



## Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 11, 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*

Joanna Harader (*adapted*)

*The mountain top, the shining face, the glowing clothes,  
the voice of God speaking from the cloud.  
Sometimes...God shows up in ways we cannot deny,  
in a place we can go, a light we can see,  
a voice we can hear, a stone we can touch.  
Sometimes...there is the veil, the overshadowing, terrifying cloud,  
the questions, the appearing and disappearing,  
the excitement, the wondering, the silence.  
Sometimes...God shows up in ways we cannot deny.  
Always...God shows up, somehow.  
So we have shown up, here, now.  
May God give us eyes to see. Amen.*

#### *Prelude*

Partita on "Westminster Abbey"

Charles Callahan

#### *Welcome*

#### *Souper Bowl of Caring*

#### *\*Call to Worship*

Thom Shuman (*adapted*)

Leader: We gather together this morning,  
People: to offer thanks to God with all our hearts.  
Leader: We gather with this precious community of faith,  
People: to follow Jesus, wherever he may lead us.

Leader: We gather in these moments,  
 People: to learn all we can of grace,  
 and love,  
 and the life that really is life.  
 Leader: Let us worship God.

*\*Hymn #394*                      *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*                      Westminster Abbey  
 (Stanzas 1-3)



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and  
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of  
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from  
 4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
 hosts, and stay; come, with all your lov - ing - kind - ness;  
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er  
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
 hear your peo - ple as we pray, and your full - est  
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter  
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.  
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.  
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

*\*Invitation to Confess*

*\*Prayer of Confession*

Boundless God,  
You give us hearts and eyes of faith,  
calling us to open them  
to all that you say will be.

But we have grown complacent with what is.  
We prefer the known,  
as hard or mundane as it is,  
to the extraordinary you call us towards.  
We prefer the ways of society,  
as broken as they are,  
to the ways of grace and love that lead to life.

Healing One, help us see the world differently.  
Help us see the glory in pursuing the common good.  
Help us find the peace in learning to love those who are hard to like.  
Help us uncover that courage to change—to shift—to grow,  
until we see,  
and so pursue,  
all that you say will be.

*~ silent reflection & confession ~*

*\*Assurance of Grace*

Leader: Hear the oh-so-good-news God declares,  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine” (Isaiah 43: 1).  
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed  
to be who and whose we truly are.

*Response to Grace*

Westminster Abbey

Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or  
to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,  
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and  
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

### *\*Passing of the Peace*

Leader: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives."  
Friends, may peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

- All worshipping virtually are invited to greet and share peace with others in the "Comments" section. -

### *Children's Message*

## Proclaim God's Word

### *Prayer for Illumination*

#### *Scripture Lesson*

Exodus 24: 12-18

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God

#### *Scripture Lesson*

Mark 9: 2-9

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*

A Quest for God Within Light and Darkness

## Respond in Thanks & Faith

Capo 3: (Dm) (Gm) (A7) (Dm)  
 Fm B<sup>b</sup>m C7 Fm

1 Swift - ly pass the clouds of glo - ry, heav - en's voice, the  
 2 Glimpsed and gone the rev - e - la - tion, they shall gain and  
 3 Lord, trans - fig - ure our per - cep - tion with the pur - est

(Gm) (A7) (Dm) (Gm) (A7)  
 B<sup>b</sup>m C7 Fm B<sup>b</sup>m C7

daz - zling light; Mo - ses and E - li - jah van - ish;  
 keep its truth, not by build - ing on the moun - tain  
 light that shines, and re - cast our life's in - ten - tions

(Dm) (A7) (Dm) (D) (Bm)  
 Fm C7 Fm F Dm

Christ a - lone com - mands the height! Pe - ter, James, and  
 an - y shrine or sa - cred booth, but by fol - low -  
 to the shape of your de - signs, till we seek no

(Em) (A7) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A7) (D)  
 Gm C7 F Dm Gm C7 F

John fall si - lent, turn - ing from the sum - mit's rise down - ward  
 ing the Sav - ior through the val - ley to the cross and by  
 oth - er glo - ry than what lies past Cal - vary's hill and our

(Bm) (Em) (A7) (D) (Bm) (D) (A7) (D)  
 Dm Gm C7 F Dm F C7 F

toward the shad - owed val - ley where their Lord has fixed his eyes.  
 test - ing faith's re - sil - ience through be - tray - al, pain, and loss.  
 liv - ing and our dy - ing and our ris - ing by your will.

