

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 5, 2025 - Second Sunday of Christmas
ALIVE! Worship Service

INTRODUCTION

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

The First Noel

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain

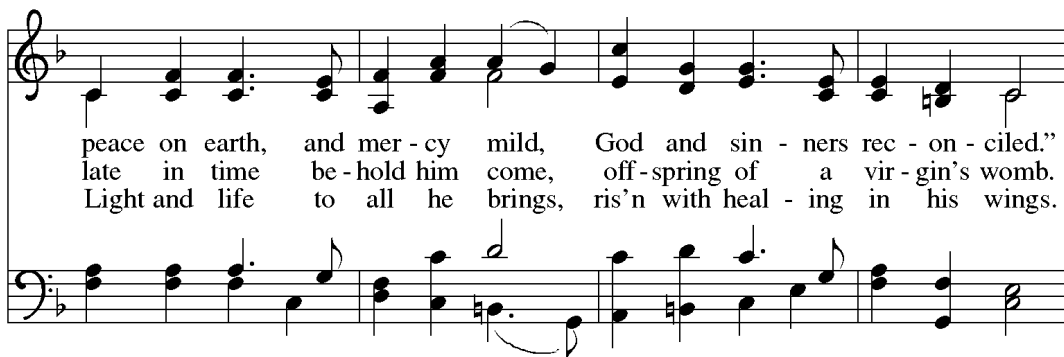
night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king!”

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

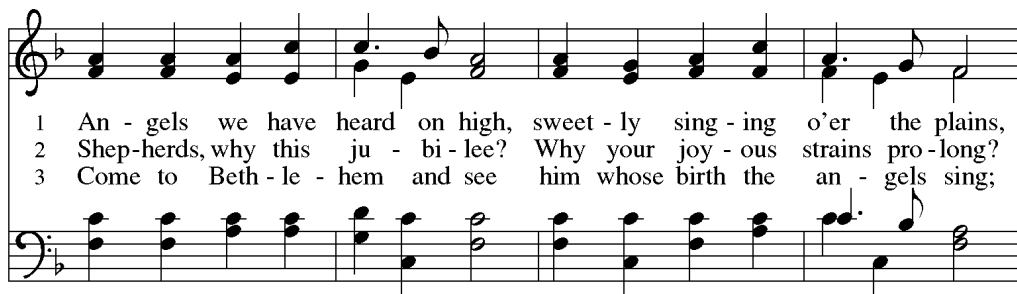
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYERS

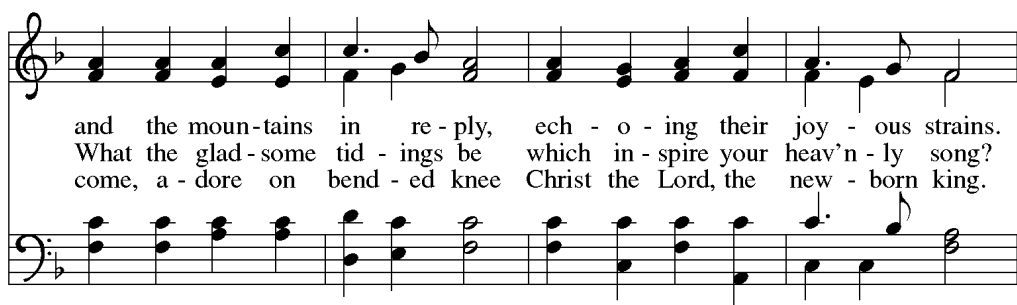
HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High

verse 1



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

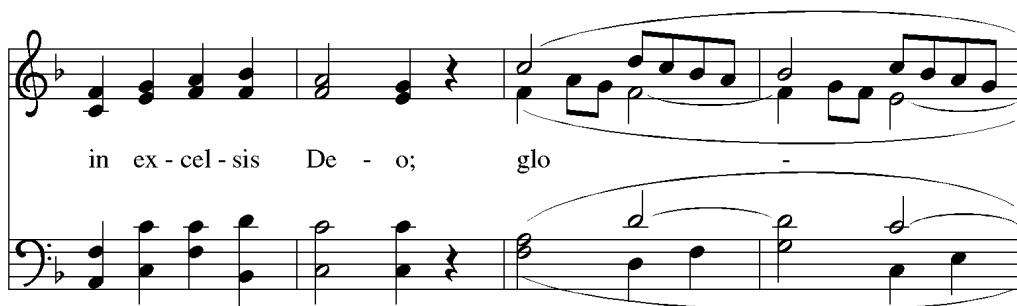


and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad-some tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

