MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Growing a deeply connected family of faith

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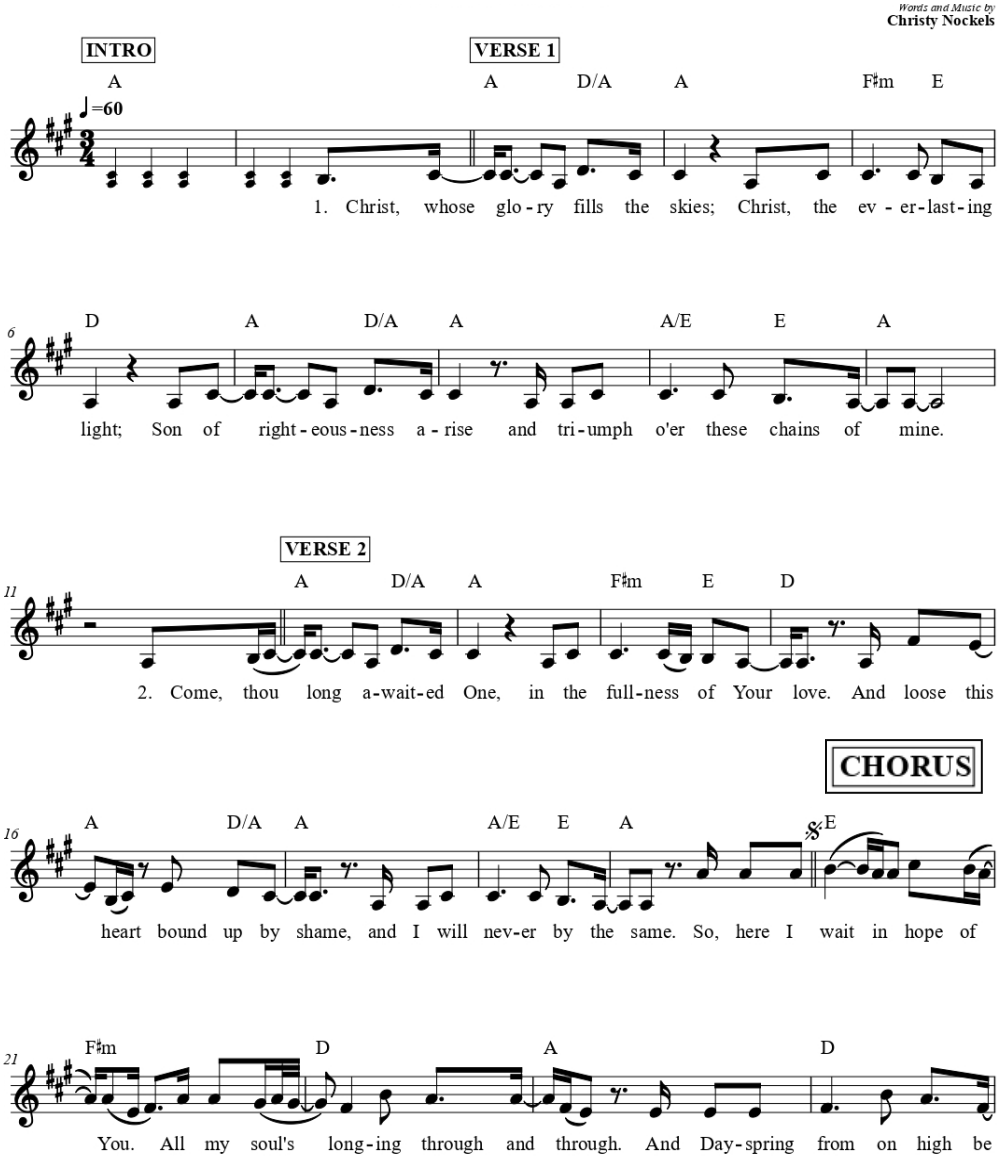
9:15 AM - November 29, 2026 - First Sunday of Advent

