

THOMPSON CHURCH

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 4



October 4, 2026

World Communion Sunday

WELCOME!!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us 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 seen 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 an 11:00 AM Contemporary service with praise music in the Gathering Hall. Our services are available through livestream on www.tmpc.org. Recordings can also be viewed here at any time. Please follow along and respond when the type is in **bold**. Stand, as you are able, when you see 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, after which they proceed to Sunday School. Be sure to register your child from 4 years old through 5th grade. If your child prefers to stay with you during worship, activity baskets with crayons and activity sheets are 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.

RESTROOMS

Please exit the Sanctuary to the right of the altar area and go up the stairs to the bathroom adjacent to the Community Room. There are also additional restrooms down the hallway past the Kids Ministry Rooms.

COMMON HOUR

TMPC has an hour between services that serves as a space for coffee and fellowship, Adult Education, Children's Choir, and other activities and meetings.

VISITOR BAGS

If you're visiting today, we'd love to share a gift bag with you that includes more information about TMPC. Feel free to ask an usher or pastor any questions. Visit www.tmpc.org for events, info, and e-giving. We're glad to be part of your faith journey!

WE GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Communion

Ariana DuPont
Charles Gounod

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeff Berry

On this day, Christians around the world gather at the table.

We come from different places, speak different languages, and carry different stories.

Yet we gather as one body, united by the love of God and the grace of Jesus Christ.

We come with our differences, and we come with our common hope.

The Spirit of God is not limited by borders or languages or traditions.

The Spirit gathers us, connects us, and gives us life.

So let us worship the God who calls people from every nation and every corner of the earth.

Let us worship God together, as one people, one body, one family of faith.

*HYMN NO. 591

HALLE, HALLE

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

(The choir will sing the refrain first, then the congregation will sing the refrain again with the choir. Then, the choir will sing the verses, and the congregation will sing the refrain.)

WE ARE RENEWED THROUGH GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jeff Berry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you have made us one human family, and you have called us together as the body of Christ. Yet we confess that we too often draw lines between ourselves and others. We make assumptions about people we do not know. We are quick to notice what is different and slow to recognize what we share. Forgive us, God, for the ways we have made your church smaller than you intended. Open our hearts to the people you have gathered around us and around your world. Remind us that your Spirit is always at work, calling people together, speaking through many voices, and creating a community larger than any one of us could imagine. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: God's grace is not limited by our failures, our divisions, or the boundaries we create. In Christ, God is always reaching across those boundaries, drawing us back into relationship with God and with one another. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, reconciled, and welcomed into the family of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI NO. 581

GREATOREX

***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.***

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jeff Berry

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANTHEM

Adult Bell Choir
Enviado soy de Dios arr. Cathy Moglebust

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Place prayer cards in the baskets as the deacons come forward)

WE HEAR GOD'S POWERFUL WORD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-12 (NT pg 119)

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Catherine E. Williams
What Does This Mean?

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ariana DuPont
Calypso Kenny Barron/Pietro Aloï

Calypso is a style of music that originated in Trinidad and Tobago from Afro-Trinidadians during the early- to mid-19th century and spread to the rest of the Caribbean Antilles by the mid-20th century

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN NO. 526

LINSTEAD

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE 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.

Holy God, we give you thanks. You are the God who created a world filled with people and places, languages and cultures, histories and stories. You have called us to live together in all our beautiful differences and to discover, again and again, that there is room for all of us in your love.

We give you thanks for your church throughout the world, for the people who worship you in languages we know and languages we do not understand, in places we have visited and places we may never see. We give you thanks that wherever your people gather, we are part of one body, sharing one faith and one hope in Jesus Christ.

And so we praise you with the church in every place and every generation, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of
the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your living Word. In him, you came among us, crossing every boundary that separated us from you and from one another. He welcomed the stranger, made room for those who were pushed aside, and gathered people around a common table. Through his life, death, and resurrection, you opened the way for us to be reconciled to you and to one another.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and cup, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one with your church throughout the world. Gather us across languages, cultures, nations, and generations, that we might recognize in one another the people you love and that our lives together may bear witness to your goodness, mercy, and peace.

As we come to this table, we remember that we are part of a family larger than ourselves. So we bring before you the people, places, and situations that sit in our hearts today...

And we gather all of our prayers together in your name as we pray with Christians around the world, using the words Jesus taught us, 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Eat the bread as you are served. Hold the cup until all have been served. Our cups are filled with grape juice, and we also have gluten-free crackers in the center.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we give you thanks for meeting us at this table. As we have shared one bread and one cup, remind us that we are part of one body, joined together with your people around the world. May the grace we have received here take root within us, and may the love of Christ hold us together. In the name of Jesus Christ, our host and our hope. Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

SUNG BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Adult Choir

Lutkin

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fantasie on "Komm, heiliger Geist, Herr Gott"

Ariana DuPont

S.Müller

**The altar flowers this Sunday are in honor of Rick and Sue
Schaub's 45th wedding anniversary**

SUNDAY CALENDAR

Sun 10/4	9:00	TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE	Sanctuary
	9:00-10:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	9:20–10:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 th Grade)	Kids Ministry Rooms
	10:00	COFFEE HOUR	Commons
	11:00	CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE	Gathering Hall
	11:00-12:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	11:20–12:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 th Grade)	Kids Ministry Rooms

STAY CONNECTED WITH TMPC

SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER

Our e-news gets sent out every Friday via email. We also send out additional reminders for important dates and events in the life of our church. It's a great way to stay in touch with all things Thompson Church!