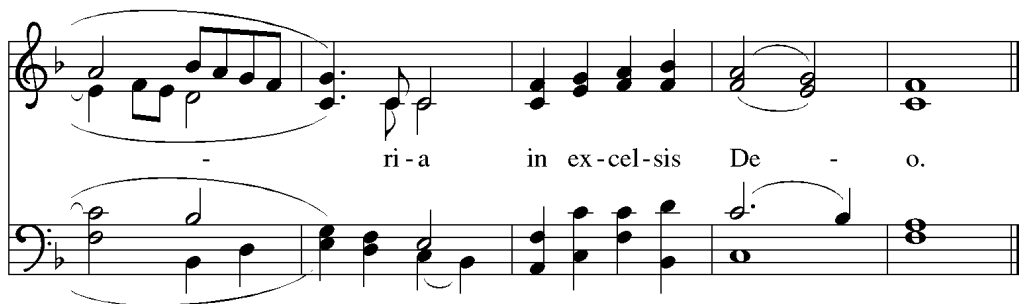
Refrain



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a



Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High
 verses 2 & 3

A READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

A reading from Ephesians.

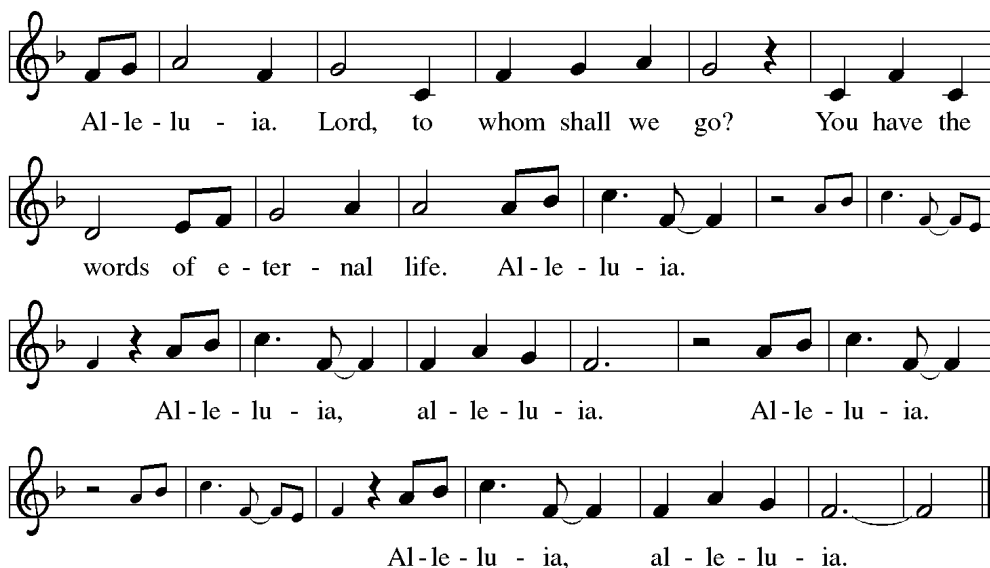
In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

John 1:1-9, 10-18

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Wade Roof

ANTHEM

Join the Angels

West

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.**

OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Midwinter




1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

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.

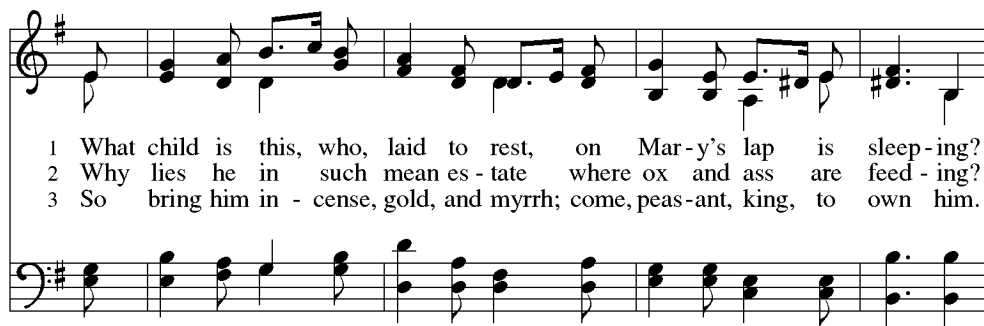
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

