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 - January 26, 2025 - Third Sunday after Epiphany ALIVE! Worship Service

INTRODUCTION

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.



Text: Psalm 119:105, refrain; Michael W. Smith, stanzas

Text and music © 1984 Meadowgreen Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing; and Bug and Bear Music, admin. Word Music, Inc

to

the

end.

you

Christ, Be Our Light

verses 3.4 & 5



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

We Are All One In Christ



Text: Anonymous; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: SOMOS UNO, anonymous English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYERS

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.

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BAPTISM ELW p. 227

Baptismal candidates:

Matilda "Tilly" Joye Phillips Cordelia "Della" Lee Phillips

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Little Light of Mine



Text: African American spiritual Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935 Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

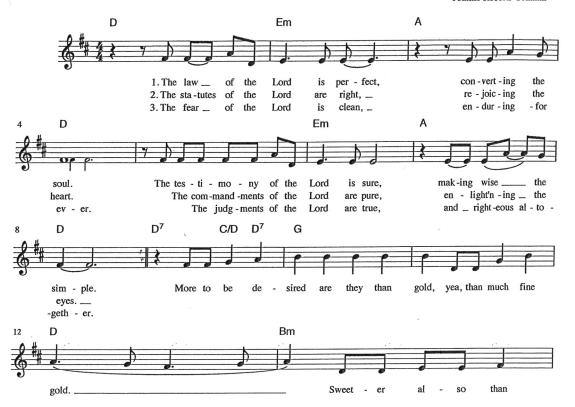
¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a} But strive for the greater gifts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Words and Music by Joanne Roberts Graham





Verse 4
Moreover by them is Thy servant warned
And in keeping of them there is great reward.

Additional verse:

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, Be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. GOSPEL Luke 4:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Wade Roof

Freedom Is Coming



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. All rights reserved.



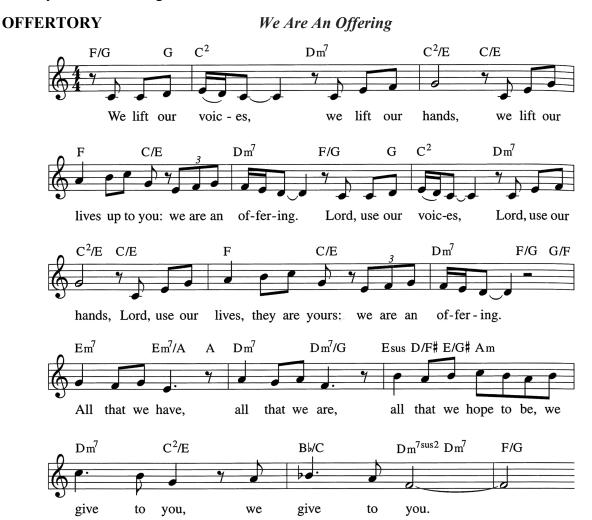
2 Oh, Jesus. Jesus is coming. Oh, yes, I know.

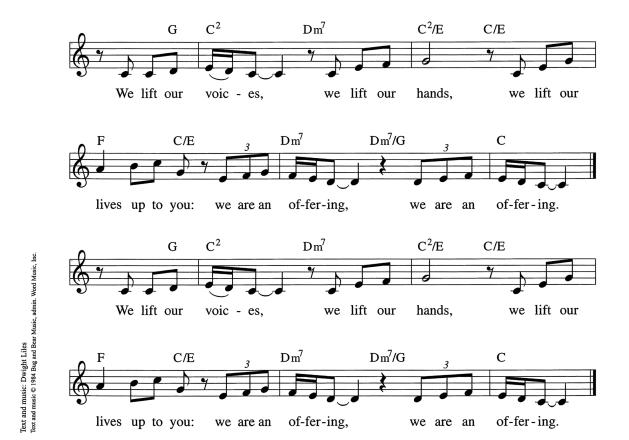
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.





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.**

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.





Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. Freedom Is Coming Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

POSTLUDE

Worship Assistants

Ushers..... Ed & Grace Fuson

ALIVE! Musicians

Gale McLeod, Co-Director

Clark Ebener

Vaughn Hall

Irelou Moye, Co-Director

Lyndsey Ebener

Ricky Lusk

Beth Branham

Bradley Miller

Ed Redmond

Leah Conrad

David Moye

Roxanne Rich

Brett Ebener Erin Hall



Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the leaders and children of Sing & Celebrate and in loving memory of Victoria Marchant by Ann & Gary Spainhour.



FOR FURTHER STUDY

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the LORD is your strength."

¹ All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

² One day tells its tale to another,

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³ Although they have no words or language,

and their voices are not heard,

⁴ their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵ It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶ It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷ The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸ The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

- ⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
 - ¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
 - ¹¹ By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
 - Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
 - ¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
 - ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Winter Word Search

SNOWBOARDING SLEIGHBELLS JACK FROST BELOW ZERO SNOWMOBILE SNOWFLAKE FREEZING BLIZZARD

FLURRIES MITTENS SCRAPER

SNOWBALL

FISHING SLIDING SKATING

SNOWMAN

TUBING BAKING

HOCKEY

SKIING

ICICLE DRIFTS

CLOVEC

GLOVES JACKET

PLOW

SCARF

BOOTS

SALT

COLD SNOW



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: Aaron Gillis, April South, Beth Holliman, Debbie Rakowski, Kassidy Bozard, Nicole Rodgers, Brandon Cato Kim Smith, Jennifer Smith, Toby Wiggers, Annette Monts.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Linda Price, Elise Helms, John Payne, Kim Pittman, Lynda Mason Bruce Merchant, Betty Wise, Dennis Rybicki, Sr.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Rachel Bundrick, Al & Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Sandra Baker Drewby McQuillen, Mary Davis, Alice Pollock, Jimmy Williams, Mona Myers Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Dennis Rybicki Jr., Emma Lou Easley, Paul Addy Paul & Jeanie Jacobs, Herman Bouknight, Jane Sexton, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Allan Oliver, John Holland, Tonia Boland, Misty Smith, Pastor Kenneth Taylor Rawlins McCloy & Family, Mark Horne, Willie Beason, John Woods, Jimmy Mitchell David Baldwin, Salvador Brau, Deidre Huckabee Brau, Falynn Rickards, William Wood Pat Redmond, Mark Fuller, Chris Holley, Johnny Smith, Jack Hyde, Teddy Bowden Jackson Bell, Pam Player, Nancy & Emily Waugh, Becky & Phil Frederick Laura Ann Merrill, Kim Coker, Grace Kelly, Chuck Backman, Michelle Roe, Beth Murphy Justin "Cody" Spires, Billy Holton, Barbara Kohr, Jenny Mack, Tommy Cambell, Niko Bosley Angela Livingston, Anne Moye, Isabelle Sundlie

Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:

Zachery Gayden, Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

The Family Of:

Victoria Marchant, Nancy Padgett, Ron Hutto, William Bouknight Ike McCravy, Nancy Kennerly

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation
Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music