ALIVE! Worship Service

INTRODUCTION

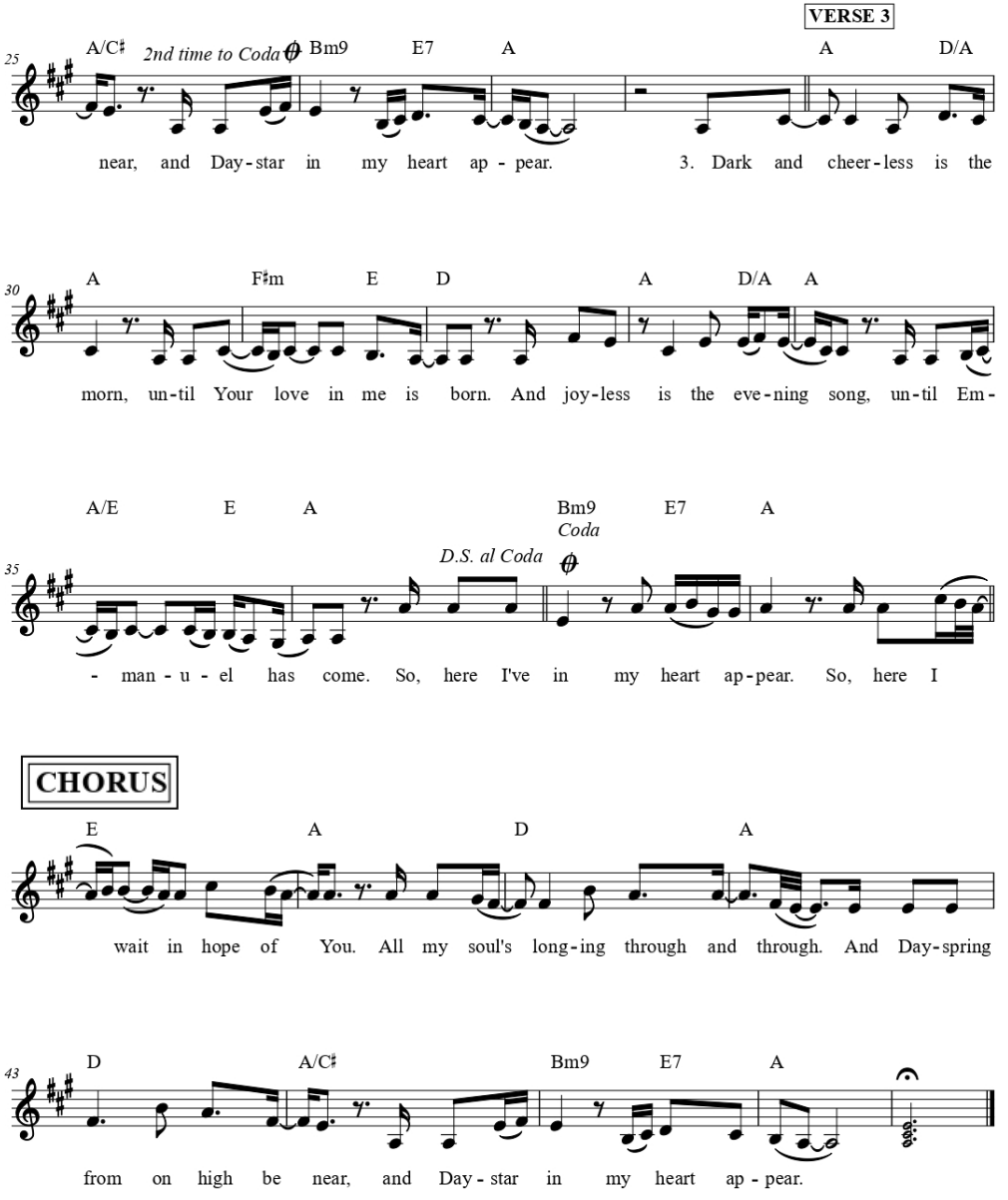
Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Advent Hymn

