



MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Growing a deeply connected family of faith

1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169

803.796.5948

www.mttaborlutheran.org

11:00 AM - November 30, 2025, First Sunday of Advent
Traditional Worship Service

Setting 4

INTRODUCTION

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

Johann Sebastian Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh Great God, we are gathered here, your people, seeking out your face and the peace that is found in your presence.

Let us dwell always in Your presence, and walk in Your peace.

When humanity opened the door to sin, we were plunged into darkness and despair. But You, Loving God have made peace with us and restored us to grace.

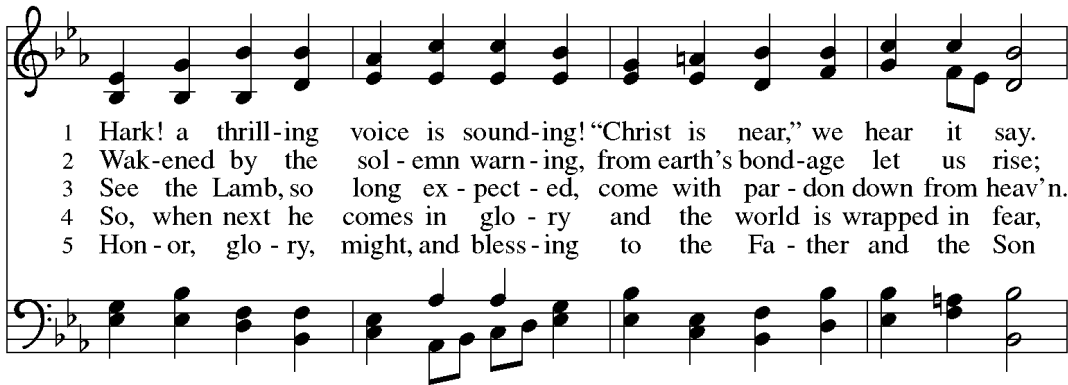
For Your infinite mercy and lovingkindness, we thank You.

You sent your son Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, into the world as a human to save and heal Your children who were lost. The light of peace came into the world.

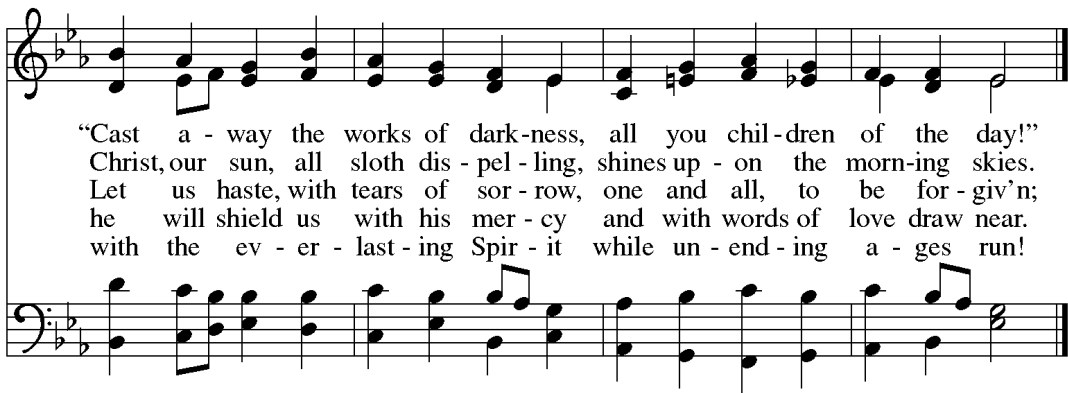
We who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!

We prepare our hearts now and acknowledge that Christ's work on the cross was the beginning of Your kingdom here on earth. Your kingdom is a peaceable kingdom, where lion and lamb may lie down together, where there is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female. We are all one in the peace of Christ.

May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, and may we carry the light of peace wherever we go. Amen.



