

# 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](http://www.mttaborlutheran.org)



**9:15 AM - November 30, 2025 - First Sunday of Advent**

**ALIVE! Worship Service**

## 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.*

### ***Advent Hymn (Watching Waiting Longing)***

#### Verse 3

So we wait with expectation for His Advent here  
Bride of Christ His word proclaimed  
For all the world to hear  
He will come in clouds descending  
At the trumpet sound  
In the light of Christ our Savior  
Ev'ry knee will bow

#### Chorus 1

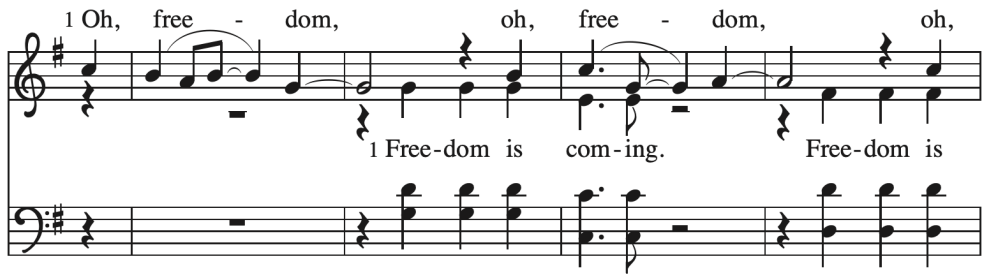
Watching waiting longing for the day  
When His people would glorify  
The Name above all names

Rick Lee James, Ted Rastatter  
CCLI Song #6152291

© 2011 Broadman Press; McKinney Music, Inc.  
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

## Freedom Is Coming

1 Oh, free - dom, oh, free - dom, oh,  
1 Free-dom is com-ing. Free-dom is



free - dom. Oh,  
com - ing. Free-dom is com - ing. Oh, yes, I



free - dom, oh, free - dom, oh,  
know. Free-dom is com - ing. Free-dom is



free - dom. Oh,  
com - ing. Free-dom is com - ing. Oh, yes, I



*continued on next page*

yes, I know. Oh, yes, I know. Oh,

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, oh, yes, I

yes, I know. Oh,

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, yes, I

yes, I know. Oh, yes, I know. Oh,

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, oh, yes, I

yes, I know.

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, yes, I know.

2 Oh, Jesus.  
Jesus is coming.  
Oh, yes, I know.

Text: South African; transc. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984

Music: FREEDOM IS COMING, South African; transc. *Freedom Is Coming*

Text and music © 1984 Peace of Music Publishing AB, admin. Walton Music Corp., a div. of GIA Publications, Inc., [giamusic.com](http://giamusic.com). All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

# O Come O Come Emmanuel

sing twice

Translated from Latin by

John Mason Neale

Melody: 15th century Franciscan hymn

(based on the recording by for KING & COUNTRY)

Arranged by

Joel Smallbone, Luke Smallbone,  
Mark Campbell, Stephen Lynch,  
Stephen Blake Kanicka and Ben Backus

**INTRO**

♩ = 113      Cm      B♭      Fm7      Cm

**VERSE 1 & 2**

1, 3      2      4

B♭      Fm7      Cm      (N.C.)      B♭      Fm7      Cm

4

1. O    come,    O    come,    Em -

8

B♭      Fm7      Cm      E♭      B♭/F      Fm7      Cm

man -    u -    el      and    ran -    som    cap -    tive    Is    -    ra -    el

14

Fm7      E♭      B♭      Cm

that    mourns    in    lone -    ly    ex    -    ile    here      un -    til    the    Son    of

CCLI Song # 7109193

© Words: Public Domain | Music: 2017 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. | Ben Backus Music | Curb Congregation Songs | Fleauxmotion Music  
| Mike Curb Music | Modcast Music | STUDIO SBK PUBLISHING | Fleauxmatic Music | Kilns Music | Shaun Shankel Pub Designee | Method to the Madness  
| Shankel Songs | WC Music Corp.

For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

CCLI License # 20611171

*continued on next page*

**CHORUS 1a**

19 Fm7 B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  Cm  
 God ap - pear. Re - joice, re - joice. Em -

24 Fm B $\flat$  Cm E $\flat$  Fm7 B $\flat$  2nd time to Coda  $\Phi$   
 man - - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - - ra -

**TURNAROUND**

28 Cm (N.C.) Cm  
 el.

31 B $\flat$  Fm7 Cm B $\flat$  Fm7 1  
 (Musical notation continues)

## PEACE

Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church

### **Growing a deeply connected family of faith**

Whether by Blood or Baptism, we are family here. Let us share the peace of Christ with each other.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYERS

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

### *He Came Down*

sing verse twice

He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope;  
 He came down that we may have hope; hallelujah forever more.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