## Offering Our Gifts to God

Ways to offer financial gifts:

- 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 Wisdom of the Moon*

Susan LaBarr

## 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

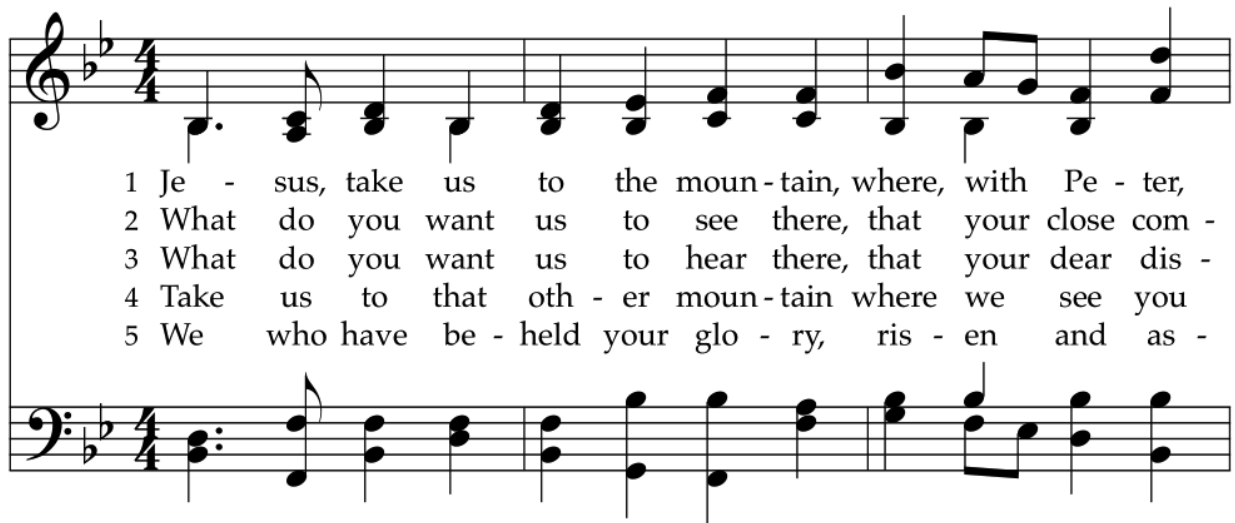
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn #193*

*Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain*

Unser Herrscher



1 Je - sus, take us to the moun - tain, where, with Pe - ter,  
2 What do you want us to see there, that your close com -  
3 What do you want us to hear there, that your dear dis -  
4 Take us to that oth - er moun - tain where we see you  
5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, ris - en and as -



James, and John, we are daz - zled by your glo - ry,  
pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there  
ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en  
glo - ri - fied, where you shout - ed “It is fin - ished!”  
cend - ed Lord, can - not help but tell the sto - ry,

light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us  
fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like  
says of the In - car - nate Word, "Lis - ten, lis - ten,  
where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -  
all that we have seen and heard; say with Pe - ter,

for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.  
ours you go, matched to meet our dead - liest foe.  
ev - ery - one: this is my be - lov - ed Son."  
tur - i - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"  
James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

*\*Benediction*

*Postlude*

# Towson Presbyterian Church

Inclusive - Curious - Compassionate - Courageous

[www.towsonpres.org](http://www.towsonpres.org) || 410-823-6500 || @TowsonPres

Ministers	All Members of the Church
Senior Pastor	Rev. Rob Carter
Associate Pastor	Rev. Joel Strom
Director of Music and Organist	Stephen Harouff
Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries	Jeness Hall
Director of Communications & Connections	McKenzie Allison
Business Administrator	Kathryn Bojanowski
Administrative Assistant	Barbara Patrick
Sexton	Walter Austin
Parish Associate	Rev. Harold Cahill
Parish Associate	Rev. Mary Gaut
Parish Associate	Rev. Roger Rice
Parish Emeritus	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](http://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](http://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, Nancy Allchin, The Buck Family, Barbara Davis, Jim Flick, Aldean Howard, Bob Latshaw, John Lewis, The Marta Family, Viraj Mehta, Julie Mertus, Dave Morris, Julie Morris, Phillip Pugh, Patty Rath, Janice Searles, Jeanette Spratley, Arline Stephan, Calvin Symons, Ashley Tamayo, Sue Thompson, Mitzie Tyrie.

## TPC News, Mission, and Ministry Updates

**Assisting in Worship** || \*Julie Krief, Ellen Tully, Viraj Mehta, Kimberly Light, Susan Shockley, Jane Barton, Beth Bugg, John Hutton

**Annual Meeting** || Today, 11:00–11:20am || Please stay after worship today for a review of the 2023 Budget, Financial Statements, and Annual Report. Children’s programming will be extended for the duration of the meeting. All documents can be accessed electronically using this QR code, or can be downloaded from Friday’s eNewsletter:



Attend this meeting virtually (Webinar ID: 923 4083 6469):  
<https://towsonpres-org.zoom.us/j/92340836469>

**Souper Bowl of Caring** || **Happening Today** || Every winter on Super Bowl Sunday, our Youth hold a donation drive for a charity of their choosing. This year’s pick is the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). Youth will be stationed with soup pots at the back of the Sanctuary after worship today, before they head down to serve Sunday Community Lunch in Thompson Hall.

