



MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169
803.796.5948
www.mttaborlutheran.org

11:00 AM - August 16, 2026, 12th Sunday after Pentecost
Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion - Setting 5

INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Toccata in G

Dietrich Buxtehude

SERVICE FOR HOLY BAPTISM

ELW p. 227

Today we receive in Holy Baptism
Easton Scott Cato

PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the Sacrament of Baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

I present *Easton Scott Cato* for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *your child* baptized into Christ?

Parents response: I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with these responsibilities:

to live together among God's faithful people,
to come to the word of God and the Holy Supper,
to learn the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
to hold in your hands the Holy Scriptures,
and to nurture your soul in faith and prayer,
so that *you* may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support *Easton Scott* and pray for *him* in *his* new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

BAPTISM

Easton Scott, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Easton Scott, you belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized and all of God's people say **Alleluia.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain *Easton Scott* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

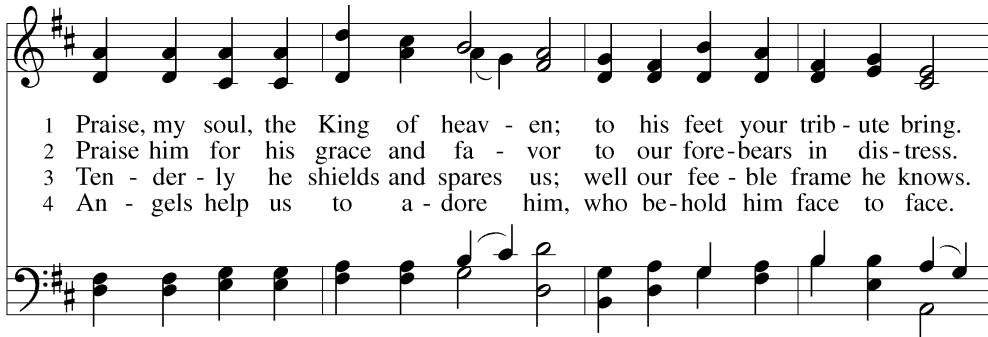
Easton Scott, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

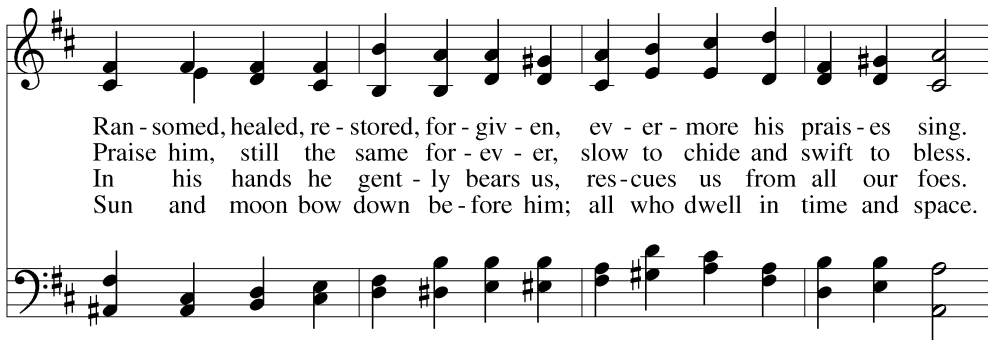
Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

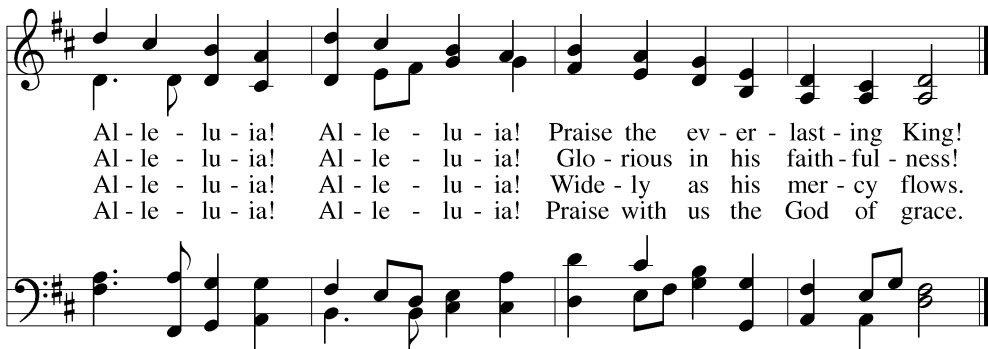
We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
 2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
 3 Ten - der - ly he shields and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
 4 An - gels help us to a - dore him, who be-hold him face to face.



Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing.
 Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
 In his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
 Sun and moon bow down be - fore him; all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.

Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

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.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Continued on next page



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p. 158



Assisting minister

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



All

Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor -



ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Continued on next page.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, O Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have

mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone

are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 159

Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

A reading from Isaiah.

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67

The congregation is invited to join in the refrain.

W K Davis



Let the peo - ples praise you, O God, let all the peo - ples praise you.

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations. **R**

⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth. **R**

⁶ The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Romans.

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

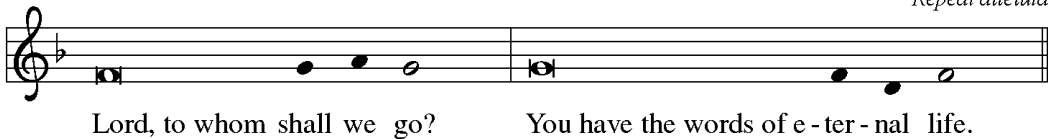
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 160



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

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

[¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³ He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶ Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Bishop-Elect Wade Roof



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict-ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

PEACE

ELW p. 161

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

God Be Merciful

Daniel Moe

OFFERTORY HYMN 182

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Richard W. Hillert

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff begins with a new line of music. The third staff ends with a double bar line, and the fourth staff begins with a new line of music. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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OFFERING PRAYER

ELW p. 161

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 161

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

ELW p. 161

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

ELW p. 162

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.

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 112

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.

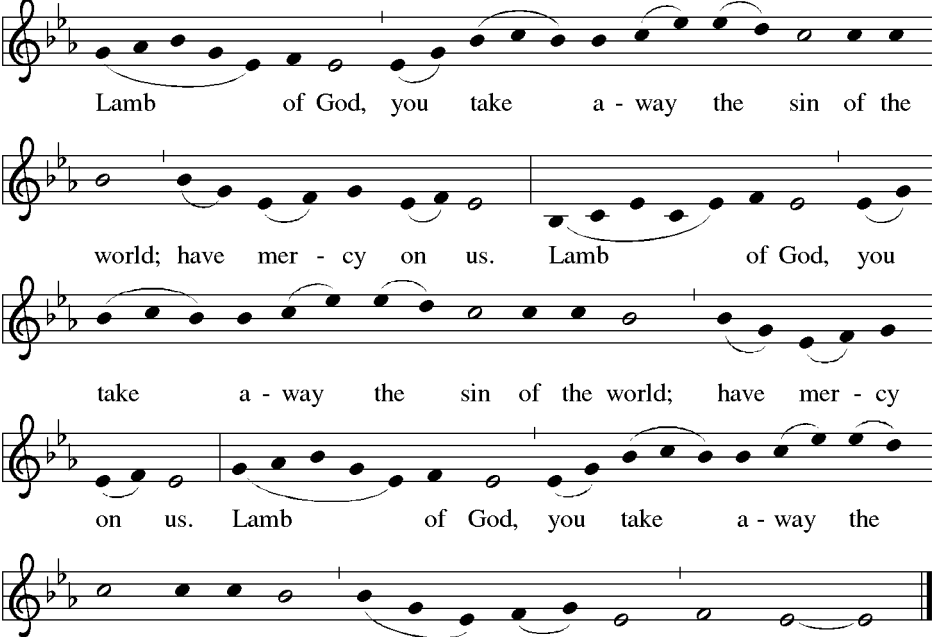
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

ELW p. 164



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
 2 From ev - 'ry ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find




How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
 yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
 our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
 the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