1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
 2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don down from heav'n.
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa - ther and the Son



"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
 Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
 he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
 with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878
 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

GREETING**ELW p. 156**

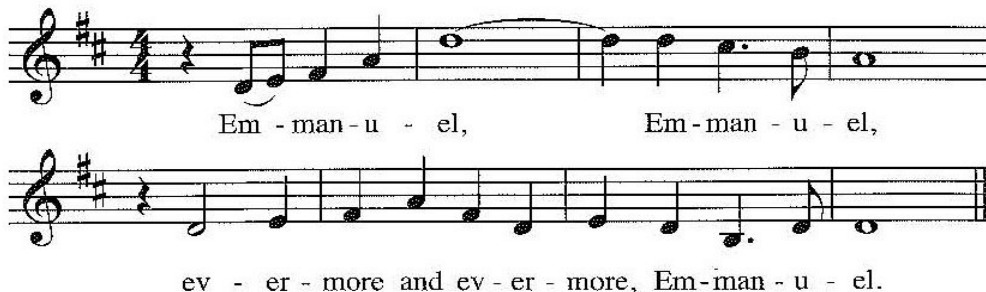
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

(Choir) Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he.

REFRAIN



RESPONSIVE LITANY

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in scripture.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

We wait for the one who will bring answers to a world filled with questions.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

We wait for the one who can heal what has been wounded and mend what has been broken.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

We wait for the one who can renew our weary spirits and ignite our hearts with hope.

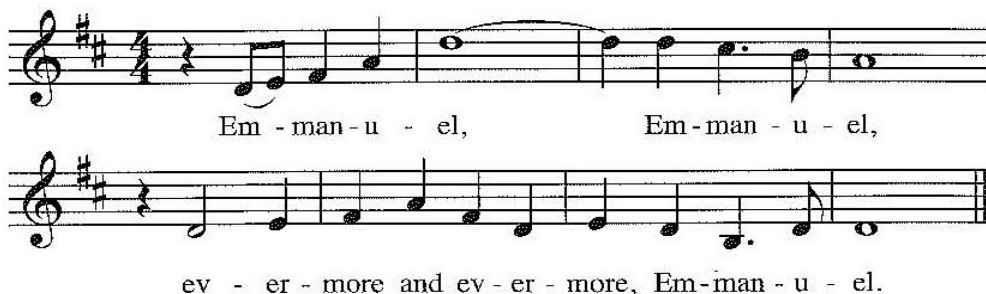
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

Today we light the first candle — the candle of hope — reminding us that Jesus was sent not only to be our Savior, but also to be our Wonderful Counselor; the one who hears our prayers with compassion, and who offers guidance when we seek it. As we begin the season of Advent, we remember that our rest can be found in God, and through the gift of God's son our hope is restored.

(Choir) Let the heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts his praises sing: powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.

REFRAIN

(Choir) Evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.



Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 122

Wm. Kevin Davis



- ¹ I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”
- ² Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- ³ Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;
- ⁴ to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD. **R**
- ⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.
- ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.
- ⁷ Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.
- ⁸ For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.
- ⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to do you good.” **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

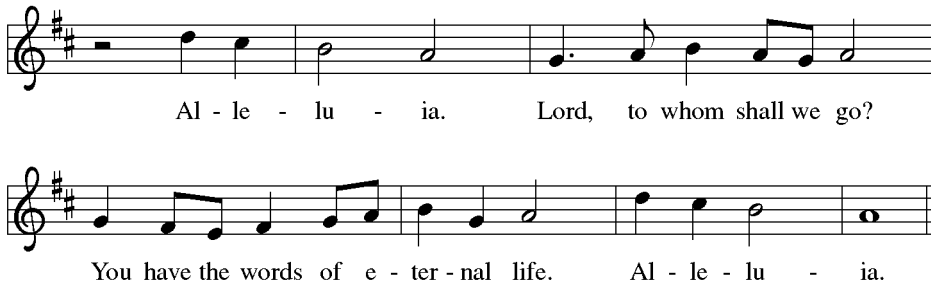
A reading from Romans.

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL****Matthew 24:36-44**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

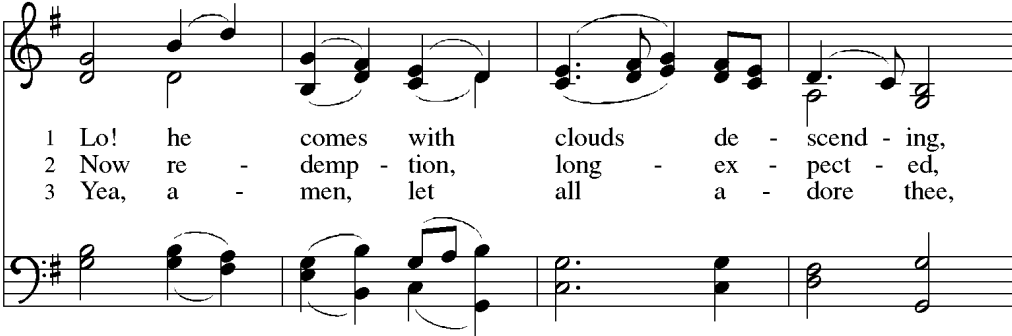
[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