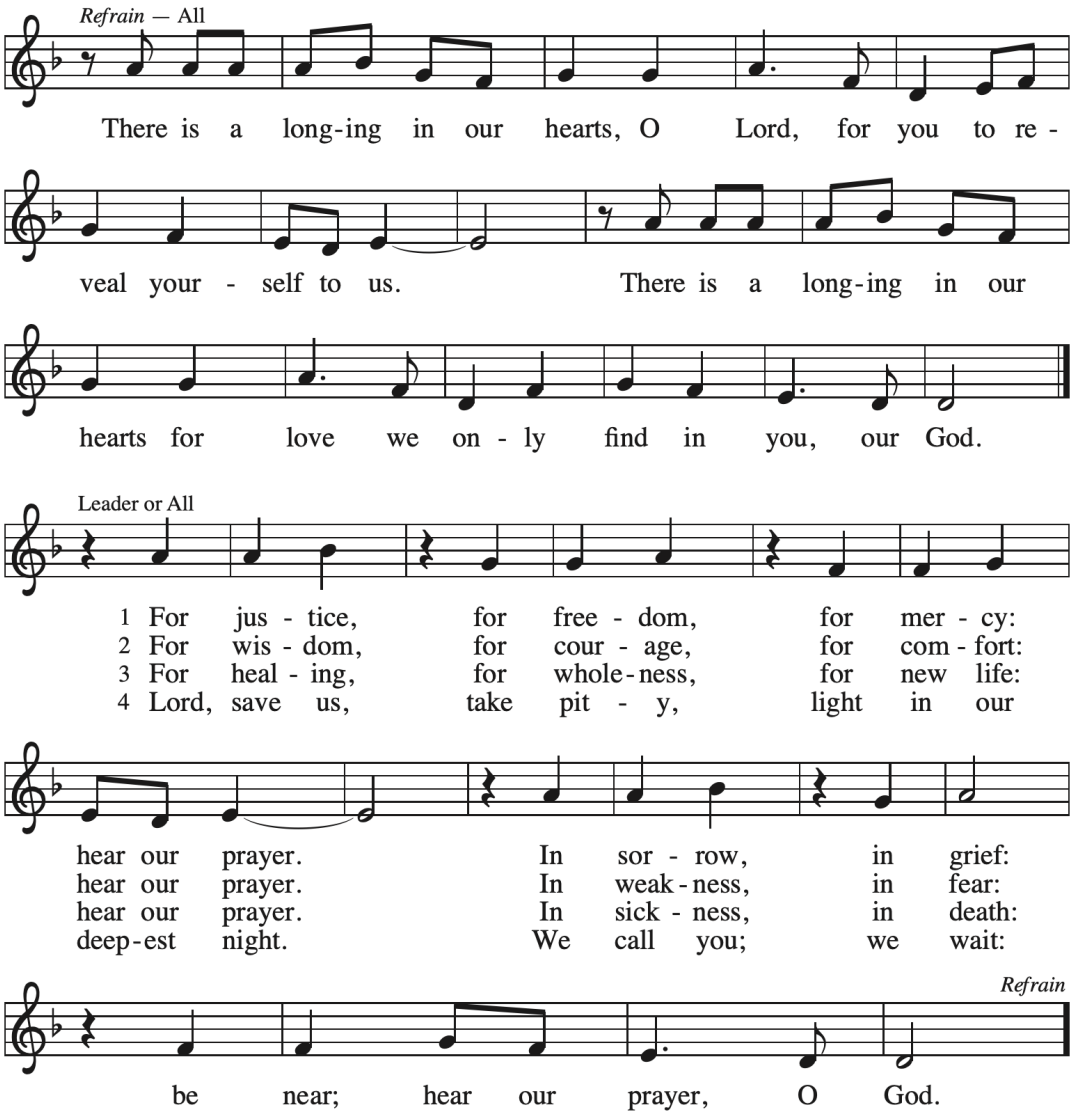


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VERSE 3
25
A/C♯
2nd time to Coda
Bm9
E7
A
A
D/A
near, and Day-star in my heart ap - pear.
3. Dark and cheer-less is the
30
A
F♯m
E
D
A
D/A
A
morn, un-til Your love in me is born. And joy-less is the eve-ning song, un-til Em-
A/E
E
A
Bm9
E7
A
Coda
D.S. al Coda
35
- man - u - el has come. So, here I've in my heart ap-pear. So, here I
CHORUS
E
A
D
A
wait in hope of You. All my soul's long-ing through and through. And Day-spring
D
A/C♯
Bm9
E7
A
43
from on high be near, and Day - star in my heart ap - pear.