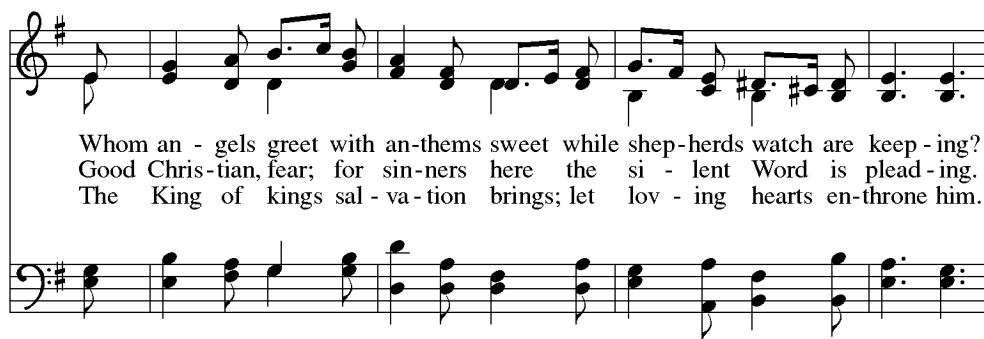
COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

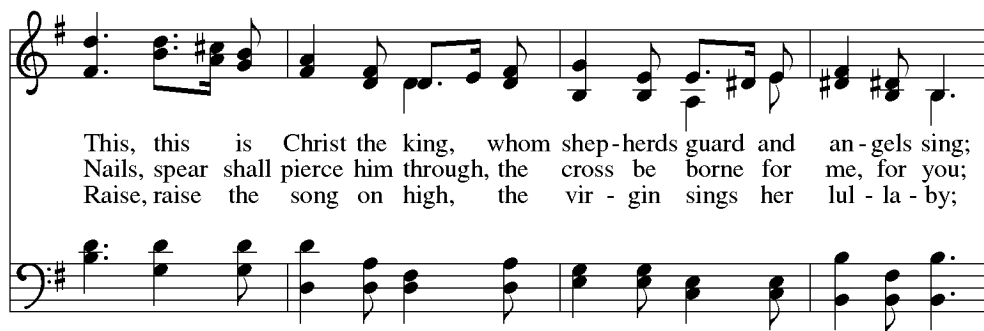
What Child Is This



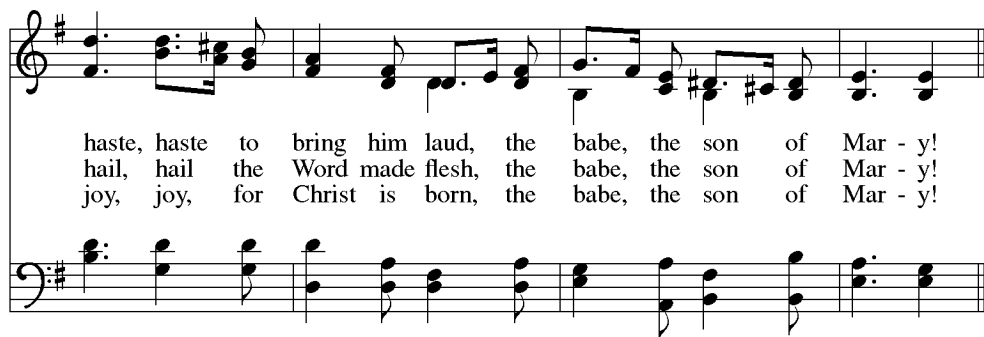
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 HYMN

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.



DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Worship Assistants

Communion assistant Sherri Moorer
Lector Sherri or Rick Moorer
Greeter Grace Fuson
Ushers..... Ed & Grace Fuson

ALIVE! Musicians

<i>Gale McLeod, Co-Director</i>	<i>Clark Ebener</i>	<i>Vaughn Hall</i>
<i>Irelou Moye, Co-Director</i>	<i>Lyndsey Ebener</i>	<i>Ricky Lusk</i>
<i>Beth Branham</i>	<i>Bradley Miller</i>	<i>Ed Redmond</i>
<i>Leah Conrad</i>	<i>David Moye</i>	<i>Roxanne Rich</i>
<i>Brett Ebener</i>	<i>Erin Hall</i>	

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Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lottie Lybrand Williams by Hannah, Olivia and Jimmy Williams.

Today's bulletin covers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lottie Lybrand Williams by Hannah, Olivia and Jimmy Williams.

The Advent Wreath is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Elizabeth Manus, who would have celebrated her 104th birthday on January 4th, and Ulysses Hiatt by their family.