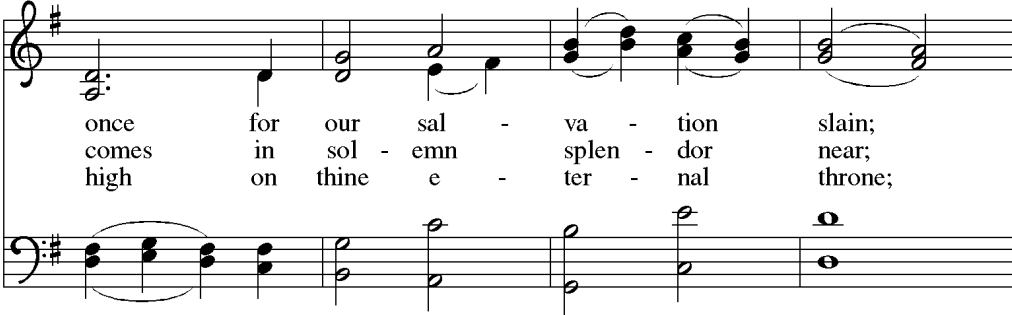
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON**Deacon Deborah Poole**

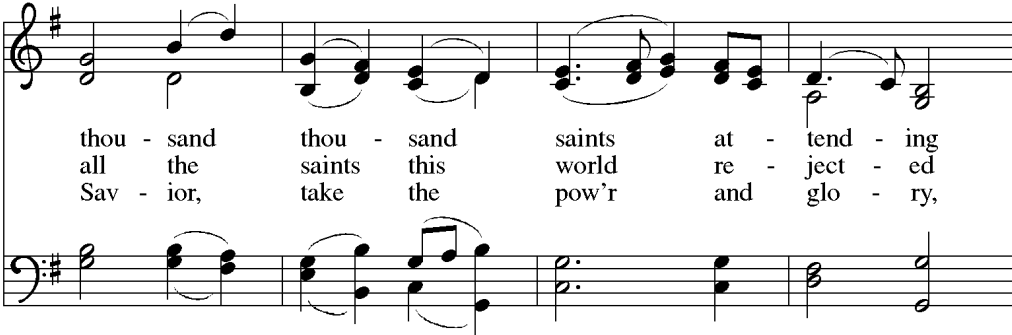
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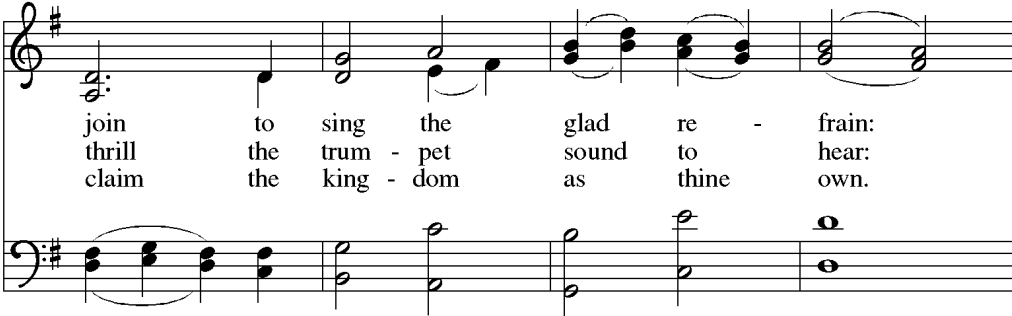
1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:
 thrill to the trum - pet sound to hear:
 claim the king - dom as thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of Grace,
Here our prayer.