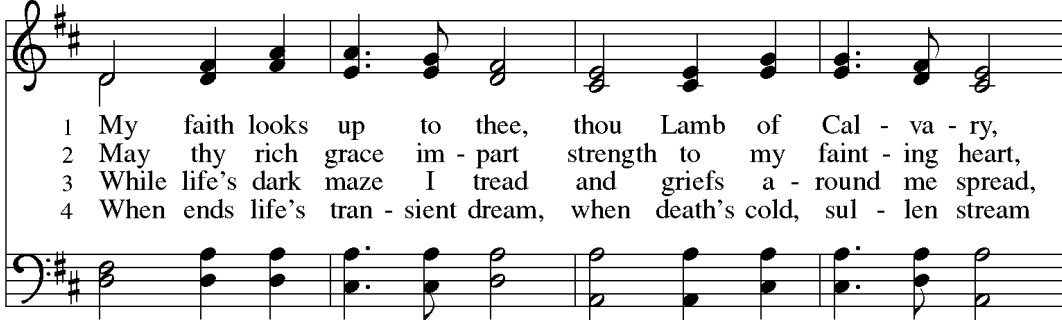


Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

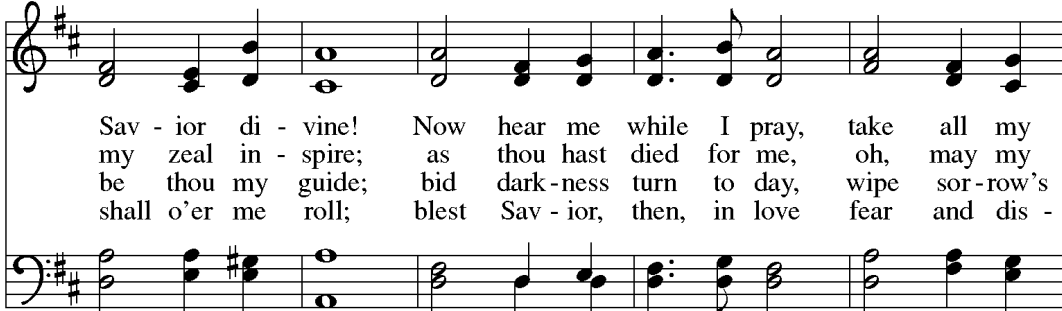
Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872



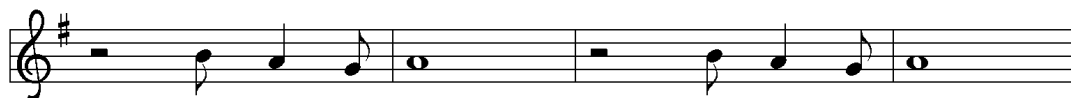
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1	Gen - tile	or Jew,	ser - vant	or free,
2	Man - y	the gifts,	man - y	the works,
3	Grain for	the fields,	scat - tered	and grown,



wom - an	or	man,	no	more.
one in	the	Lord	of	all.
gath - ered	to	one	for	all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ELW p. 164

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

THANKSGIVING AT THE CONCLUSION OF A CALL

Leader: Bishop-Elect Wade Roof, on November 24, 2013, we of Mount Tabor Lutheran Church called you to be pastor in this place: to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach, to announce God's forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord's Table. With the gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you and your family have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in our service to this community, and in God's mission to the whole world. As you leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.

People of God, members of *Mount Tabor Lutheran Church*, do you release *Bishop-Elect Wade Roof* from service as your *pastor in ministry*?

We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Bishop-Elect Wade Roof, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with *Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church*?

Response: I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry together.

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of *Bishop-Elect Wade Roof* among the people of God in this place.

You watch over our going out and our coming in:
bless this time of ending and beginning.

You surround your people in every time and place:
keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial:
prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together;
heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.

Help *Bishop-Elect Wade Roof*, *his* family, and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.

As *they have* been a blessing to us, so now send *them* forth to be a blessing to others;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

ELW p. 164

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.**

IRISH BLESSING

May the Road Rise to Meet You

LEE TURNER



May the road rise to meet you, May the wind blow at your back_____ May the sun shine



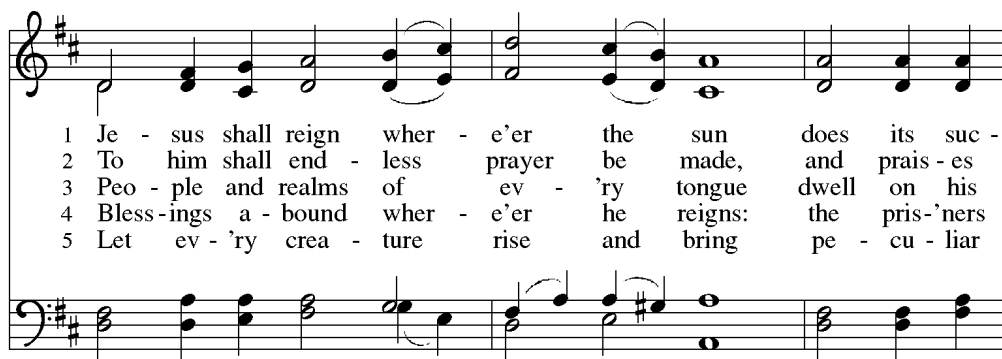
warm-ly on your face;_____ May the rain fall soft-ly on your field; And un-til we