FOR FURTHER STUDY

Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

⁷ Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

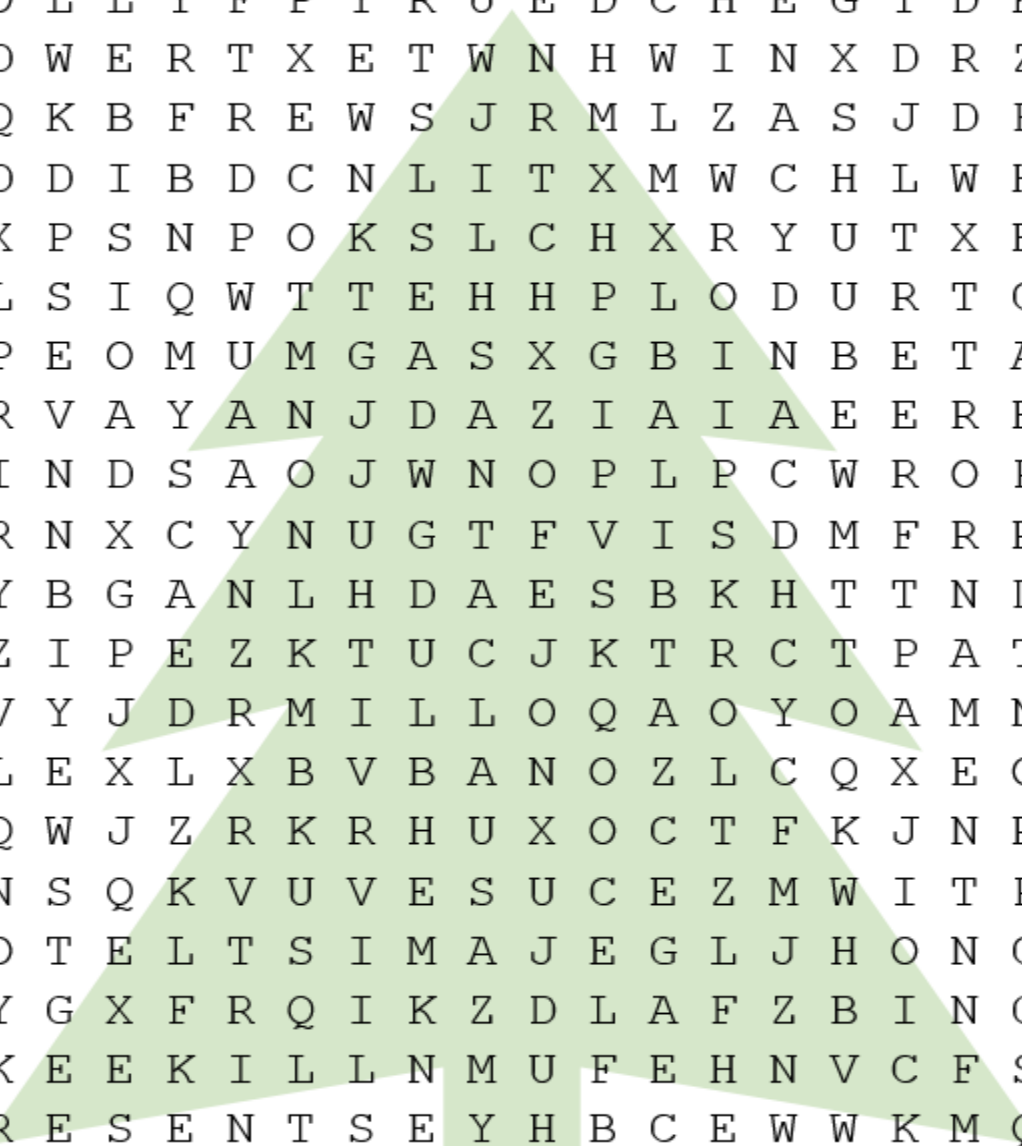
¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

Psalm 147:12-20

- ¹² Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion,
¹³ who has strengthened the bars of your gates
and has blessed your children within you.
¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
¹⁵ God sends out a command to the earth,
a word that runs ¹ very swiftly.
¹⁶ God gives snow like wool,
scattering frost like ashes.
¹⁷ God scatters hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand against God's cold?
¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the waters flow.
¹⁹ God declares the word to Jacob,
statutes and judgments to Israel.
²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!



H O L L Y F P Y R U E D C H E G T D K Q
 M D W E R T X E T W N H W I N X D R Z F
 Y Q K B F R E W S J R M L Z A S J D F N
 B D D I B D C N L I T X M W C H L W H N
 B X P S N P O K S L C H X R Y U T X E H
 B L S I Q W T T E H H P L O D U R T C H
 Y P E O M U M G A S X G B I N B E T A T
 G R V A Y A N J D A Z I A I A E E R E P
 E I N D S A O J W N O P L P C W R O P N
 S R N X C Y N U G T F V I S D M F R R P
 F Y B G A N L H D A E S B K H T T N D P
 N Z I P E Z K T U C J K T R C T P A T L
 G V Y J D R M I L L O Q A O Y O A M N S
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 D Q W J Z R K R H U X O C T F K J N R J
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 B K E E K I L L N M U F E H N V C F S U
 P R E S E N T S E Y H B C E W W K M Q R