PEACE

ELW p. 152

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Advent Message

Martin How

OFFERTORY HYMN 186

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Richard W. Hillert



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

ELW p. 152

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 154

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

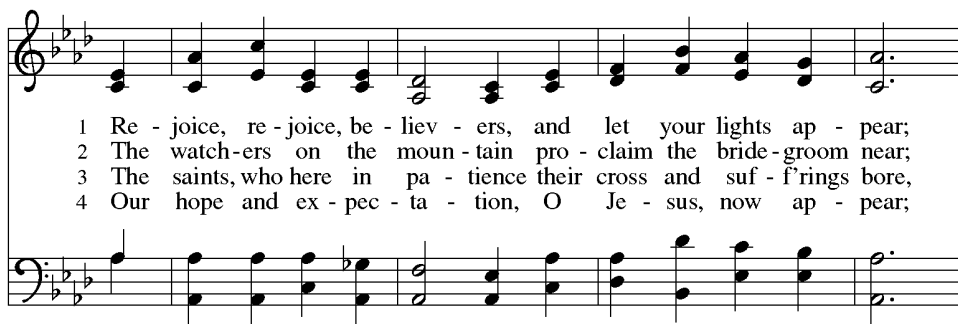
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

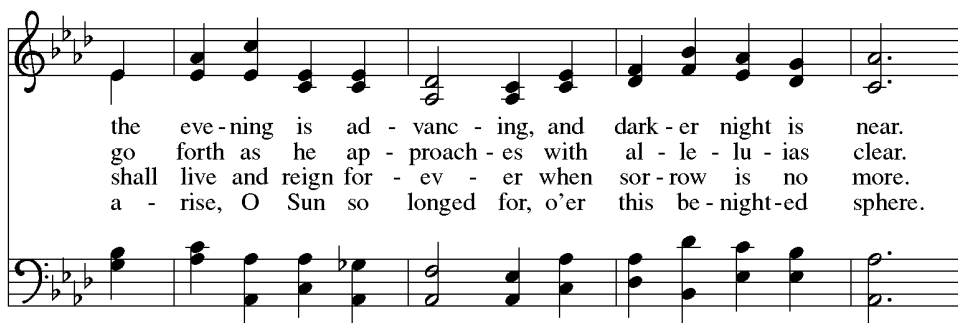
BLESSING

ELW p. 155

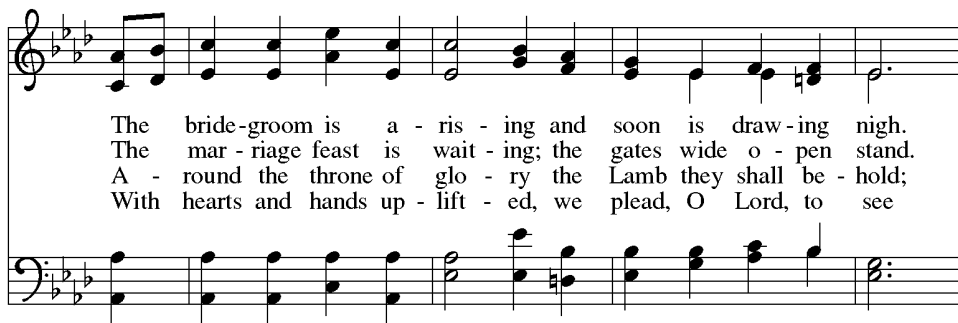
Almighty God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



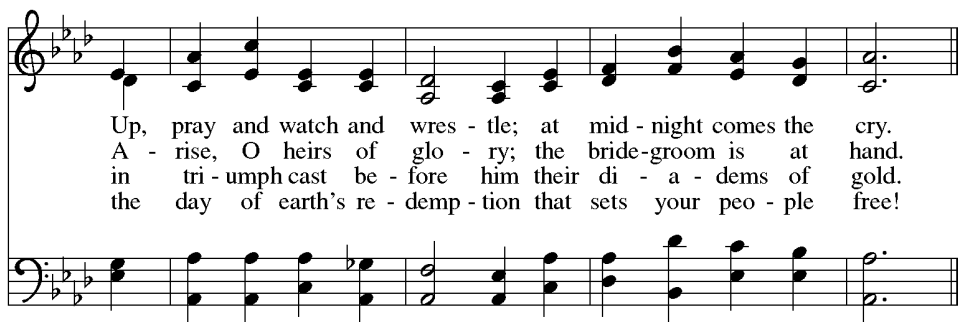
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch-ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride-groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night-ed sphere.



