & Lin Bregel & Rachel Wallick. Location: 4 Lombardy Pl, Towson MD 21204

Women's Group Potluck || Friday, Nov. 13th, 6–9pm || Thompson Hall || Join a great group of TPC women (and friends!) for one of our occasional Potluck Dinners. Come enjoy good food, conversation, and fellowship together. Registration is still available!

P5 Moms Connect Group || Friday, Nov. 13, 6:30-8:30pm || 401 West Chesapeake Ave (Bregel Home) || Expecting moms and moms with children through 5th grade are invited to a fun and festive evening of creativity and connection! Join us as we create charcuterie boards, share family traditions, favorite recipes, and entertaining ideas, and reflect on all we have to be thankful for.

Intergenerational Garden (IGG) - Put the Garden to Bed || Sat., Nov. 14th, 9:30-11:30am || Help us wrap up the IGG's 17th season as we prepare for winter and plan for next year. Register online!

IGG - Celebration || Sat., Nov. 14th, 6pm || All IGG volunteers and their families are invited to celebrate another successful season with a potluck at the Vanko/Appleby residence! RSVP to Carol Appleby or sign up online with what you'll bring. Walk-ins are welcome!

Awaiting Advent: Embracing Hope in Poetry, Music & Art || Sundays, Nov. 15 & 22, 11:15am, Chapel || In-person & Zoom || As we prepare for Advent, join David and Patricia Jackson for Embracing Hope, a reflection through poetry, music, and art. Explore how hope has inspired generations, shapes our lives today, and guides us into the future with faith. Available in person & Zoom. Register online!

Monday Night Football #3 - Chargers v. Ravens || Nov. 16th, 8pm || Our monthly gathering is back for another round of football, food, and fellowship! Join us for our third gathering of the season at Jason Fitzsimmons' house as we cheer on the Ravens against the Chargers!

Christmas Wreath Fundraiser || Now–Sunday, Dec. 15th || Support our youth by purchasing a holiday wreath through Lynch Creek Farm! Proceeds help fund summer conferences at Massanetta and Montreat. Scan the QR code to purchase!

McKim Center Angel Tree || Now–Monday, Dec. 7 || Pick up a gift tag in Thompson Hall or from the tree by the Chapel and help bless a child from the McKim Center this Christmas! A great family service opportunity. Gifts will be picked up on Dec. 8th

Church Center App || To stay connected in all things here at TPC, scan the QR code to download the TPC Church Center App! You can access event registrations, join groups, view our calendar, and more.

TPC This Week

Sun. 11/8:	All Week	ACTC Thanksgiving Drive
	9:00am	The Explorers (Thompson Hall)
	10:00am	Noah's Nursery, 0–3 (Lower Level)
	10:00am	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestream)
	11:00am	Coffee Hour (Thompson Hall)
	11:20am	Cards of Care for TPC Young Adults (Conf. Rm)
	11:20am	Sabbatical Reflection w/ Pastor Joel (Library)
	12:00pm	Sunday Community Lunch (Thompson Hall)
Mon. 11/9:	10:00am	Monday Morning Bible Study (Zoom)
	7:00pm	Book Study: *In the Name of Jesus* (Zoom)
	7:00pm	Circle 13 (Thompson Hall)
Tue. 11/10:	10:00am	Book Study: *In the Name of Jesus* (Zoom)
	10:30am	Staff Meeting (Library)
	1:00pm	WMA Comm. Mtg. (Zoom)
	2:00pm	Parish Visitor Mtg. (Library
	6:30pm	Young Adult Group (Bregel-Lin Home)
	7:30pm	Handbells Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Wed. 8/11:	All Day	Veterans Day Holiday - Church Office is Closed
	5:30pm	LOGOS (Thompson Hall)

	7:00pm	ASF Comm. Mtg. (Zoom)
	7:00pm	Deacons Mtg. (Thompson Hall)
Thur. 8/12:	7:00pm	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
Fri. 8/13:	6:30pm	P5 Moms Connect Group (Bregel Home)
Sat. 8/14:	9:00am	TPC Hiking Series (Varies)
	9:30am	IGG – Put the Garden to Bed (IGG)
	6:00pm	IGG – Potluck Dinner & Celebration (Appleby Home)