

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



9:15 AM - September 27, 2026 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost

ALIVE! Worship Service

INTRODUCTION

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

We Are One in the Spirit

Capo 1: (Em) Fm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm



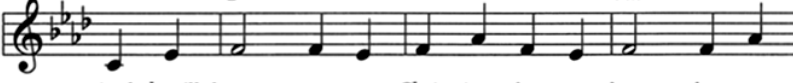
we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) Dbm (Em) Fm



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm (Am) Bbm (Bm) Cm (Em) (Am/E) (Em) Fm Bbm/F Fm



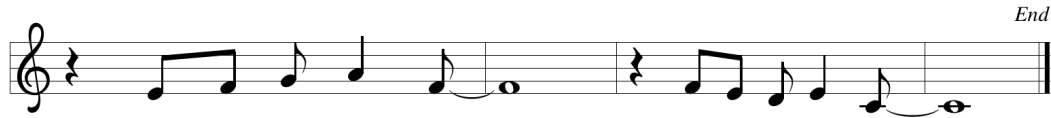
love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

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He Is Exalted



He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high; I will praise him.



He is ex - alt-ed, for - ev - er ex - alt-ed, and I will praise his



name. Je - sus is Lord, for - ev - er his truth shall



reign; hea - ven and earth re - joice in his ho - ly



name. He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high.

Text and music: Twila Paris
Text and music © 1985 Straightway Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

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

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord.**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF PRAISE

Great Is the Lord

C Dm G/B C

Great is the Lord, he is ho - ly and just, by his

F/A G F C/E Dm⁷ C C Dm

pow-er we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is

G/B C F/A G

faith - ful and true, by his mer - cy he proves he is

F C/E Dm⁷ C Bb/C F/C Bb/C F C/E Dm⁷ C

love. Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of glo - ry.

Bb/C F/C Bb/C G/C C Bb/C F/C Bb/C

Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of praise. Great is the Lord, now

D G E Am Dm Gsus G

lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the

Am Am⁷/G Dm Gsus G C Csus C

Lord! Great is the Lord!

A READING

Philippians 2:1-13

A reading from Philippians.

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Verse 1

To You O Lord I lift up my soul
In You I trust O my God
Do not let me be put to shame
Nor let my enemies triumph over me

Verse 2

Show me Your ways and teach me Your paths
Guide me in truth lead me on
For You're my God You are my Saviour
My hope is in You each moment of the day

Chorus

No one whose hope is in You
Will ever be put to shame
That's why my eyes are on You O Lord
Surround me defend me
O how I need You
To You I lift up my soul
To You I lift up my soul

Verse 3

Remember Lord Your mercy and love
That ever flow from of old
Remember not the sins of my youth
Or my rebellious ways
According to Your love remember me
According to Your love
For You are good O Lord

Chorus

Repeat Chorus

Ending

To You O Lord I lift up my soul

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.**

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’” ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’” ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Pat Riddle

ANTHEM

Come Now Is the Time to Worship

Doerksen

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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart



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. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Music: *Liturgv of Iov, James M. Capers, b. 1948*

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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

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

Verse 1

You are not alone if you are lonely
When you feel afraid you're not the only
We are all the same in need of mercy
To be forgiven and be free
It's all you got to lean on
But thank God it's all you need

Chorus

And all the people said amen whoa
And all the people said amen
Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends
And all the people said amen

Verse 2

If you're rich or poor well it don't matter
Weak or strong you know love is what we're after
We're all broken but we're all in this together
God knows we stumble and fall
And He so loved the world
He sent His son to save us all

Chorus

Bridge

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart
Blessed are the people hungry for another start
For theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of God

Chorus

Repeat chorus

Ending

And all the people said amen.

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Worship Assistants

Lector *Rachel Bundrick*
Ushers *Ray Conrad, Adam Parker*
Greeter *Grace Fuson*
Acolyte *KateLynn Parker*
Livestream coordinators *Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr*

ALIVE! Musicians

<i>Gale McLeod, Co-Director</i>	<i>David Moye</i>	<i>Ed Redmond</i>
<i>Irelou Moye, Co-Director</i>	<i>Erin Hall</i>	<i>Roxanne Rich</i>
<i>Beth Branham</i>	<i>Vaughn Hall</i>	<i>Sarah Smith</i>
<i>Clark Ebener</i>	<i>Ricky Lusk</i>	<i>Jessica Gibbons</i>
<i>Lyndsey Ebener</i>	<i>Julie Ann Payne</i>	



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Julie K. Miller's birthday today, 9/27/26, by her father.

The bulletin covers are given to the glory of God in honor of Julie K. Miller's birthday today, 9/27/26, by her father.

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Psalms 25:1-9

¹ To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

² My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶ Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸ You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.



