

***Worship Leaders***

*Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor  
Mrs. Elise Helms, Interim Choir Director  
Mrs. Sandra Lindler, Interim Organist*

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation  
Vicar Gayle Nelson, Intern  
Mrs. Karen Shevenell, Minister of Music, Faith*

**MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169 • 803.796.5948**

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost    Contemporary Service—9:35 AM    September 13, 2020**



**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Setting Eight—Non-Communion—Contemporary**

**INTRODUCTION**

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

**PRELUDE**

*"When We Are Living"*

arr. Krentz Organ

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

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

Faithful God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

*"When We Are Living"*

**Hymn 639**

**GREETING**

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.**

**KYRIE**

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

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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.**

**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: Trevor Anderson, Shannon Burton, Brett Ebener, Hannah Fogle, Linda Price.*

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

Tara Hinson, Herb Brazell.

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Elise Harmon, Penny Timmerman, Lucky Jones, Jennifer Brazell, Hazel Rauch, Matthew Hook, Mary Hamson, Ann Callison, Adele Rodgers, Faye Smith, Lisa Long.

**Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:**

Niki Crolley, Deborah Stokes, Trent Jeffcoat, Shelton Hall, June Roof, Sydney Richardson, Betsy Adams, Chris Riggins, Nancy Reed, Tommy Roof, Isabelle Sundlie, Bill Hunicutt.

**Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:**

Adam Davis, Andrew Hamson, Samuel Davis, Mike Willhide, Scott Hash, John Post, Dallas Phillips.

**Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:**

Tom Bryant, Marcus Hayes, Tristan Mullen, Cory Fabian, Hayden Henneman, Edwin Taylor, Patrick Taylor, Edwin Torres, Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Patrick Morris, Ben Barron, Barry Duncan, Michael Barfield, Adam Mintz, David Mathews, Bernd Koehler, John Ward.

**The Family Of:**

Leo Blight, Sr., Freddie Fulmer, Julianne Moak, Mike Dunlap, Walter Tuten.

***Please help us keep our prayer list up to date by calling the church office with any names to be added or removed. Otherwise, names remaining on the prayer list for more than 2 months will be removed.***

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Kristi Hall in loving memory of Nancy Corley Sharpe for her birthday on September 14. We miss you and love you! Your family

**Bulletin Covers** are given to the glory of God by Betty Jo Cato & Family in loving memory of Zane Spigner for his birthday on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**The Yamaha Keyboard and Keyboard Accessories** are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Robert "Bob" Wise by his family.

**I believe that Jesus Christ has gone to prepare a place for me and will come again to take each of us to be with Him. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

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

**ANTHEM**

*“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”*

**Temple/Holstein**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING HYMN**

*“Create in Me a Clean Heart”*

**Hymn 185**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

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

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

*“Heaven is Singing for Joy”*

**Hymn 664**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE (congregation sings refrain)**

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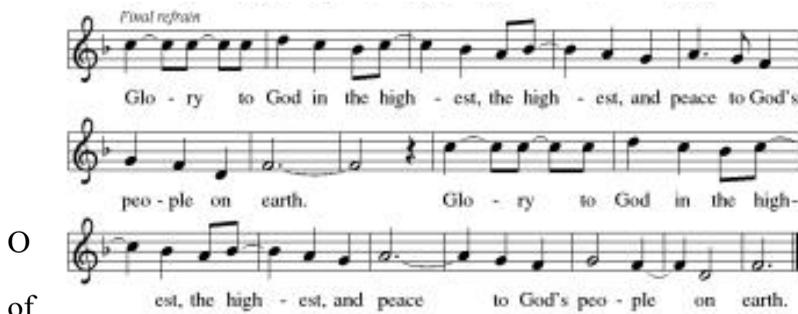


orship you, we give you thanks, we

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

**Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen.



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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.  
Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our

hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 50:15-21**

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM HYMN

*"The Lord Is Kind and Merciful"*  
(congregation sings refrain, choir sings verses)

**See Hymn Insert**

### SECOND READING

**Romans 14:1-12**

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. <sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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### GOSPEL

**Matthew 18:21-35**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.*

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup>"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"*

**See Hymn Insert**

### CREED

**I believe in God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. I believe that God has created me and all that exists.**

**I believe that Christ died on a cross for my sin, conquered Death and was raised to new life on the third day. New life is mine because of Jesus' words and work.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit in response to God's overwhelming love. I believe that the Holy Spirit is here among us and lives within each of us. The Spirit continues to call people by the Gospel and creates and builds the Church of Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, I have the power to stand in strength against all adversity.**