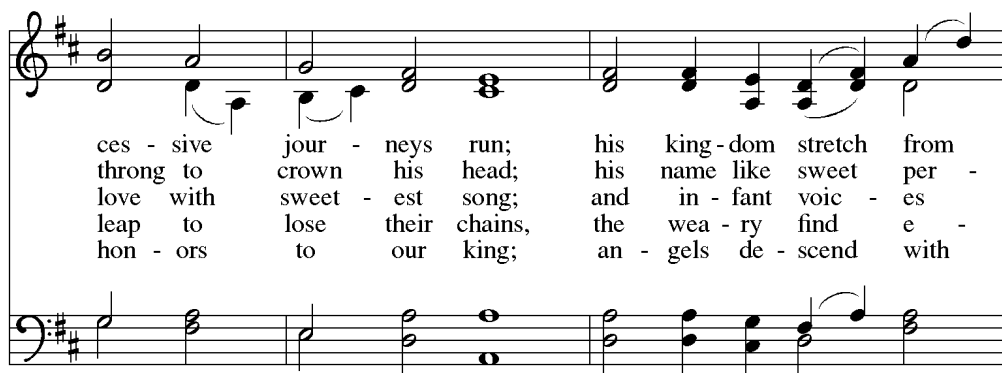
meet a - gain,_____ un - til we meet a - gain,_____ May God hold you in the palm



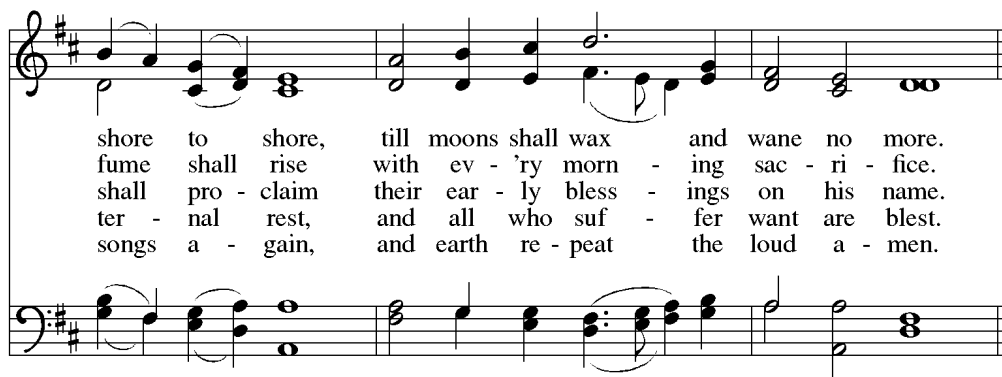
of his hand._____ A - - - men._____



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 throned to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Worship Assistants

Communion assistants	Ann Spainhour, Tammy O’Quinn
Lector	Sarah Whitehead
Ushers	Jeremy Goings, Tex Davis
.....	Freddy Vallejo, Fred Vallejo
Greeter	Elizabeth Goings
Acolyte	Reed Glass
Crucifer	Paxton Goings
Livestream coordinators	Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr



To the glory of God and with love, the altar flowers are given in honor of Bishop-Elect Wade Roof. Wade, you may think the color of the arrangements are a tribute to your devotion to Clemson. Not a chance! Hopefully, the blooms resemble the flames in a fire. A fire burns deep within you to do good things for all people. Your enthusiasm, energy, and Love of God is contagious and spreads like a wildfire. I have no doubt that same fire will spark others wherever you go. May God bless you as you blaze a new trail and journey as our Bishop! Prayers, hugs, and much love. Harris and Kristi Hall.

The bulletin covers are offered to the glory of our Lord and in celebration of Easton Cato’s baptism by his grandparents, Betty Jo and Scott Cato, and his family.



THE COPE

A Garment of Celebration and Service

The cope is a long, flowing ceremonial vestment worn by bishops, priests, and other clergy on special occasions. Shaped like a semicircular cloak and fastened at the chest, it is one of the most visually striking vestments of the Church.



JOY AND CELEBRATION

Unlike vestments associated primarily with the celebration of Holy Communion, the cope is often worn for processions, blessings, festivals, and other solemn or joyful occasions. Its fullness and beauty reflect the dignity and celebration of Christian worship.



THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

The cope surrounds the wearer like a mantle, reminding us that ordained ministry is not simply an office or title. It is a calling to serve Christ and His Church.



A MANTLE OF SERVICE

The image of a mantle has deep biblical roots. It can call to mind the mantle of Elijah, which passed to Elisha as a sign that he was being called to continue the work entrusted to him (2 Kings 2:13–14). In this way, the cope can remind us of ministry received, carried faithfully, and passed from one generation to the next.



THE SHEPHERD'S CALLING

When worn by a bishop, the cope also complements the other signs of the episcopal office. A bishop is called to teach the faith, proclaim the Gospel, care for God's people, and serve as a shepherd of the Church.



A VESTMENT FOR THE JOURNEY

Because the cope is frequently worn in procession, it can beautifully suggest that the Church is a people on the move—called by Christ, gathered in faith, and sent into the world in service.



When worn by a Lutheran bishop, the cope is a sign of the beauty, dignity, and joy of the Gospel.

THE CLASP

The cope is traditionally fastened at the chest with an ornamental clasp called a morse.

Though often decorative, its practical purpose is simple: it holds the garment together as the wearer moves in procession and worship.



*“Tend the flock of God
that is in your charge.”*

— 1 PETER 5:2



The cope is more than an impressive ceremonial garment. It reminds us of the joy of the Gospel, the mantle of ministry, and the call to shepherd God's people faithfully.



THE CROSIER

A SIGN OF SHEPHERDING AND SERVICE

The crosier is the staff carried by bishops as a sign of their office. It is both ancient in origin and rich in meaning, pointing us to the heart of a bishop's calling to shepherd God's people with care, wisdom, and love.



THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

The crosier most often resembles a shepherd's staff with a curved top. Just as a shepherd uses a staff to guide, protect, and care for the sheep, a bishop is called to shepherd the Church—guiding God's people in faith and love.



A SIGN OF AUTHORITY AND CARE

The crosier symbolizes both the authority given to a bishop in the Church and the care with which that authority is exercised. It is not a symbol of power for its own sake, but of servant leadership in Christ.



LOVE, COMPASSION, AND PROTECTION

The curved top of the crosier is said to resemble arms that curve around the flock. It is a reminder that the bishop's ministry is to embrace, protect, and lead God's people with compassion and gentleness.



A CALL TO FAITHFUL LEADERSHIP

The crosier reminds a bishop of the charge entrusted to them: to teach the faith, proclaim the Gospel, administer the sacraments, and equip God's people for ministry and mission.



A VISIBLE REMINDER OF THE CHURCH

When the bishop carries the crosier, it is a public sign of their calling before God and the Church. It points us all to the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, who leads us and gives His life for us.

HISTORIC ROOTS

The crosier has been used by Christian pastors for centuries. Its design may vary, but its meaning remains the same: a bishop is set apart by God to shepherd the Church and lead in His name.

"Feed the flock of God that is in your care, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly."

— 1 PETER 5:2



A SIGN OF CALLING. A SYMBOL OF CARE. A LIFE OF SERVICE.
"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

— JOHN 10:11



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: Cole Epting, Jack Fisher, Stacey Wilson, Pam Hoskins, Brandon Mathews, Lauren Addy, Emily Hutto, Grace Fuson, Laurel Gamble, Stephanie Gamble, Christian Hall, Christian Vallejo, Lizzie Brown, Easton Casteel, Charles Hall, Porcia Metz, Michael Miller.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Michael Gayden, Murray Hoskins, Christie Cook, Michael Bradshaw, Foster McLeod, Abby Grace Roof, Liliana Stork, Tammy Quarles, Hoa O'Kelley, Sally Kleber, James Campbell

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Jeanie & Paul Jacobs, Rachel Bundrick, Karen Holton, Sandra Baker, Paul & Carolyn Dufries, John Conrad, Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Alice Pollock, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Paul Addy, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Derek Rickenbaker, Mike Baxter, Ed & Monica Emmer, Adrian Moldovan, Mike McCarn, John Jowers, Heather Topolski, Daryl Tarte, Paul Price, Andy Granger, Mary Oliver, Meryn Rawl, Russell Grant, Sherwood Williams, Al Roberts, Don Ackerman, Paula Miller, Chet Popkowski, Jared Lough, 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:

Mona Myers

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music