There is a Longing in Our Hearts



Text: Anne Quigley, b. 1955
Music: LONGING, Anne Quigley

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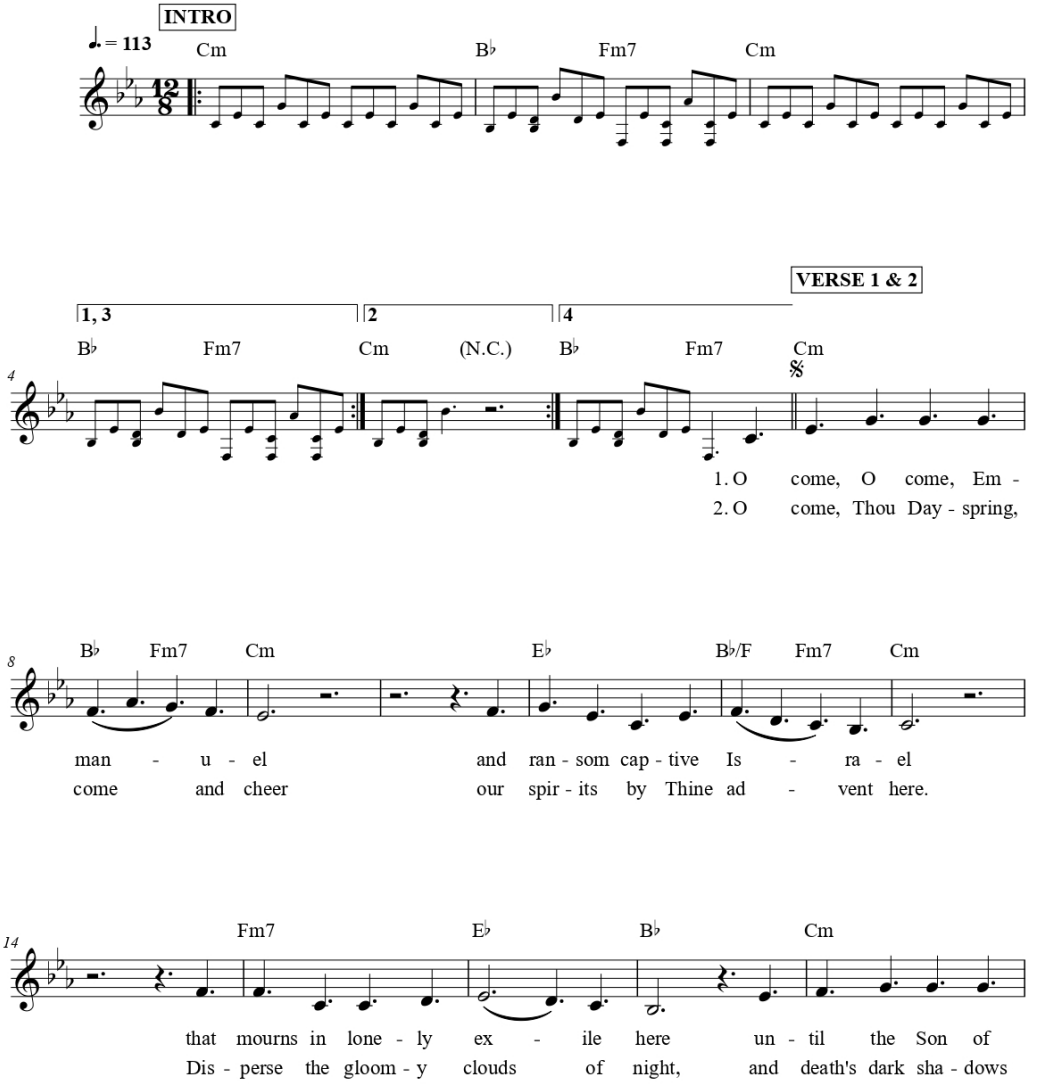
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