Angel
 Holly
 Peace
 Snowflake

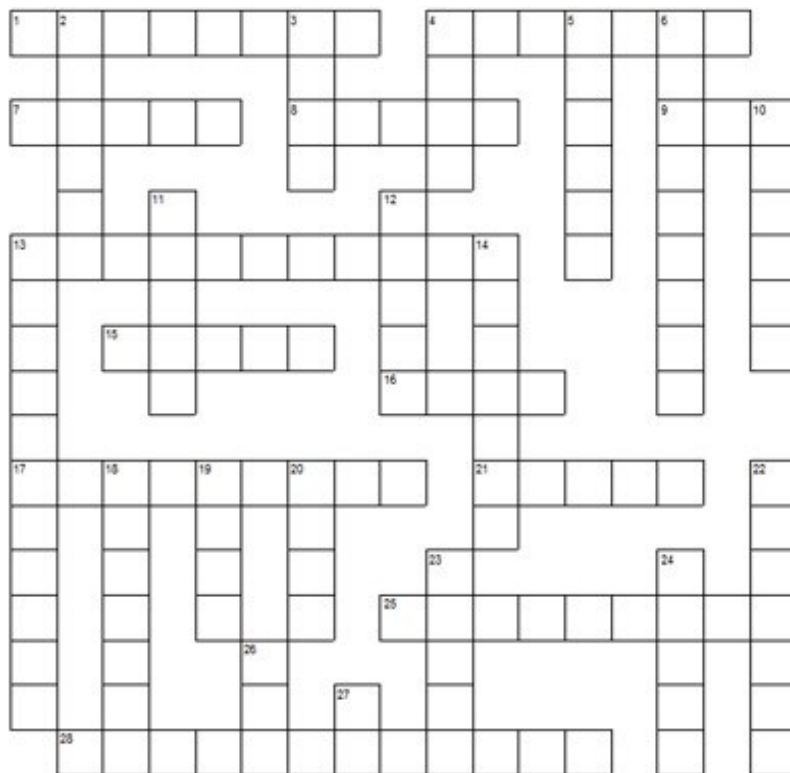
Candycane
 Joy
 Presents
 Snowman

Christmas
 Mistletoe
 Reindeer
 Stocking

Elf
 Noel
 Rudolph
 Tree

Gingerbread
 Ornament
 SantaClaus
 Wreath

Christmas Words Crossword



Across

1. HUNG BY FIREPLACE WITH CARE
4. COUNTRY WHERE ELVES WORK
7. A TREE TOP WITH WINGS
8. MAKER OF SANTA'S TOYS
9. CHRISTMAS COLOR - can also be very hot for those that want it that way
13. RING WHEN REINDEER MOVE

Down

15. PLACE TO PURCHASE GIFTS
16. WHITE PRECIPITATION
17. OCCURS ON H₂O DECEMBER 25
21. COLOR OF CHRISTMAS that can also be used for a tree color.
25. RED AND WHITE CHRISTMAS CANDY
28. WHEN THE MICE WERE SLEEPING

Across

2. SHINY ICICLE ON XMAS TREE
3. ALPHABET MINUS 1 LETTER (FRENCH)
4. PACKAGES PUT UNDER IT
5. BRIGHTEST TREE ORNAMENTS
6. SANTA'S HOME
10. SANTA'S STRONGEST REINDEER
11. WHAT YOU GIVE AT CHRISTMAS
12. SANTA'S LAST NAME
13. C₆H₈O₆
14. MISER WHO GOT CHRISTMAS SPIRIT
18. RED NOSED DEER

19. BRIGHT SHINING SPOT IN SKY 1ST XMAS like in "Hollywood"
20. LEAVE FOR SANTA TO DRINK and no it is not beer, even though some might think it is OK
22. 3 BRILLIANT MEN BRINGING GIFTS
23. GLASS SPHERICAL TREE ORNAMENTS
24. CHRISTMAS SONGS
26. SANTAS WIFE
27. CHRISTMAS MORNING what I usually see very late in the work day.

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: Rhett Thomas, Edna Holton, Sheri Self, Jeff Hutto, Ashley Owens, Cade Jeffries, Amelia Hilton, Jackson Sox.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

John Payne, Kim Pittman, Lynda Mason, Bruce Merchant, Betty Wise
Victoria Marchant, Dennis Rybicki, Sr.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Rachel Bundrick, Al & Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Ron Hutto, 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:

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:

Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

The Family Of:

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