**Honduras Service Trip Donations** || **Due Today** || All donations go to purchasing equipment for our dental, medical, physical therapy, and community engagement teams – who have been serving Copan each spring for the last 30+ years. Visit [towsonpres.org/honduras](https://towsonpres.org/honduras) to donate online – or you can donate by check. Thank you for your support!

**Ashes-To-Go** || **Wednesday, Feb. 14, 12:00–1:00pm** || If you can’t make it to the evening service this Wednesday, stop by the Chapel on your lunch break to receive the Imposition of Ashes by Pastor Joel.

**Ash Wednesday Service** || **Wednesday, Feb. 14, 7:00pm** || Marking the beginning of Lent, our Ash Wednesday service incorporates the Lord's Supper, the Imposition of Ashes, music, silence, and prayers, to acknowledge our dependence upon God. All are welcome to join us in-person or virtually.

**Sacred Space** || **Friday, Feb. 16–Wednesday, Mar. 27** || The Chapel is open to all for silent prayer and reflection this Lent. Drop in on your lunch break or early morning at one of the following times:

- Sundays, 9:00–9:45am
- Mondays, 12:00–1:00pm
- Wednesdays, 12:00–1:00pm
- Fridays, 7:30–9:00am

**Dig In: The Power of Sacrifice** || **Sundays, 11:20am–12:30pm, Feb. 18, Mar. 3, Mar. 10, Mar. 17, Mar. 24** || Join Rob and Joel in the Library after worship starting next Sunday to discuss our Lenten sermon series. We'll explore the theme of sacrifice – in a positive light – and how it can lead us to fullness of life.

**Columbarium Interest** || **Due by Monday, Feb. 19** || The Property Committee is considering expanding the columbarium in our courtyard if enough members show interest in purchasing a niche. Visit [towsonpres.org/columbarium](http://towsonpres.org/columbarium) for more information and contact Kathryn Bojanowski with inquiries.

**Wine Tastings** || **Saturday, Feb. 24, and Friday, Mar. 15, 5:00–7:00pm** || Join old friends and meet new ones while enjoying wine and bites. The February gathering will be held at Lenore Chapman's home, and March's will be at the Heinfeldt home. RSVP at [towsonpres.org/adults](http://towsonpres.org/adults).

**Youth Sunday** || **Sunday, Feb. 25, 10:00am** || Each winter, our 6th–12th Graders lead the congregation in worship; everything from the sermon to the children's message is prepared and presented by students! This year, we have the joy of hearing messages from Abby Carter, Owen Bott, Rory Stroble, and Allie Tobian. The Lenten Festival will be held in Thompson Hall immediately following worship on Youth Sunday.

**Per Capita** || As a PC(USA) congregation, we have the joy of sharing our gifts and resources to support the mission of the larger Church. Each year, churches and members are invited to offer per capita – an essential offering that directly funds denominational ministries and programs. Visit [towsonpres.org/percapita](http://towsonpres.org/percapita) to learn more about per capita and all that it makes possible, and to offer your per capita of \$40.

**Stewardship Update** || We exceeded our giving goal for the third year in a row! The Stewardship budget for 2023 was \$810,000, and the ending amount was \$822,682 (offerings, loose plate, per capita). Giving Statements are now available in ACCESS, which can be accessed by using the “Login” button on the front page of [towsonpres.org](http://towsonpres.org).

## TPC This Week

<b>Sun 2/11:</b>	10:00am 10:15am 11:00am 11:20am 11:20am 12:00pm	Worship (Sanctuary and Livestream) Church School (Children’s Classrooms) Annual Mtg. (Sanctuary and Zoom) Souper Bowl of Caring (Sanctuary) Coffee Hour (Thompson Hall) Sunday Community Lunch (Thompson Hall)
<b>Mon 2/12:</b>	10:00am 7:00pm	Exodus Bible Study (Zoom) Circle 13 (Thompson Hall)
<b>Tue 2/13:</b>	10:30am 2:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Staff Mtg. (Library) WMA Comm. Mtg. (Zoom) C.S. Lewis Book Study (Zoom) Handbells Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
<b>Wed 2/14:</b>	12:00pm 7:00pm	Ashes-To-Go (Chapel) Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary/Virtual)
<b>Thu 2/15:</b>	8:00am 7:30pm	Men’s Breakfast (Towson Diner) Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
<b>Fri 2/16:</b>	7:30am	Sacred Space (Chapel)