verse 1

Translated from Latin by
John Mason Neale
Melody: 15th century Franciscan hymn

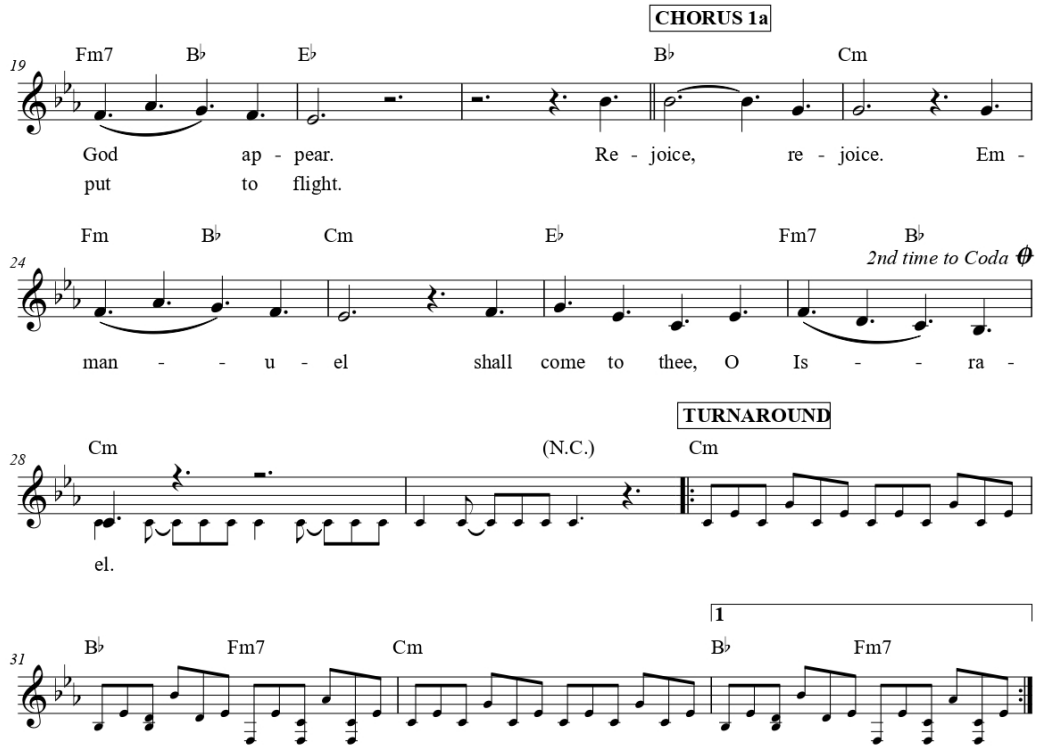
(based on the recording by for KING & COUNTRY)

Arranged by
Joel Smallbone, Luke Smallbone, Mark Campbell, Stephen Lynch, Stephen Blake Kanicka and Ben Backus



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PEACE

Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church
Growing a deeply connected family of faith
Whether by Blood or Baptism, we are family here. Let us share the peace of Christ with each other.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING ***He Came Down***
sing verse twice

He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope; hallelujah forever more.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