WOLYEL _____

SALPPE _____

VARHETS _____

DICRE _____

TOLALFOB _____

ACRESWORC _____

DRE _____

ROCN _____

GINKSATVIHGN _____

DOURG _____

YRDHAIE _____

OARCNS _____

EEVSAL _____

WOLAHLENE _____

FOBREIN _____

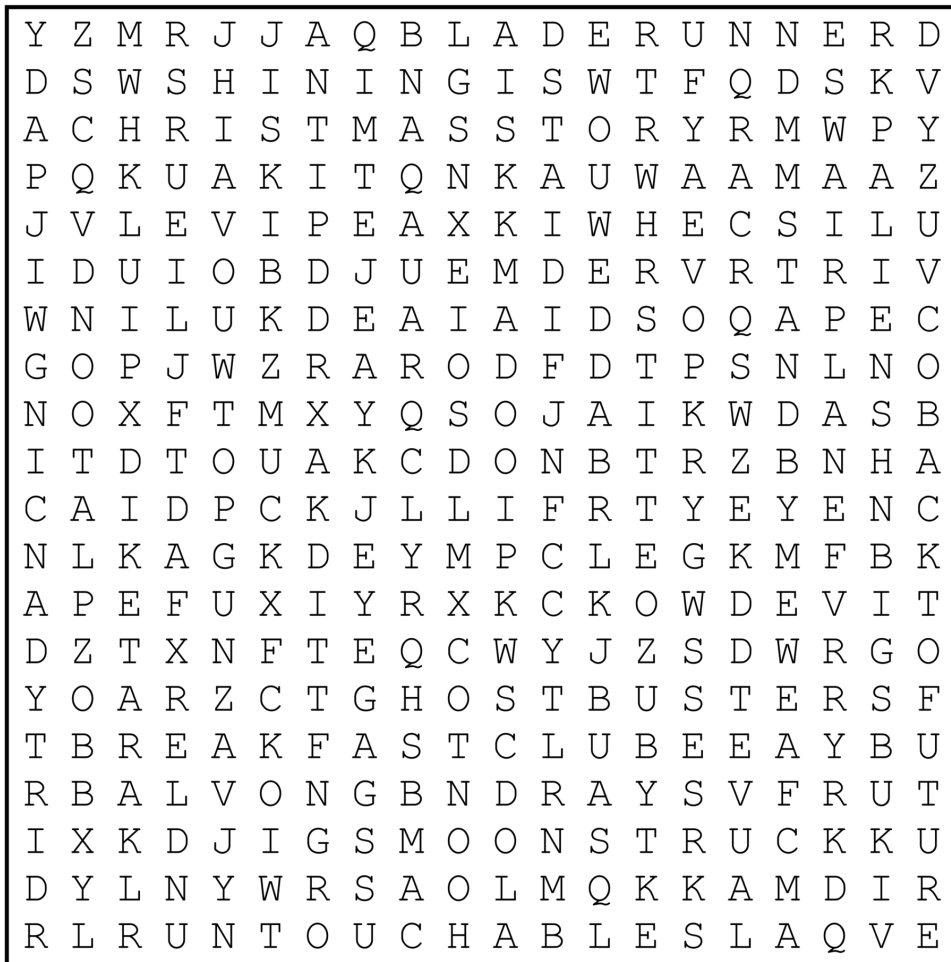
NGORAE _____

RWESATE _____

KIPNPMU _____



Classic 1980s Movies



Word list:

A Christmas Story
Airplane
Aliens
Back To Future
Big
Bladerunner
Breakfast Club

Die Hard
Dirty Dancing
ET
Field Of Dreams
Ghostbusters
Karate Kid
Moonstruck

Platoon
Raiders Of Lost Ark
Shining
Stand By Me
Terminator
Top Gun
Untouchables



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!

Lord Teach Us To Pray:

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: Judy Fisher, Kaitlyn Liafsha, Amaya McCoy, Carter McCoy, Paul Hutto, Gilene McCullough, Evan Rybicki, Melissa Hughes, Chris Dawson, Mitzi Epting, Johnathon Hall, Tanner Anderson, Sam Davis, Hailey DuVall, Eliza Scyphers, Vaughn Hall, Lynn Hostetter, Christina Henricks, Miley Rhodes, Cassie Kelly.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Dora Miller, Annie Ruth Addy, Bruce Busbee, Sarah Rybicki, Ruth Goldsmith, Jack Sox, Fred Vallejo, Amy Oliver, Nancy Stone-Collum, John Morris, Murray Hoskins, Christie Cook, Michael Bradshaw, Abby Grace Roof, Liliana Stork, Tammy Quarles

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Hoa O'Kelley, Sally Kleber, James Campbell, Jeanie & Paul Jacobs, Rachel Bundrick, Karen Holton, Sandra Baker, Paul & Carolyn Dufries, John Conrad, Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Alice Pollock, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Paul Addy, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Irene Schreiber, Sherrill Chaney, Leonard Chapman, Derek Rickenbaker, Mike Baxter, Ed & Monica Emmer, Adrian Moldovan, Heather Topolski, Daryl Tarte, Paul Price, Andy Granger, Mary Oliver, Sherwood Williams, Don Ackerman, Paula Miller, Chet Popkowski, Linda Wright, Beth Franklin, Ronnie Crim, Shirley Spruill, Russell Altman, Eddie Porter, Eddie Broughman, Julie Johnson, Lewis Tankersley, Danny Baker, Suzanne Oxner Stello, Dr. Chris Wicker, William & Janet Wood, Judy Lazarczyk, Robbie Burgess, Ronnie Boland, Tonia Boland, Andy Rauch, Peggy Roessler, John Bailey, John Sharpe, Bishop Ginny Aebischer, Zach Wash, Tyler Corbitt, Nancy Waugh, Emily Waugh, Sam Waugh, Laura Ann Merrill

Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:

Justin Casteel, Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

Family of:

Patty Horton Turpin, Luther Swicegood, Al Roberts, Jackie Sox

Worship Leaders

Rev. Patrick W. Riddle, Interim Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music