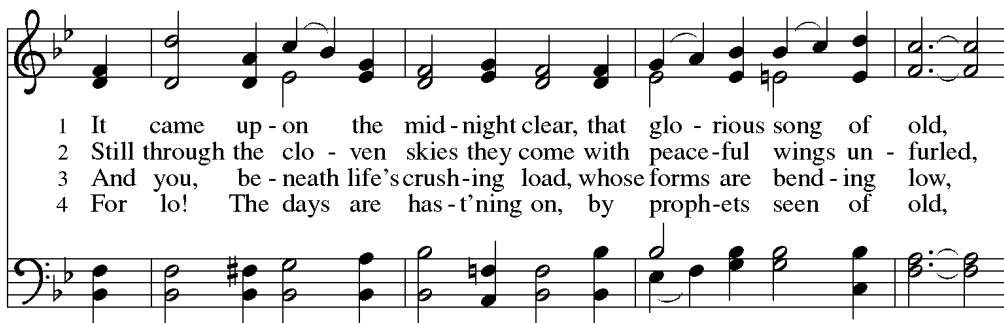
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

# CHILDREN'S SERMON

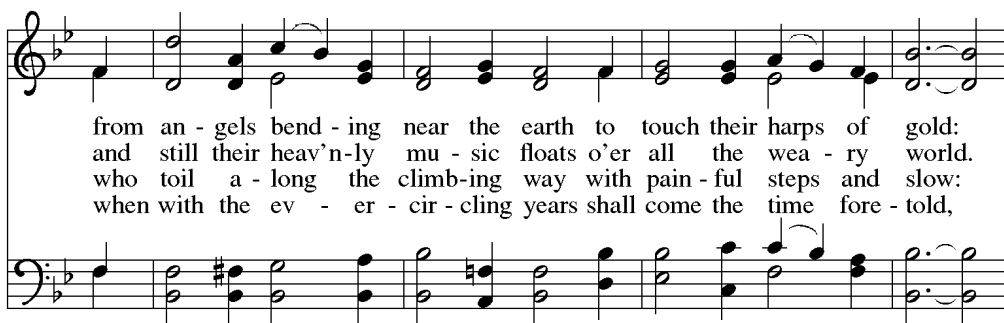
## HYMN OF PRAISE

### *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

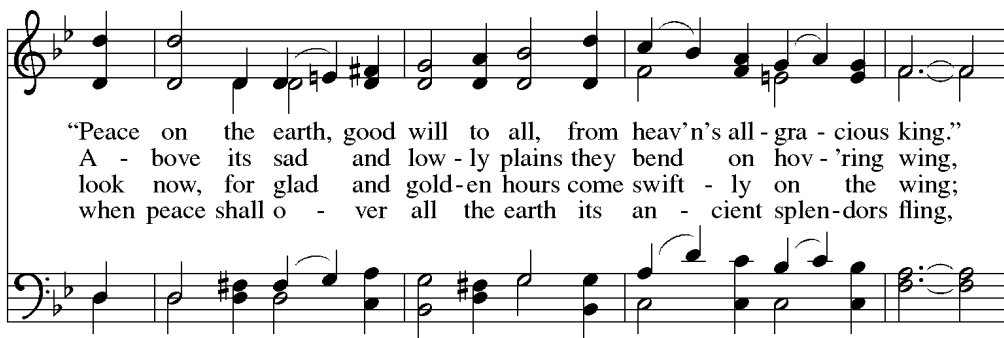
verse 4



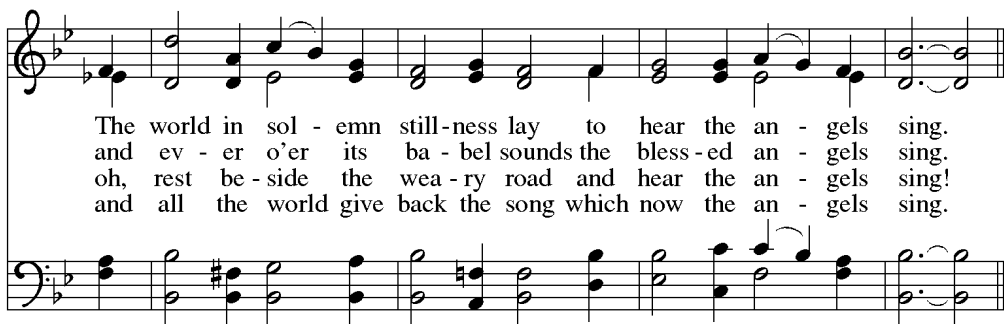
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

## A 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 worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"*

<sup>1</sup> The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



# PSALM HYMN

## *House of the Lord*

### Verse 1

We worship the God who was  
We worship the God who is  
We worship the God who evermore will be  
He opened the prison doors  
He parted the raging sea  
My God He holds the victory yeah

