



Topsail Presbyterian Church
HAMPSTEAD, NORTH CAROLINA

MARCH 1, 2026 | 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

OUR MISSION

The beautiful story of Topsail Presbyterian is comprised completely in the unique make-up of the individuals who call Topsail Presbyterian their home. Although vastly different in their journeys, there are 3 cords that bind each of us together.

We Are...

We are real people infused with dynamic faith, committed to a common vision, joined together in the covenant love of our Creator.

We Used to Be...

We used to be completely broken but are now grateful for undeserved redemption, astonished by amazing grace, healed by forgiveness and humbled by the divine invitation to be included in the greatest cause on earth.

We Serve...

We serve a good and perfect God. The nations are His dwelling and our lives are His vessels. We have compassion for the poor, and our hearts are open to the rich.

COVER ART:

I BELIEVE

by Laney Moura

Welcome

May you truly sense God's Spirit at work in this place and in your life.

Greetings to everyone! We extend a warm welcome to those joining us in-person or for our live stream worship service this morning. As we celebrate together, we hope you will sense God's presence as we gather.

If you are a guest this morning, please fill out one of the visitor information cards located in the pew pockets so we can get to know each other better. Simply, hand your completed card to an usher or place it in the offering plate. In addition, we invite you to take a Guest Bag from the table in the narthex as you leave today. If you need assistance at any time, please feel free to ask someone seated next to you or one of the ushers.

Children are welcome to sit with their families during worship or attend Sunday School following the Children's Sermon. We have a nursery available for infants and our parlor is available for nursing mothers & parents in need of a quiet space with their children during worship. Restrooms are located through the door to the right of the chancel.

Sunday School Opportunities

Children's Sunday School

The children's Sunday school (ages 3 years to 5th grade) is held every Sunday during the 10:30am worship service down our Preschool hallway. Participants will be excused from the worship service following the Children's Sermon and will reconnect with their parents at the conclusion of the service. **First time visitors are asked to walk their child to their first session for instruction & to complete registration.**

Youth Sunday School

The middle and high school Sunday school class is held every Sunday during the 10:30 am worship service in the Youth Building. Participants will be excused from worship service following the Children's Sermon and will reconnect with their parents at the conclusion of the service. Our current Bible Study is God, Heroes, and Everyday Dragons: Finding Your Story in God's Story. In addition to studying the Bible, we also enjoy snacks & refreshments, fellowship, and games during Youth Sunday School. **The first Sunday of every month is Youth Sunday. There is no Youth Sunday School on these days.** Youth will assist in providing liturgy, ushering, & greeting guests and will remain seated with their families for worship.

The Present Word (Adult) Sunday School

This Fellowship Class meets on Sunday morning, 9:30-10:15 between the two services in the Parlor - across from the Pastor's office.

The Spring series of lessons entitled "Social Teachings of the Church" will ask us to consider, as faithful Christians, what are our obligations- ranging from personal relationships to business relationships to global relationships. Join us as we look for answers in Scripture to make us better disciples.

Study guides are available in Aly's office.

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Steuart Link, Interim Pastor
Diane Hughes, 8:15 Liturgist
Matthew Polk & Maddie Sutton,
10:30 Youth Liturgists
Shelly Aebi, Organist
Dr. Rebecka Rose, Music Director

Laurie Rucks,
Elder of the Month

Flowers for the Chancel

The flowers for the chancel today have been given to the Glory Of God and our Parents, Glenn & Eunice Davis and Earl & Barbara Foster by John & Joanne Foster.

Response Hymn #578 "O Lord, Have Mercy"

*O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy,
have mercy on us.*

*O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy,
have mercy on us.*

†Please stand if able.

8:15am Worship

We hope you will sense our vision for Greater Faith, Deeper Relationships, and Stronger Community as you worship with us.

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Opening Prayer

Prelude "Preludium"

A. Dvořák

Call to Worship (Call & *Response*)

The Lord God keeps us, saves us,
and protects us in times of trouble.

***Our help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.***

Even when fear strikes us,
we know that we are safe,
for we belong to God.

