



MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**9:35 AM — June 13, 2021 — Third Sunday after Pentecost
Contemporary Worship Service**

Setting Eight—Non-Communion

INTRODUCTION

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, **You poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as people made one in Christ.**

Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, And fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, Doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

We Walk By Faith

ELW 635

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 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines* **See Hymn Insert**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. [¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM HYMN

O Most High

See Hymn Insert

Stand
GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

The holy gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

SERMON

Stand
HYMN OF THE DAY

Hymn of Promise

See Hymn Insert

APOSTLE'S 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.

Sit

ANTHEM

Our God

arr. Sorenson

OFFERING

Stand

OFFERING HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 185

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, 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

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

When We Are Living

ELW 639

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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 by Kay Fulmer in loving memory of Freddie Fulmer on their 55th wedding anniversary. They were married on June 11th, 1966, at Mt. Tabor. The wedding was officiated by the Rev. Marshall F. Mauney, assisted by the Rev. J. Emmett Roof, uncle of the groom.*

Bulletin Covers. *The Bulletin Covers are given to the glory of God by Stephen, Sherri & Rick in loving memory of Freddie Fulmer and Clarence & Lorene Lybrand whose wedding anniversary was June 1st.*

Processional Cross Flowers. *The Processional Cross Flowers are given to the glory of God by Gary & Ann Spainhour in honor of the graduates and youth of Mt. Tabor.*

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: Pam Corbacho, Kasey Davis, Anna Evans, Kay Fulmer, Patsy Gambrell, Johnathan Marchant, Brice Mathews.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Jeanie Jacobs, Carol Williams.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Linda Wessinger, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston, Sadie Howard, Herman Bouknight, Cheryl Hall, Mona Myers, Lottie Gregg, Melvin Manus, Davis, Boyd Steele, Elise Harmon, Lucky Jones, Jennifer Brazell, Hazel Rauch, Mary Hamson, Ann Callison, Adele Rodgers, Faye Smith, Lisa Long.

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Joyce Vanhought, Chuck Backman, Martha Hinson, Isabelle Sundlie, 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:

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:

Joe Hunnicutt.

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

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Worship Leaders

*Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor
Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music*

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation
Vicar Gayle Nelson, Intern*

Praise Band

*Gale McLeod, Co-Director
Irelou Moye, Co-Director
Beth Branham
Leah Conrad
Clark Ebener*

*Lindsey Ebener
Ben Hall
Erin Hall
Vaughn Hall
Jack Latham*

*Ricky Lusk
David Moye
Ed Redmond
Roxanne Rich
Taylor Wilson*