SIGN UP FOR OUR DAILY TEXTS

At noon each day, we will send out a text message with a verse of scripture that connects to our sermon series and can offer you a word of faith in the middle of the day.



If you have issues connecting with TMPC, please contact the office at office@tmpc.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLABORATIVE BOOK DRIVE TMPC Christian Education and the Inclusivity Team are partnering to bring faith, inclusion, reading, and service together! Families are invited to explore selected books about Jesus, kindness, compassion, and friendship. Consider purchasing one for your family and another to donate to the Radical Little Libraries of the Philly Children's Movement (PCM). Join us **TODAY** outside the Christian Education Wing to learn more about this new initiative!



SOUP FOR FISHERMAN'S MARK This month, in lieu of meeting for church food assembly, we are preparing soup at home for Fishermen's Mark. Please sign up in the slots below, and pick up the Soup Kits in the cabinets outside the Gathering Hall. For questions, please contact Susan Auchenbach at 267-432-4312. Thanks so much!

NEW BOOK STUDY A new 5-week book study is beginning on **Wednesday, October 7th** from 6:30–8:00 PM in the Commons. We will be reading *Experience Jesus. Really. Finding Refuge, Strength, and Wonder Through Everyday Encounters with God* by New York Times bestselling author John Eldredge.

FALL RUMMAGE SALE Shop the sale on **October 9th from 9 AM - 5 PM and 10th from 9 AM - 12 PM** in the Gathering Hall! Some proceeds raised go to UrbanPromise Trenton. We can't wait to see you there!

URBANPROMISE BANQUET On **October 10th**, join UrbanPromise Trenton for a night of hope, promise, dinner, and dancing all dedicated to empowering youth and strengthening our community at the UrbanPromise Trenton Gala: A Night in Paris. See the e-news for registration.

NEW MEMBER CLASS Are you interested in membership at Thompson Church? Sign up can be found in the e-news and on the TMPC homepage for our informative lunch from 12-2 PM on **Sunday, October 18th** to learn more.

BINGO Act 2 is hosting BINGO on **Thursday, October 22nd** at 1 PM in the Community Room! The fee is \$10 per person. If you have any questions, reach out to Cheryl Boyle at cboyle8991@aol.com

FALL FEST Join us for Fall Fest on **Sunday, October 25th** at 2-4:30 PM at the church!

SERVE WEEKEND On **Saturday, October 31st** and **Sunday, November 1st** we will host a day of service. Please note on Sunday, November 1st there will be only ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9 AM!

CHURCH LIFE & MEMBER CARE

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AT HOME Sandy Barford, Ulla Heinicke, Michael Koh, Jane Mayrhofer, Susan Nemzoff, Lisa Palise, Bucky Pope, Nancy Quanstrom, Dick Vestal, Bern Volski, Arlene Whitticar, and George Wislar. *If you have someone to add to our prayer chain, please send your request to Alison Yearley at apybobba@aol.com*

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY Christopher Campbell, Sean Kielty, Christian Mirande, Jim O'Donnell, Matt Peshek, and Will Schaub.

TMPC MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS Please wish Happy Birthday to a few of our members who celebrate their birthdays between *October 4th-11th*: *Carol Sager, Matt Fisher, Kathy Bradley, Heather Kouveras, Candis Mirande, Toni Donina, Lisa Clark, Melissa Mantz, Molly Fallon, William Rampe, Kerry Nickels, Linda Landis, and Chrissie Duncan.*

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

KIDS CLUB	Alternating 2nd Fridays (Sept–May) November 13th 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Kids Club is for children 4-12 years old. We provide dinner, learn about Jesus, play games, and complete a service project. <i>Led by Zena Tredinnick-Kirby</i>
PARENT'S NIGHT OUT	Alternating 2nd Fridays (Oct–June) October 9th 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM	Drop your children off for THREE hours as they have fun with dinner, games, and a movie. This event is \$30.00 per child and helps support the Youth Group as an ongoing fundraiser. <i>Led by Zena Tredinnick-Kirby</i>
CATERPILLAR CORNER: GROWING WITH JESUS	Sundays (September thru June) 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM Orange Classroom	Caterpillar Corner: Growing with Jesus welcomes infants through age 4 to grow in faith through sensory play, expressive arts, Christian songs, and sensory experiences that nurture emotional, social, and developmental growth. <i>Led by Karlen Senseny</i>
KIDS CHOIRS, HANDBELLS, AND CHIMES	Sundays at 10:00 AM (September thru June) starting September 20th Community Room	Rotating rehearsals for groups that lead music during worship about once a month. All abilities and ages welcome. <i>Led by Tricia Murphy</i>
THOMPSON YOUTH GROUP	Sundays: 3x Monthly (Off the 2nd Sunday) 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Youth Lounge	Students grades 6-12th grade meet for dinner, bible study, devotion, games, and fellowship. <i>Led by Zena Tredinnick-Kirby</i>
Contact Zena Tredinnick-Kirby with any questions at dce@tmpe.org and Tricia Murphy for questions related to music at music@tmpe.org		