***We shall never be shaken or moved,
for we are shadowed by God's almighty hand.
We lift our voices together in thanks and praise.***

†Gathering Hymn #401 "Gather Us In" vs. 1 & 3

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

*Teacher,
you call us to go,
following the plan that you have set out for us.
You promise us blessings and purpose,
but we do not trust your words.
We cling to what we already know,
we trust in what we can see and touch,
we make excuses for our failure to trust in you.
Call to us again,
that we may be born again through your Spirit.
Help us to believe
and give us the abundant life
that comes from following your will.*

†Response Hymn #578 "O Lord, Have Mercy"

Silent Confession

Promise of Forgiveness

†Passing the Peace

Prayer Requests

Do you have a special prayer request that you would like the pastor to lift up during worship? You can complete a prayer request card located in the pew pockets and give to the pastor prior to service or hand to an usher.

You can also add your prayer requests or praises to the prayer wall on our website at: topsailpresbyterian.org

Doxology # 606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;***

***Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings OT: Genesis 12:1-4 **NT:** John 3:1-17

Sermon | Rev. Steuart Link

"I Believe!"

†Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21

Call for Offering

Offertory Music "O God, You Search Me"

†**Doxology #606 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"**

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

The Prayer of the Great 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 our praise.

The prayer continues until all are invited to recite:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.***

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

Breaking the Bread & Sharing the Cup

Communion Music "Your Only Son"

Prayer of Commitment

†**Closing Hymn #754 "Help Us Accept Each Other"**

Sung to the tune of "Ellecombe" vs. 1 & 4

†**Benediction**

Recessional

10:30am Worship

We hope you will sense our vision for Greater Faith, Deeper Relationships, and Stronger Community as you worship with us.

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Opening Prayer

Prelude "Preludium"

A. Dvořák

Call to Worship (Call & *Response*)

The Lord God keeps us, saves us,
and protects us in times of trouble.

***Our help comes from the Lord,
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we know that we are safe,
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***We shall never be shaken or moved,
for we are shadowed by God's almighty hand.
We lift our voices together in thanks and praise.***

†Gathering Hymn #401 "Gather Us In" vs. 1, 3 & 4

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

*Teacher,
you call us to go,
following the plan that you have set out for us.
You promise us blessings and purpose,
but we do not trust your words.
We cling to what we already know,
we trust in what we can see and touch,
we make excuses for our failure to trust in you.
Call to us again,
that we may be born again through your Spirit.
Help us to believe
and give us the abundant life
that comes from following your will.*

Response Hymn #578

"O Lord, Have Mercy"

*O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy,
have mercy on us.*

*O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy,
have mercy on us.*

†Response Hymn #578 "O Lord, Have Mercy"

Silent Confession

Promise of Forgiveness

†Passing the Peace

Children's Sermon

Anthem "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Divinum Mysterium arr L. Larson

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings OT: Genesis 12:1-4 **NT:** John 3:1-17

Sermon I Rev. Steuart Link

"I Believe!"

†Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21

Call for Offering

Offertory Hymn #29 "O God, You Search Me"

†Doxology #606 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

The Prayer of the Great 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 our praise.

(The prayer continues until all are invited to sing: {#552, vs. 1 & 2})

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

Breaking the Bread & Sharing the Cup

Communion Hymn #518 "Your Only Son"

Prayer of Commitment

†Closing Hymn #754 "Help Us Accept Each Other"

Sung to the tune of "Ellecombe" vs. 1, 3, 4

†Benediction

Recessional

Doxology # 606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;***

***Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Online Giving Platform

If you would like to donate to TPC, please scan the QR code to use our online giving platform.

You can also visit our website at topsailpresbyterian.org and click on "DONATE" in the dropdown menu at the top of the page.



Announcements

Children Join Us for Communion

We are delighted to announce that beginning this Sunday, March 1, 2026, our Sunday School Children (Preschool - 5th Grade) will return to the Sanctuary to join their families for Communion and will stay for the remainder of the service.

We are taking these steps so that the children may experience and understand that they are such an important and integral part of worship in the life of our church. Participating with their families and our congregation will help them gain a deeper understanding and reverence for Communion, as well as an opportunity to strengthen family worship. We look forward to having our Sunday School children experience Communion alongside their families and our congregation.

Congregational Meeting TODAY!

We will have a called Congregation Meeting following the 10:30 worship service today, March 1st, to hear and act upon the report of the Nominating Committee with regard to electing a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).



\$5 PER ADULT

TPC YOUTH TO HOST ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

BRING THE HEAT!

SUNDAY, MARCH 15
FOLLOWING SERVICE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

PLEASE BRING CASH FOR THE ENTRY FEE, BAKE SALE, AND TO CAST VOTES FOR YOUR FAVORITE CHILI RECIPE!