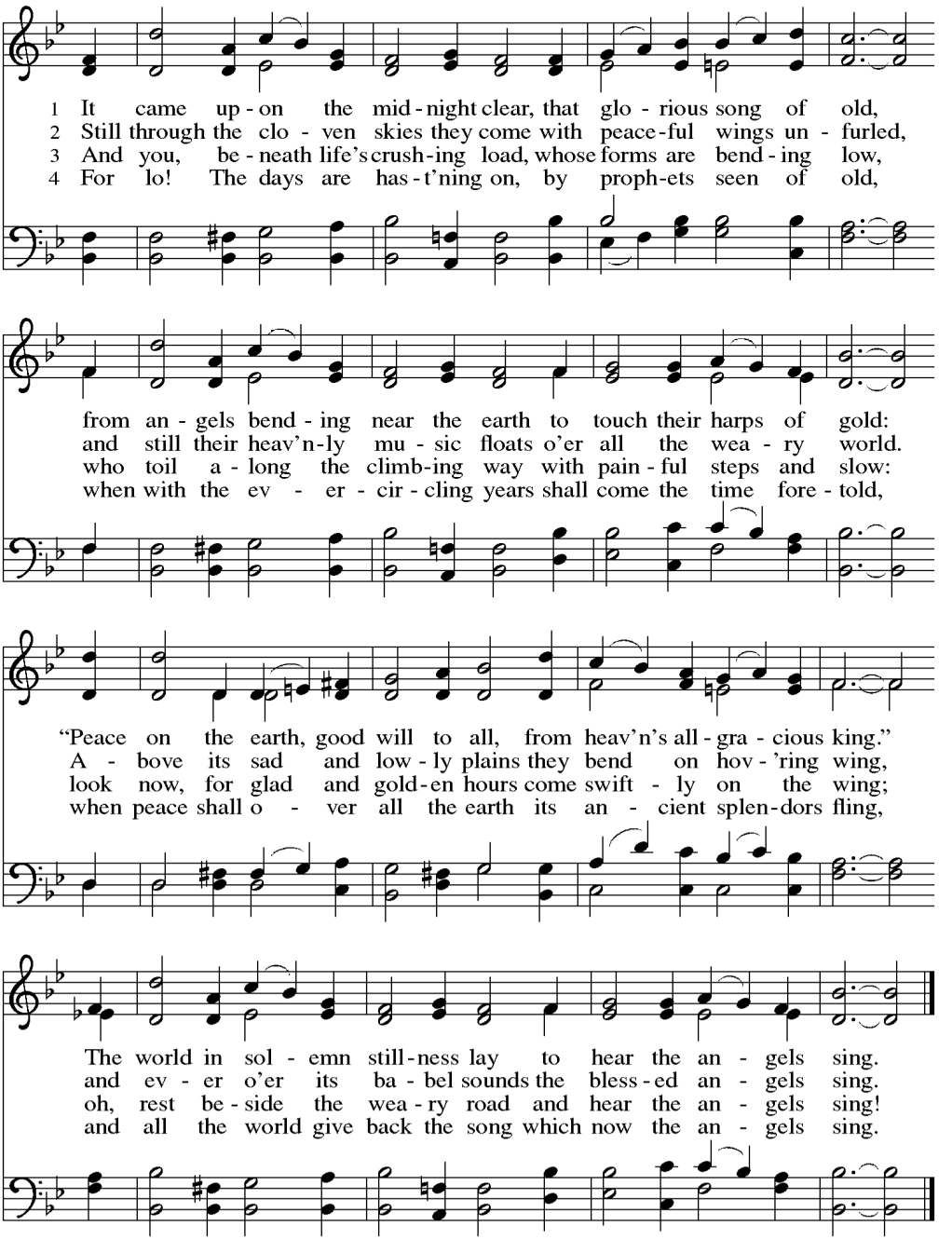
Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF PRAISE ***It Came Upon the Midnight Clear***

verse 3



Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

A READING **Isaiah 64:1-9**

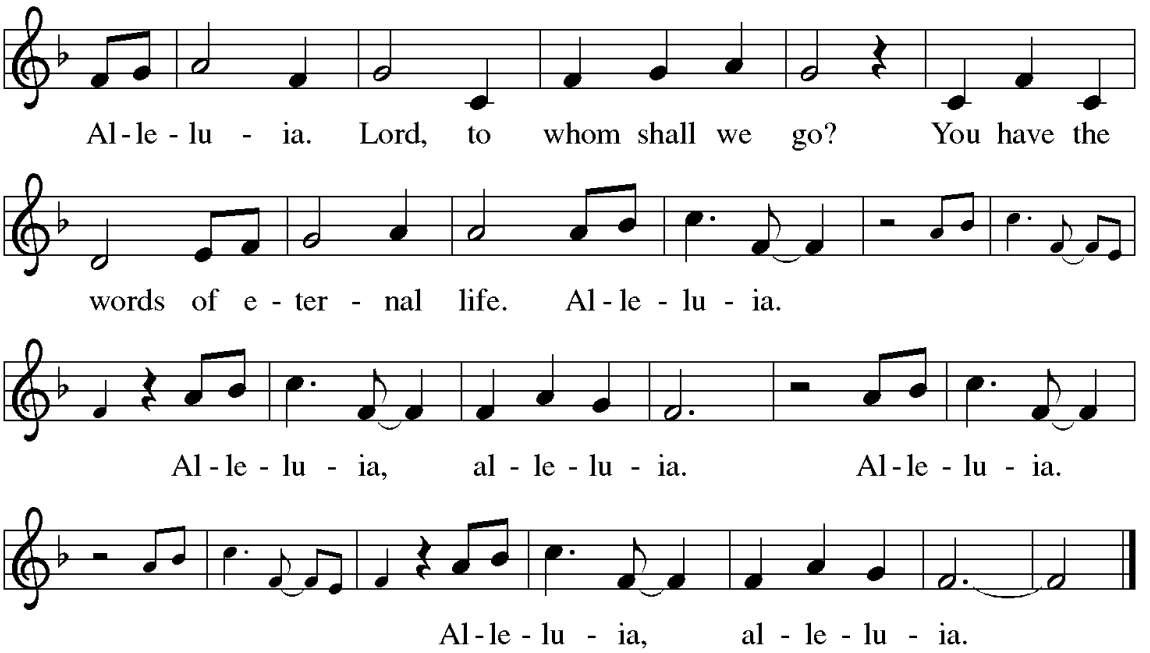
A reading from Isaiah.

