

# Why Church?

the purpose of  
the Church  
in the 21st Century



April 7, 2024

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.*

Proverbs 3:5-6

## WELCOME!!

We are so glad you have chosen to worship at Thompson. We hope it is a place where you feel God's presence. Generations of people have sat in these pews, felt the presence of the Holy Spirit, learned about the love of Jesus and how the power of God has made a difference in their lives. Whatever is most important in your life right now, whether it is trials or joys, these things matter to God and they matter to us. All of what you bring to the table is welcome here.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

We offer a 9:00 am Traditional service in the Sanctuary and 11:00 am Contemporary service with praise music in the Fellowship Hall. Our services are livestreamed and recorded and can be viewed anytime on [www.tmpc.org](http://www.tmpc.org). Please follow along and respond when the type is bold and stand, as you are able, when there is an asterisk in the bulletin. Our Common Hour described below, begins at 10 am.

## FOR CHILDREN

We offer Sunday School at both services where the children attend class with an instructor to learn and grow in their faith. Children begin their time in worship and then come forward for the children's message then go to Sunday School. Be sure to register your child of 4 years old through 5th grade. If your child prefers to stay with you in worship, there are activity baskets with crayons and activity sheets located at the back of the Sanctuary. Nursery care is available for those attending services at 9:00 am or 11:00 am in the nursery room. To find the nursery room, please exit the front of the Sanctuary to the right of the altar area, go up the steps and turn left. You will find it at the end of the hall on the left.

## RESTROOMS

If you need to use the restroom, please exit the Sanctuary to the right of the altar area and go up the steps. Turn right and the bathroom is on your left.

## COMMON HOUR

TMPC has an hour between services that is a space for coffee and fellowship, Adult Education, Children's Choir and other activities and meetings. Join us in the Fellowship Hall.

## VISITOR BAGS

If you are visiting with us today, we would love to share a visitor bag with more information and a gift for you. If you have any questions about TMPC, don't hesitate to speak to an usher or a pastor!

Be sure to look at our website [www.tmpc.org](http://www.tmpc.org) for more information, events, and on-line giving.

We are glad to share in your faith journey!

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN EASTER**

**APRIL 7, 2024**

**WE GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD**

PRELUDE

*Risen*

Children's Choir  
by Lori A. Williams

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Julie Lalonde

We gather today in the name of Jesus Christ, our firm foundation.

**In this place we seek to grow into faithful disciples.**

Why do we participate in this community called Church?

**Because here, we learn to serve as Christ served: with love, patience, and humility.**

Here, we have the chance to grow closer to God and learn how to share the Good News with others.

**In our gathering, may we embody the love that Christ has poured upon us and focus on our mission of building a community of faith, hope, and love for all people.**

\*HYMN NO. 321

*The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

**WE ARE RENEWED THROUGH GOD'S GRACE**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Julie Lalonde

**Loving God, in the busyness of our lives, we confess that we have often overlooked the sanctuary you provide within your church. We admit to taking for granted the community of faith that you have given us. We have allowed distractions, doubts, and daily routines to distance us from the spiritual home where our hearts truly belong. For the times we have underestimated the power of communal worship, the strength found in shared prayers, and the comfort offered in a community walking in faith together, we ask for your forgiveness. Help us to remember the vital role your church plays in our lives, not as a building we visit, but as a family to which we belong, and a body in which each plays an integral part. In Christ we pray, Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Julie Lalonde

Hear the Good News: Our God is a God of renewal and reconciliation. As many times as we go astray, when we admit our sin, God forgives us and welcomes us back with open arms.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*GLORIA PATRI NO. 581

GLORIA PATRI

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.***

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Tricia Murphy & Amanada Pfannenstiel

*How Beautiful*

Twila Paris

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**WE HEAR GOD'S POWERFUL WORD**

SCRIPTURE Colossians 3:12-17 (NT pg.201) Ephesians 2:19-22 (NT pg 193)

SERMON

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Communion*

Ariana DuPont

C. Gounod

\*DOXOLOGY HYMN NO. 609

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures high and low; Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise. O Lord, our God, creator and ruler of the universe. In the beginning you formed us and made us in your image, setting us in this world to love and to serve you and to live in peace with your whole creation. When we rebelled against you, chose our own way and refused to trust and obey you, you did not reject us, but still you call us your own. You sent prophets to call us back to you and then in the fullness of time, out of your great love for us, you sent your Son to be one of us, to redeem us and to heal our brokenness.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with the faithful in every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosannah in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosannah in the Highest.**

You are holy, O God and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. He lived as one of us knowing joy and sorrow.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, opened the eyes of the blind and broke bread with outcasts and sinners. Dying on the cross, he gave himself for the life of the world. Rising from the grave, he won victory over death. Seated at your right hand, he leads us to eternal life.

We celebrate his dying and rising and we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we surrender our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

We turn to you in this holy moment and we offer you our prayers and petitions, especially...