The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Worship Assistants

Lector	Sarah Whitehead
Greeter	BJ Roof
Ushers	Paul Hutto, Jack Sox
.....	Jackson Sox, Derek Monts
Acolytes	Joe Popkowski, Emily Sippel
Crucifer	Jack Sippel
Livestream coordinators	Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of
Annie Ruth Addy’s 90th birthday on November 29th
by Harry & Cheryl Prim and Paul & Wanda Addy.

Today’s bulletin covers are given to the glory of God and in honor of
Annie Ruth Addy’s 90th birthday on November 29th by her grandchildren and
great-grandchildren: Jason, Lauren, Emily and Jackson Addy; Lauren Addy;
David Prim; and Aaron, Sarah and Owen Prim.

The Advent Wreath is given by Dusty and Miley Rhodes to thank all the people
who work behind the scenes to make Mt. Tabor a special place. Teachers,
decorators, meal planners, musicians, church council, coordinators,
media people and other volunteers. You are our heroes.
Mount Tabor wouldn't be the same without your care.

Advent

T S A Y A K L E G S U Y R E D F O L W H
S H T I R D T H M H A U A E O Z C O I L
T F E D S A V J W D E N D R N H T R S L
U A N C B U M E N W E N N T K K A D E Y
L Q G E O G O U N D C E E S E K A I Z N
N Q L K N M S R L T C R L A Y F O Z L X
O E O O F H I L A H V O A M R E Y A R P
C L S F T T E N R P N D C T P F A C E C
W G E R M G G I G Y W A M S A V G M V Q
G A U V N D S C H R I S T I N G L E A N
X O I A A T Q T S N A Z A R E T H G S F
F B N T I R I G A M D F V H J W K J V J
G E W A F Z T P Q T U W Y C U O U C X G
A T N U X F I H K C C F A K D K H F K E
I H D A V I D E T A M X E W S J T Y Q B
W L W R U B F X P Q W B D G O I U L U P
R E C I Y D U L E X I S E S L S M L N A
G H N U L B Q W A E X J E O R R G K G X
L E U H B Q L B V R V P V T J D E E L H
R M S U T N E V D A H E S T A R V Z M Z

