



## **MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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***[www.mttaborlutheran.org](http://www.mttaborlutheran.org)***

**9:35 AM — September 5, 2021 — Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Contemporary Worship Service**

## Setting Eight—Holy Communion

### INTRODUCTION

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syro-Phoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

### PRELUDE

*When the Poor Ones*

**Olivar/Manzano**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We stand*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

### GATHERING SONG

*Open Our Eyes, Lord*

**See Hymn Insert**

### 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

**p. 184**

**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.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Awesome God*

**See Hymn Insert**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

*We sit*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SECOND READING**

**James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17**

*Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.*

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? <sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [<sup>11</sup>For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.] <sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

**GOSPEL**

**Mark 7:24-37**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.*

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. <sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit*

**SERMON**

*We stand*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Healer of Our Every Ill*

**ELW 612**

**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.

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.**  
*We sit*

#### **ANTHEM**

*Mighty to Save*

**Fielding/arr. Sorenson**

#### **OFFERING**

*We stand*

#### **OFFERING HYMN**

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

**ELW 185**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

#### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

#### **HYMN**

*Eat This Bread*

**ELW 472**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### **HYMN**

*Eat This Bread*

**ELW 472**

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### **HYMN**

*Eat This Bread*

**ELW 472**

#### **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.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

#### **COMMUNION**

#### **COMMUNION SONG**

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**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

*I Am the Bread of Life*

**ELW 485**

*We stand*

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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.**

#### **SENDING SONG**

*Fill My Cup*

**See Hymn Insert**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **POSTLUDE**

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**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!

**Altar Flowers.** Today's Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Mommy & Poppy's birthdays from all their great grandchildren.

**Bulletin Covers.** Today's Bulletin Covers are given to the glory of God by the Haftoglou Family.

**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: Amy Carlton, Rebecca Gaultney, Nicholas Hayes, Nikolaus Hostetter, Mattie O'Quinn, Kim Pittman, Richard Shirah, Joel Smith, Dakota Steele, Justin Steele, Katlynn Steele, Phoebe Steele.*

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

Emma Lyons, Rachel Bundrick, Nancy Allen, Barbara Stilwell, Ann Hendrix, Jo Anderson.

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Ruth Goldsmith, Lib Manus, Robert Cromer, Blanche Lybrand, Jeanie Jacobs, Linda Wessinger, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston, Boyd Steele, Elise Harmon, Lucky Jones, Jennifer Brazell, Mary Hamson, Ann Callison, Adele Rodgers, Lisa Long.

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

Nancy Taylor Lee, Joe & Barbara Murphy, Betty Steele, Maida League, Judy Case, Joyce Waters, Joyce Vanhought, Chuck Backman, Bill Hunnicutt.

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

Adam Davis, Andrew Hamson, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, John Post.

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

Eli McCracken, 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.

**The Family Of:**

Gwen Morris, Hazel Rauch, Dot McDowell.

*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.*

## FOR HOME SELF-STUDY & REFLECTION

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 35:4-7a**

*These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.*

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

### ***Worship Assistants***

*Lector*

*Rachel Bundrick*

*Greeter*

*Nursery*

*Ushers*

*Joe Jones, Paul Jacobs, Travis Spainhour*

*Communion Assistant*

*Joe or Docia Jones*

*Worship Assistant Coordinator*

*Paul Jacobs*

### ***Worship Leaders***

*Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor*

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation*

*Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music*

*Vicar Christine Vincent*

### ***Praise Band***

*Gale McLeod, Co-Director*

*Clark Ebener*

*Ricky Lusk*

*Irelou Moye, Co-Director*

*Lindsey Ebener*

*David Moye*

*Beth Branham*

*Erin Hall*

*Ed Redmond*

*Leah Conrad*

*Vaughn Hall*

*Roxanne Rich*

*Brett Ebener*

*Jack Latham*

*Taylor Wilson*