And we unite our voices in the holy prayer of our Savior, together saying:

**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.**

Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ. May we, who partake of this holy meal, be united in Him, strengthened to serve the world in His name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*(Eat the bread as you are served – Hold the cup until all have been served)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(in unison)*

**God of grace and glory, in this holy meal, we have tasted the sweet surrender of our lives to Your loving care. Filled with hope and nourished by Your presence, we are reminded of the beauty of a life lived in total trust in You.**

**WE ARE SENT OUT TO BE THE CHURCH**

\*BENEDICTION

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

***The altar flowers this morning are given in memory of Bob Campbell by his wife, Anita Campbell.***

## **SUNDAY CALENDAR**

<b>Sun 4/07</b>	<b>9:00</b>	<b>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	9:00-10:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	9:20–10:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	Room 122-124
	<b>10:00</b>	<b>COFFEE HOUR</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
	10:00	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
	10:00	Choir Rehearsals	Choir Room/Rm 125
	<b>11:00</b>	<b>CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE</b>	<b>Fellowship Hall</b>
	11:00-12:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	11:20-12:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	Rooms 122-124
	6:00 – 8:00	TSM- Youth Group	Off site

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** We will be holding a brief congregational meeting on **Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am**, immediately following the 9:00 am worship service for the purpose of electing deacons to fill two vacant positions.

**NEW HOPE PRIDE PARADE** Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>** since Thompson will be in the New Hope Pride Parade for our third consecutive year! See the sign-ups in the e-news and contact Nancy Campbell at Nmcmom16@aol.com with any questions. Follow-up information will be sent to all who sign up.

**RUMMAGE SALE** The Spring Rummage Sale on **May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 am – 5 pm**, and **May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 am – 12 pm**. We will be accepting clean, gently used clothing items in good or like new condition as well as small household items, small working electronics, and tools beginning April 1st (drop off in the Chapel). Please no large items. More information and sign ups to follow. Contact Tim Sandford with any questions. Proceeds benefit the Urban Promise Trenton Scholarship Fund and other local missions.

**SERVE WEEKEND** Our Serve Weekend will be held on **May 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**. Twice a year in May and November, TMPC members and the community join together in a weekend of service. Everyone signs up to complete service projects that help our neighbors in need by partnering with local mission and service organizations. We look forward to seeing you there!

**PHILADELPHIA CHURCH TOUR** Join a bus trip to tour two historic churches in Philadelphia on Thursday, **May 16<sup>th</sup>**. We will tour **Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church**, founded in 1794 and **Christ Church**, birthplace of the American Episcopal Church, was founded in 1695. Our bus leaves TMPC promptly at 8 a.m. and returns at approximately 4 p.m. Cost of the trip, including the bus, all tours, and lunch:

\$125.00 To confirm your reservation, please submit the **Reservation Form (located on the ACT 2 Sign Up table)** along with your payment. Checks can be placed in Sue Wert's TMPC mailbox or mailed to: Sue Wert, 106 Muirfield Court, New Hope, PA 18938.

**SAVE THE DATE** Our Church Picnic will be held on **Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>** and our Vacation Bible School (VBS) this year will be on **August 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>**. More information to follow as each event grows closer.

## **CHURCH LIFE & MEMBER CARE**

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING AT HOME** Alex Green, Callie Hoffman, Lisa Palise, Debbie Hart Nuzzo, George Brandenburg, Marlene Clark, John Donahue, Frank Gatto, Pam Mills, Lisa Palise, Bucky Pope, Meredith Power, Nancy Quanstrom, Elinor Raike, Brenda Redfield, Tom Thatcher, Bob Tomlinson, Holly Tomkovitz, Doris Wessner. *If you have someone to add to our prayer chain, please send your request to Alison Yearley at [apybobba@aol.com](mailto:apybobba@aol.com)*

**TMPC MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS** Please wish Happy Birthday to a few of our members who celebrate their birthdays between *April 7 – April 14: Doc Whitticar, Noel Fales, Lisa Palise, Bailey Heckman, George Wislar, and Randall Kenner.*

**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** Anyone can order altar flowers in general, “in memory of”, “in honor of”, or “in celebration of” a loved one for \$45. Please use our link on our website [tmpc.org/giving](http://tmpc.org/giving). Simply select the “Order Flowers” button or “Donate to the Flower Fund” button or make your check payable to TMPC and write “flower fund” on the memo line.

**USHERS NEEDED** Would you like to serve by greeting people in worship? Contact Sandy Barford, [sandbar1535@gmail.com](mailto:sandbar1535@gmail.com). See the sign-up link in e-news or our website.

## **ONGOING OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES**

**TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN (TASK)** Each month, TMPC members and friends go to the facility in Trenton and assist with serving the mid-day meal 9:45 am -1:00 pm; our next time is **Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**. Those who want to carpool meet at TMPC parking lot at 9:15 am. Contact Chuck Green if interested in participating or have any questions at [cgreen1030@comcast.net](mailto:cgreen1030@comcast.net).

**SOUP MONTH FOR FISHERMAN'S MARK** We will assemble our next meal for Fisherman's Mark on Tuesday, **April 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall. See the sign up in e-news.

**TMPC FOOD DRIVE** Thank you for your contributions and support to our needy neighbors in Lambertville, Trenton, and Morrisville for our event this past Wednesday. Food pantry supplies are low, and we need your donations now more than ever! Our next monthly food drive is on **April 17<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00 to 10:30 am. Bring items in ahead of time. Thank you.