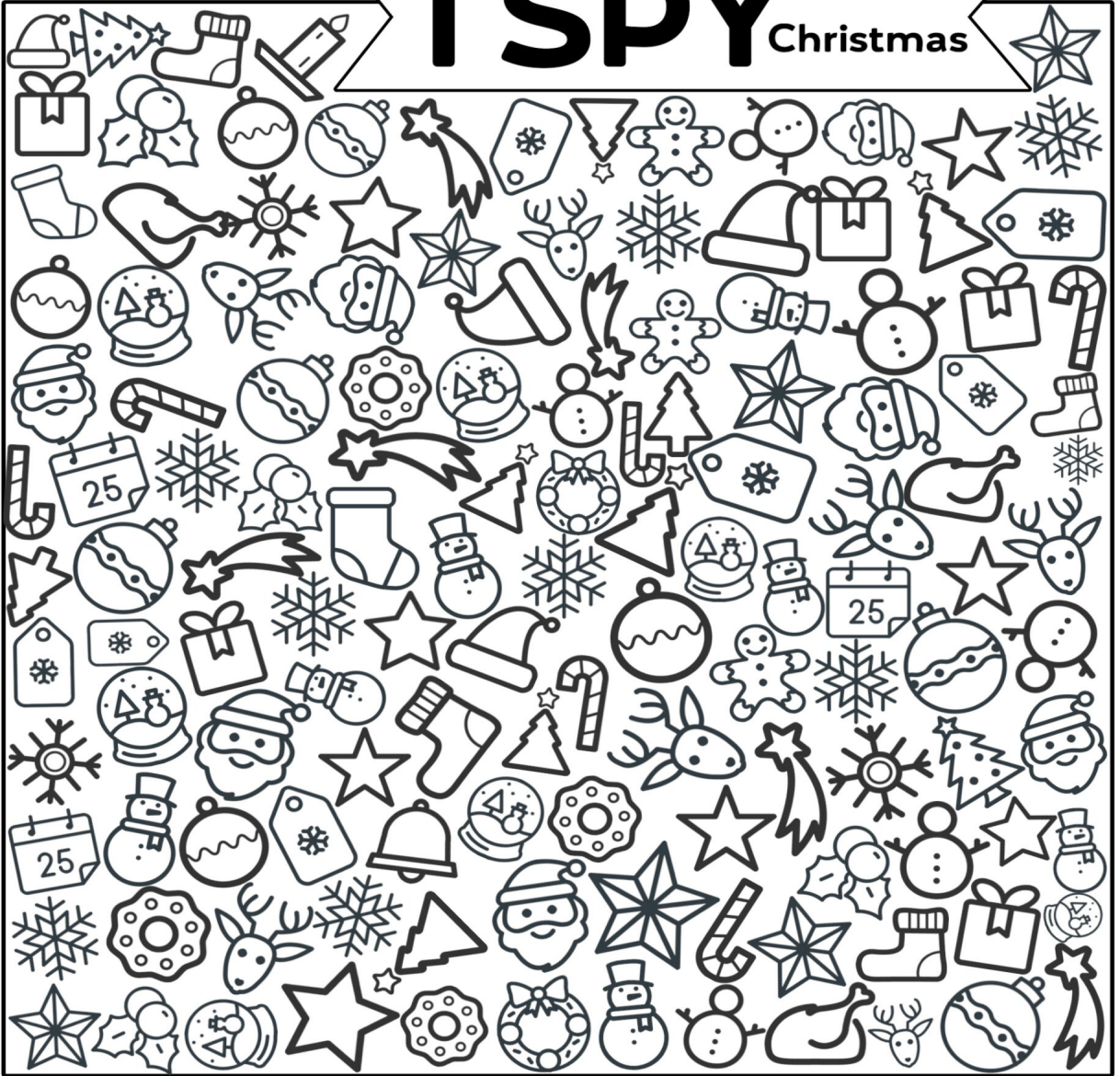
ADORE
AGE
CALENDAR
CHRISTINGLE
DONKEY
JOSEPH
MAGI
NEW
SAVE
SONG
THECOMING
WAIT

ADVENT
ANGEL
CELEBRATE
CHRISTMASTREE
FOURTHSUNDAY
LORD
MARY
PAROUSIA
SKY
STAR
TRAVEL
WISE

ADVENTUS
BETHLEHEM
CHRISTIAN
DAVID
HAIL
LOVE
NAZARETH
PRAYER



I SPY Christmas



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 2 | | 4 | | 4 | | 2 | | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | 4 | | 6 | | 5 | |
| 1 | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | 3 | | 6 | | 7 | | 4 | | 7 | | 4 | |
| 3 | | 2 | | 4 | | 6 | | 2 | | 7 | | 3 | | 9 | | 6 | | 3 | |

Welcome to Mt. Tabor. We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! If you are a visitor, please fill out and return the attendance card in your pew rack so we may have a record of your attendance. Our ushers and greeters will be glad to answer any questions you may have about our worship service. We hope that you will experience the presence of the Risen Christ today!

As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the following members of our church family, who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this week: Rachel Popkowski
Brittany Carpenter, Rhys Boyd, Lindsey Witcher, Randy Klapman.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Addie Wilkerson Pinner, Dennis Rybicki, Jr., Liliana Stork, Natalie Cook
Karen Holton, Barbara Raulerson

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Jana Payne, Grace Kelly, Carolyn Dufries, Pastor Lavaughn Keisler, John Conrad, Linda Price
Bruce Merchant, Al & Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Sandra Baker, Alice Pollock
Jimmy Williams, Mona Myers, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Emma Lou Easley
Paul Addy, Paul & Jeanie Jacobs, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Bobby LoVine, Robbie Burgess, Ronnie Boland, Tonia Boland, Andy Rauch, Peggy Roessler
Sherwood Williams, John Bailey, John Sharpe, Bishop Ginny Aebischer, Bobby Brown, Steve
Blake, Zach Wash, Jack Hayde, Barbara Antley, Ty Arlet, Bill Baney, Tyler Corbitt, Eddie
Porter, David "Bubba" Martin, Jr., Wayne Hall, Kimberly Chapman, Nancy Waugh, Emily
Waugh, Sam Waugh, Laura Ann Merrill, Johnny Smith, Anne Moyer

Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:

Cory Fabian, Zachery Gayden, Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

The Family Of:

Fred Fetner

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music

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