### Chorus

There's joy in the house of the Lord  
There's joy in the house of the Lord today  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise  
There's joy in the house of the Lord  
Our God is surely in this place  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise

### Interlude

Oh oh oh  
We shout out Your praise

### Verse 2 (ALIVE Solo)

We sing to the God who heals  
We sing to the God who saves  
We sing to the God who always makes a way  
'Cause He hung up on that cross  
Then He rose up from that grave  
My God's still rolling stones away

### Chorus

### Bridge

('Cause) We were the beggars  
Now we're royalty  
We were the prisoners  
Now we're running free  
We are forgiven accepted  
Redeemed by His grace  
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

### Repeat Bridge

### Chorus

### Ending

We shout out Your praise

## 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,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But 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. <sup>44</sup>Therefore 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

## ANTHEM

*Advent Hymn*

Wesley & Nockels/arr.  
Martin

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

## OFFERTORY

### *We Are Waiting for Jesus*



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

## OFFERING PRAYER

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

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

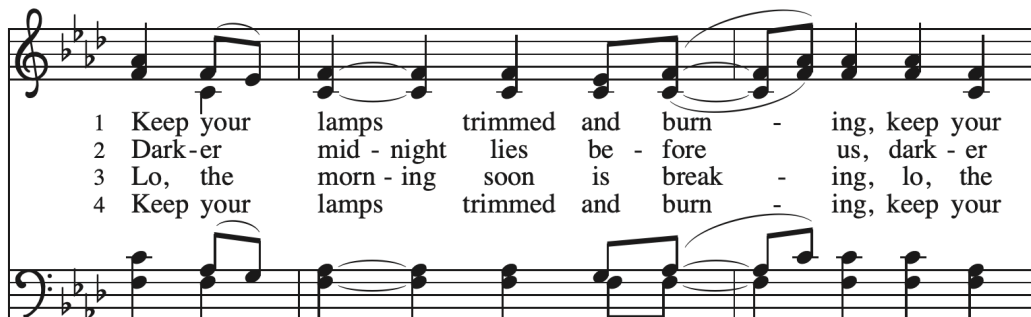
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

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

## SENDING HYMN

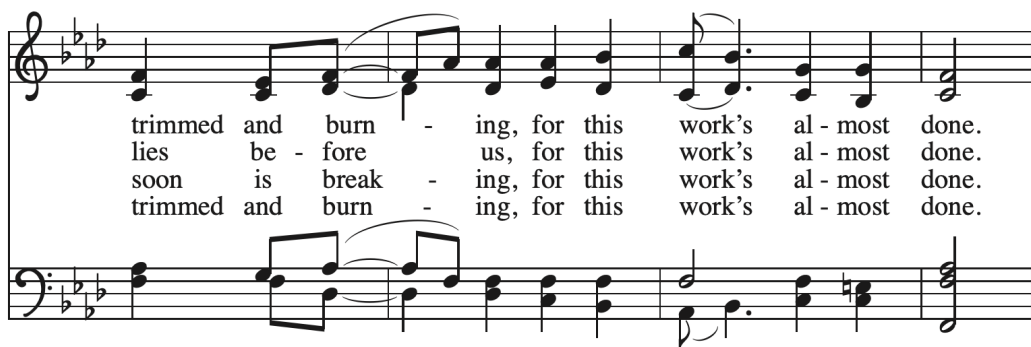
### *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your  
2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er  
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the  
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps  
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night  
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing  
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.  
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

*Refrain*

Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;

chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.

The image shows a musical score for a refrain. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system contains the lyrics 'Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;'. The second system contains the lyrics 'chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords that support the vocal melody.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE**

## **FOR FURTHER STUDY**

### **Psalm 122**

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

### **Romans 13:11-14**

*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.*

<sup>11</sup> 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; <sup>12</sup> 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; <sup>13</sup> let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

#### **ONE LICENSE LICENSING PERMISSION:**

REPRINTED/PODCAST/STREAMED WITH PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE #A-7000  
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED CCLI # 20611171

## ***ALIVE! Musicians***

*Gale McLeod, Co-Director*

*Lyndsey Ebener*

*Ricky Lusk*

*Irelou Moyer, Co-Director*

*David Moyer*

*Julie Ann Payne*

*Beth Branham*

*Erin Hall*

*Ed Redmond*

*Leah Conrad*

*Vaughn Hall*

*Roxanne Rich*

*Brett Ebener*

*Steve Hamilton*

*Sarah Smith*

*Clark Ebener*

*Stephanie Liscusky*

*Jessica Gibbons*

### ***Worship Assistants***

*Lector ..... Rachel Bundrick*

*Greeter ..... Grace Fuson*

*Ushers ..... Sue & Lucky Jones*

*Livestream coordinators ..... Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr*



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of  
Annie Ruth Addy's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 29<sup>th</sup>  
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 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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*