

*\*Invitation to Confess*

*\*Prayer of Confession*

Gracious God

We come to you broken by all that confines us:  
the prejudice buried deep within,  
the anxiety weighing us down,  
the fear that distorts the way we see ourselves,  
and others, and you.

We come to you exhausted by wasted energy:  
the running from our insecurities;  
the pushing down of others to lift ourselves up;  
the chasing after things that fall so short of peace,

We know, Precious One, that you have put your love within us;  
you have written it on our hearts,  
that we may be your people.

Straighten us, O God.

Refocus our vision on who and what matter most.  
Increase our compassion until we love as you love,  
caring enough to with all

who weep,  
who fear,  
who hunger,  
who are displaced,  
who are judged as anything less than your child.

- silent prayers of confession -

*\*Assurance of Grace*

Leader: Friends, the Good News of God's love is for you!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and welcomed into a  
life and community of trust, abundance, and hope.

*\*Response to Grace*



GTG: 590

*\*Passing of the Peace*

Leader: The peace Jesus revealed is not won or earned,  
but experienced amid a deep trust in God.  
May the peace of our Lord 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*

Kevin McKenna

*Scripture Reading*

Jeremiah 31: 27-34 (Pew Bible p. 735, O.T.)

Leader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word;  
People: Thanks be to God!

*Scripture Lesson*

Luke 18: 1-8 (Pew Bible p. 81, 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*

The Possibility Business—Part I:  
“The Point of Prayer”

# Respond in Thanks & Faith

*\*Hymn #450* (10:00)

“Be Thou My Vision”

Slane

*\*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 God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

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.

*The Lord's Prayer in Song* (10:00)

*Testimony* (10:00)

Tim Burkett

*Call to Commitment*

*Offertory*

A Prayer for Humility  
Kaitlyn Chisamore, solo

Mark Patterson (b. 1969)

*\*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: Generous God, in Christ you have shown us what it means to love.  
We dedicate our gifts to your call on our lives.

People: Give us an unwavering passion for justice,  
and a tenacious faith that will not rest until  
the hungry are fed, the oppressed find relief,  
and the outsider finds a welcome. Amen.

*\*Hymn #366*

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Hyferdol

*\*Benediction*

*Postlude*

“The people respond – Amen!” from Rubrics

Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

\*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

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

Jenness Hall

Administrative & Communications Coordinator

Tara Flynn Runge

Business Administrator

Kathryn Bojanowski

Director, Towson Presbyterian Preschool

Leslie Foretich

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

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

The sympathy of the congregation and our resurrection faith are extended to Janice Searles and family for Tom Searles, husband and father. A service will be held at the Naval Academy at a later date.

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

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.

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### Today at TPC

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Linda and Tim Lotz in loving memory of Kendall Strout.

The votive on the communion table marks the first anniversary of the death of Jack Mier.

Assisting in Worship today: Ross Bregel, Sandi Burt, Alex Foley, Pat Keller, Kim Labrique, Cass Mairs, Ro Nicolosi, and Patty O'Brien.

#### Sunday, October 20

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.	Coffee Hour – Thompson Hall
11:15 a.m.	Book Study / Kuhlman – Library Property – Conference Room
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

Schedule to note: Jenness Hall is on vacation today. MS & HS Youth Group does not meet tonight.

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



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### All God's People

**Review Period & Forum** || Session has discerned a need to restructure TPC's restricted and designated funds and policy. To review the current Endowment Fund Agreement and proposed amendments, please contact the church office (tpc@towsonpres.org). Session will host a forum on Nov. 10 at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel to explore the proposed changes and rationale behind them.

**Church Building Tour** || Oct. 27 at 9:00 a.m. || Starts in Narthex || Come learn the ins and outs of our building || For long-time members and those new to TPC.

**Small Group: 21 Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge** || Sign-up online at towsonpres.org/Grow/Adults.

**Church-wide Book Study: We Make the Road by Walking** || Contact the church office to purchase a book at a discounted price || An audio version can be purchased on Audible || This week we read Ch. 7 – "It's Not Too Late."

**Meet Brian McLaren** || Oct. 27 after 10 a.m. service || Join us in the sanctuary for a Skype conversation with the author of our We Make the Road by Walking. Childcare will be provided.

**New Podcasts** || Pastor Rob and Joel's podcast of Ch. 1, 6, & 7 of "We Make the Road by Walking" are available at towsonpres.org > Explore > Podcasts.

**Honduras Mission Trip** || March 6 – 15, 2020 || Register by Nov. 22. || Contact Lynn Krugman (thekrugmans@comcast.net) for more information || Financial assistance is available!

**Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC)** || Current needs: boxes of dry cereal || Donation boxes are outside the Sanctuary and Thompson Hall.

**Catonsville HS Steel Drum Band Concert** || Friday, Nov. 8, 7:30-9:00 p.m. || Thompson Hall || Everyone is encouraged to wear island attire. || Suggested donation: a canned good for ACTC per person

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### TPC This Week

<b>Monday, October 21</b>	12:00 p.m. Book Study (Cashin) – Thompson Hall 5:00 p.m. Communications – Nook
<b>Tuesday, October 22</b>	10:00 a.m. Book Study / Pugh – Thompson Hall 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting – Nook 1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl – Nook 4:00 p.m. Peabody Chorus – Thompson Hall, Chapel, Heartlights 7:00 p.m. BeeTree Preserve – Library 7:30 p.m. Handbells – Choir Room
<b>Wednesday, October 23</b>	7:00 p.m. Session – Library Book Study / O'Brien Home
<b>Thursday, October 24</b>	12:30 p.m. Gentle Yoga – Thompson Hall 2:00 p.m. Encore Chorale – Chapel 6:00 p.m. Book Study (Britt) – Thompson Hall 7:00 p.m. Troop 1729 – Youth Room / Room 212 Book Study (Nicolosi) – Library Chancel Choir – Choir Room
<b>Saturday, October 26</b>	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir – Choir Room
<b>Sunday, October 27</b>	8:00 a.m. Running Small group – Loch Raven & Morgan Mill
	8:30 a.m. Worship Service – Chapel 9:00 a.m. Church Tour – Narthex 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. Skype with Brian McLaren – Sanctuary 11:15 a.m. Book Study / Kuhlman – 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 5:30 p.m. Youth Group Meal – Thompson Hall

# Towson Presbyterian Church



Oct. 20, 2019 || 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

29<sup>th</sup> 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*

Christine Longhurst

God of love and justice,  
we gather together to worship you:  
to offer our thanks and praise  
and to proclaim your goodness and mercy.

Meet us here.  
Breathe your Word into our souls;  
engrave your covenant of love upon our hearts.  
Teach us faithfulness and compassion  
so that our lives may reflect  
your love and justice to the world.

### *Prelude*

*Psalm Prelude, Op. 32, No. 1* Herbert Howells (1892-1983)  
"This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble." -Psalm 34: 6

### *Welcome*

Rev. Carter

### *Call to Worship*

Rev. Strom

*Leader:* Holy One, we come  
listening, looking, feeling for the ways you dwell within us.  
In these moments of worship, and after we have worshipped:

*People:* whisper in our ears;  
glimmer in our vision;  
write upon our hearts.

*Leader:* We wait  
*People:* with open ears, open eyes, open hearts.  
*All:* Amen.

### *\*Hymn #621*

"I Will Call upon the Lord"

I Will Call