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE TPC YOUTH GROUP

The poster features a yellow background with red and green chili peppers at the bottom left. The text is in various colors and fonts, including a starburst for the price and arrows pointing to the event title.

Stay in Touch

Staying connected to faith is more important than ever. At Topsail Presbyterian Church, we strive to make sharing, and worshipping with us easy. We gather to encourage each other, connect with friends, & learn from God's Word through our website, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, email, newsletter and of course in-person. Connect with us, we're here for you!

Interested in Joining Our Church Family?

If you are not a member and would like more information or are ready to join, please contact Cheri Haight at (203)394-8304 or membership@topsailpres.org or Pastor Steuart Link.

Prayer Requests

Bonnie Miller, Nancy Lockamy, Janice Thomas, Donna Kraynick, Ann Henry, Charlotte Kelly, Mary Anne Matherly, Sally Ferrante, Ken Rice, John Stillgebauer, Brian Jones, Mary Rogers-Ellsworth, Carolyn Rice, Sharon Egan, Theresa Allen, Deliah Sitorus, Linda Blount, Marjorie Gulliksen, Wiley Lewis, Vicki Hufham, June Crosby, Jeanne Rick, Jeffrey Smith, Mary Gist, Brian Padgett, Martin Padgett, John Flowers, Joey Scavone, Alexander Marechal, Bonnie Carpenter, Carol Wilson, Bryant Smith, Jeffrey Smith, Don Howard, Brenda Lee, Kathy McCusker, the family of Michael Warren, Blair Mitchell, the family of Hugh Howard, the family of Ethan Stone, Shannon Padgett, Selma Jones, Chuck Hardee, Jessie Logue, Lani Abraham, Joey Lamb, Eddie Brown, Vickie Jackson, Carol Campbell, the family of David Askins, the family of Albert Micheli, the Noe family.

No Youth Sunday School Today! This Sunday is Youth Sunday. Students will remain in service with their families this week and will have the opportunity to participate in communion. Youth Sunday School will resume next week.

High School Seniors!

We have another scholarship for which you can apply! This time we have 2 \$500 awards which come directly from TPC. Please fill out the form by accessing this QR code or you may pick up an application in the church office beginning February 22.

All applications must be returned to Cheri Haight, Christian Ed Elder, educationministry@topsailpres.org 203 394-8304, or the church office by April 20, 2026.



Can't Worship in Person?

That's okay! We live stream our 10:30am worship service every Sunday. You can find us streaming on Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo, and of course, our website. So whether you're out of town or otherwise unable to be here in person, you can be with us in spirit while watching from the comfort of wherever you are.



Topsail Presbyterian Church - 16249 Highway 17 North, Hampstead, NC 28443

www.topsailpresbyterian.org

Presbytery of Coastal Carolina - www.presbycc.org

Church Office (910) 270-2312 Preschool Office (910) 270-2315

Contacts

Rev. Steuart Link

Interim Pastor

Contact # 910-685-2076

pastore@topsailpres.org

Mrs. Marissa Watson

Preschool Director

Contact #: 910-270-2315

preschoole@topsailpres.org

Mrs. Dawn Frazier

Childrens Ministry Director

Contact #: 910-270-2312 (option 3)

christianed@topsailpres.org

Mrs. Leslie Blair

Youth Director

Contact #: 910-612-6465

youth@topsailpres.org

Ms. Aly Moody

Administrative Assistant

Contact #: 910-270-2312

aly@topsailpres.org

Dr. Rebecka Rose

Music Director

music@topsailpres.org

Ms. Shelly Aebi

Organist/Pianist

music@topsailpres.org

Mr. Elmer Hewett

Custodian

elmerhewett@gmail.com

Members of Session

2027

Laurie Rucks - **Session Clerk & Preschool**

Nicole Demchock - **Worship**

2028

Stephen Polk - **Buildings & Grounds**

Cheri Haight - **Christian Education**

Tom Sidbury - **Digital Ministry**

David Howard - **Finance**

Marcia Kissire - **Missions**

2029

Shona Talbert - **Personnel**

Leah Hemphill - **Fellowship**

Deacons

Jay Heidel - **Chair**

Bryna Fair - **Secretary**

Jimmy Smith

Beth Garland

Rick Lamb

Kitty Lamb

Jacqui Kirksey