SMALL GROUPS

ALPHA OMEGA	Sundays at 10:00 AM (starting September 20, then October 4 & 18) Meeting Rm	Alpha Omega (AO) is an intergenerational women's group that will focus on Book/Bible Studies, Fellowship, and Mission. <i>Led by Marci Capel</i>
ACT 2	See Act 2 table for full list of events	ACT 2 is for those in their "second act" of life whatever that age is, offering fun events, fellowship, and opportunities to build Christ-centered friendships. <i>Led by: Kirsten Fleisher</i>
NORMAL PEOPLE* BIBLE STUDY	Mondays at 7:00 PM (starting September 21) Commons	<i>*Skeptics, Sinners, Saints, and Everyone In-Between!</i> Join us in combining book and Bible study to help broaden our understanding of how to live and love like Jesus as everyday, normal people (see the definition of "normal" people). <i>Led by Susie Minno and Garrett Bostwick</i>
MONDAY MORNING WOMEN'S MINISTRY	Mondays at 9:30 AM Community Room	Topics rotate between movie discussion, Bible study, faith and the news, and book studies. <i>Led by Sue Wert</i>
TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP	1st & 3rd Tuesday at 9:30 AM Community Room	This group gathers for fellowship, book discussions, and time in prayer. <i>Led by Mike Wert</i>
SERMON TALKS	Thursdays at 9:30 AM Commons	Join us for Bible Study and laughter. We will use this time to read through and unpack the scripture for the upcoming Sunday. <i>This group is led by the pastor who is giving the sermon on Sunday.</i>
SUNDAY DINNER BIBLE STUDY	4th Sunday at 3:00 PM (not meeting in Oct.) Commons	On 4 th Sunday evenings, we will join together for a dinner and spiritual food for thought in the Commons. <i>Led by Louis Marut</i>
ART HISTORY	Third Tuesday of every month (starting in October) Commons	A member-led group exploring art each month through the interests and passions of its members. <i>Led by Zena Tredinnick-Kirby & Members</i>
Contact group leaders by visiting tmpe.org/small-groups		

ONGOING OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD DRIVE	Every 3rd Wednesday	You can leave non-perishable donations from 10:00 to 10:30 AM that day under the labeled table outside the Gathering Hall, or anytime during office hours before the event. <i>Led by Susan Achenbach</i>
TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN (TASK)	Every 3rd or 5th Tuesday & 4th 9:45 AM -1:00 PM	Those who want to carpool meet at the TMPC parking lot at 9:15 AM. <i>Led by Chuck Green</i>
COMMUNITY MEAL	Every 2nd Sunday 12:15-1:15 PM	TMPC hosts a free meal open to everyone in our church family and the community. All of our meals feature a main dish, potluck sides, salads, and desserts. <i>Led by Melissa Michael</i>
FISHERMAN'S MARK	Every 1st Tuesday (next: <u>Wed.</u> Nov. 4) 8:30 AM Commons	Meets monthly at the church to put together 100 meals for Fisherman's Mark, and they are then delivered weekly to those who cannot get to the food pantry. <i>Led by Susan Achenbach and Cheryl Boyle</i>
LAMBERTVILLE COMMUNITY MEAL	Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday 12:00 PM	We're looking for volunteers who can help the day of the meal or are willing to bring desserts for the meal for our neighbors in Lambertville, NJ. Our meals take place at the Lambertville Presbyterian Church at 31 N Union Street. <i>Led by Jeff Campbell</i>
See more information, sign-ups, and contact information for each outreach event by seeing the e-news or visiting tmpc.org/mission		

ABOUT OUR GUEST PREACHER



Rev. Dr. Catherine E.

Williams is Associate Professor of Preaching and Worship, and Director of Chapel Worship at Moravian University's School of Theology. An ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church, Dr. Williams has held pastoral roles at Princeton United Methodist Church, Princeton, NJ as Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care, and at Grandview Church, Lancaster, PA, as Interim Pastor of Pastoral Care. She earned her Bachelor of Music in Church

Music from Rider University's Westminster Choir College, her Master of Divinity from Palmer Theological Seminary, and her PhD in Preaching from Princeton Theological Seminary. Dr. Williams gratefully claims her dual identities of musician and preacher. In her recently released book, *Preaching and Music: Powerful Partners in Proclamation*, Dr. Williams shows the many ways in which preaching and music together perform the powerful task of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ in compelling and memorable ways.

A member of the Hymn Society of the United States & Canada and the Academy of Homiletics, Dr. Catherine E. Williams is a sought-after teacher and conference speaker in seminaries and churches nationally and globally. She currently lives in Lancaster, PA with her husband Harran.