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

[1] O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
[2] as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
[3] When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
[4] From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
[5] You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
[6] We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
[7] There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL **Mark 13:24-37**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

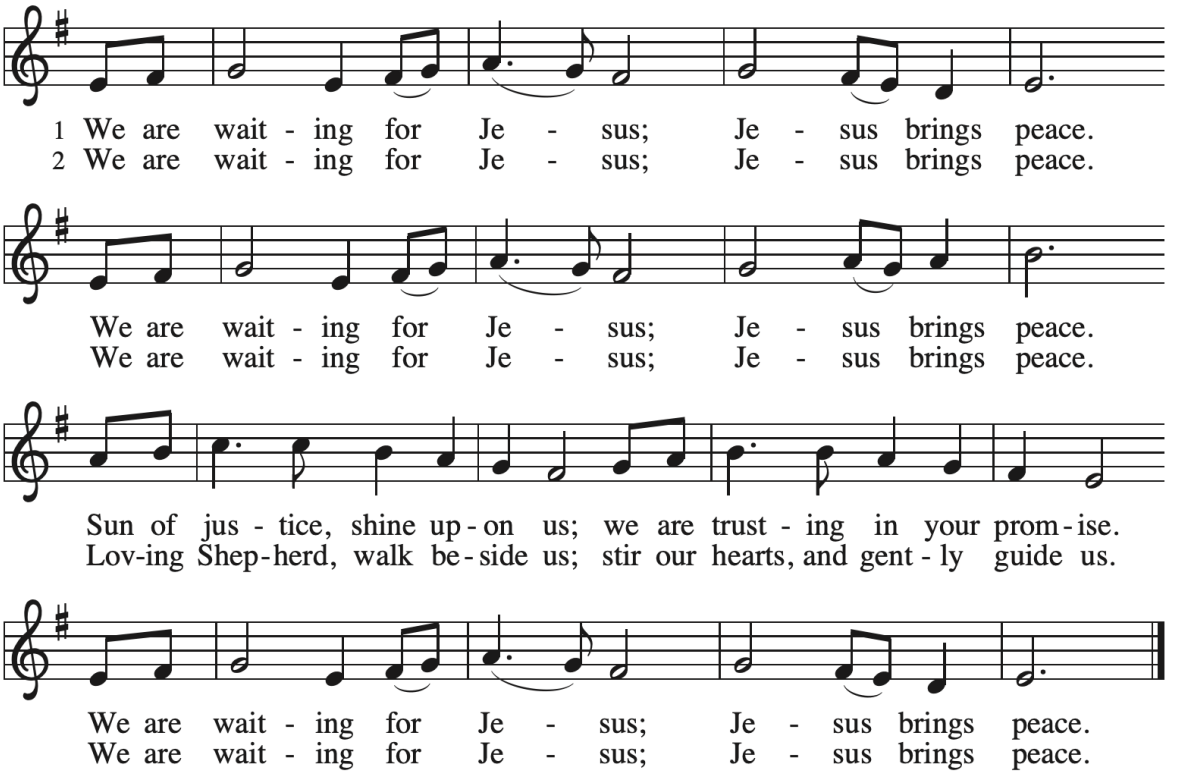
28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

[32] "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. [33] Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. [34] It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. [35] Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, [36] or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. [37] And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON **Pastor Pat Riddle**

ANTHEM *Come Jesus Come* ***Bentley, Fowler, S. McWhirter, and T. McWhirter***



Text: John Helgen, b. 1957
Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen
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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 *We Are Waiting for Jesus*

LORD'S PRAYER

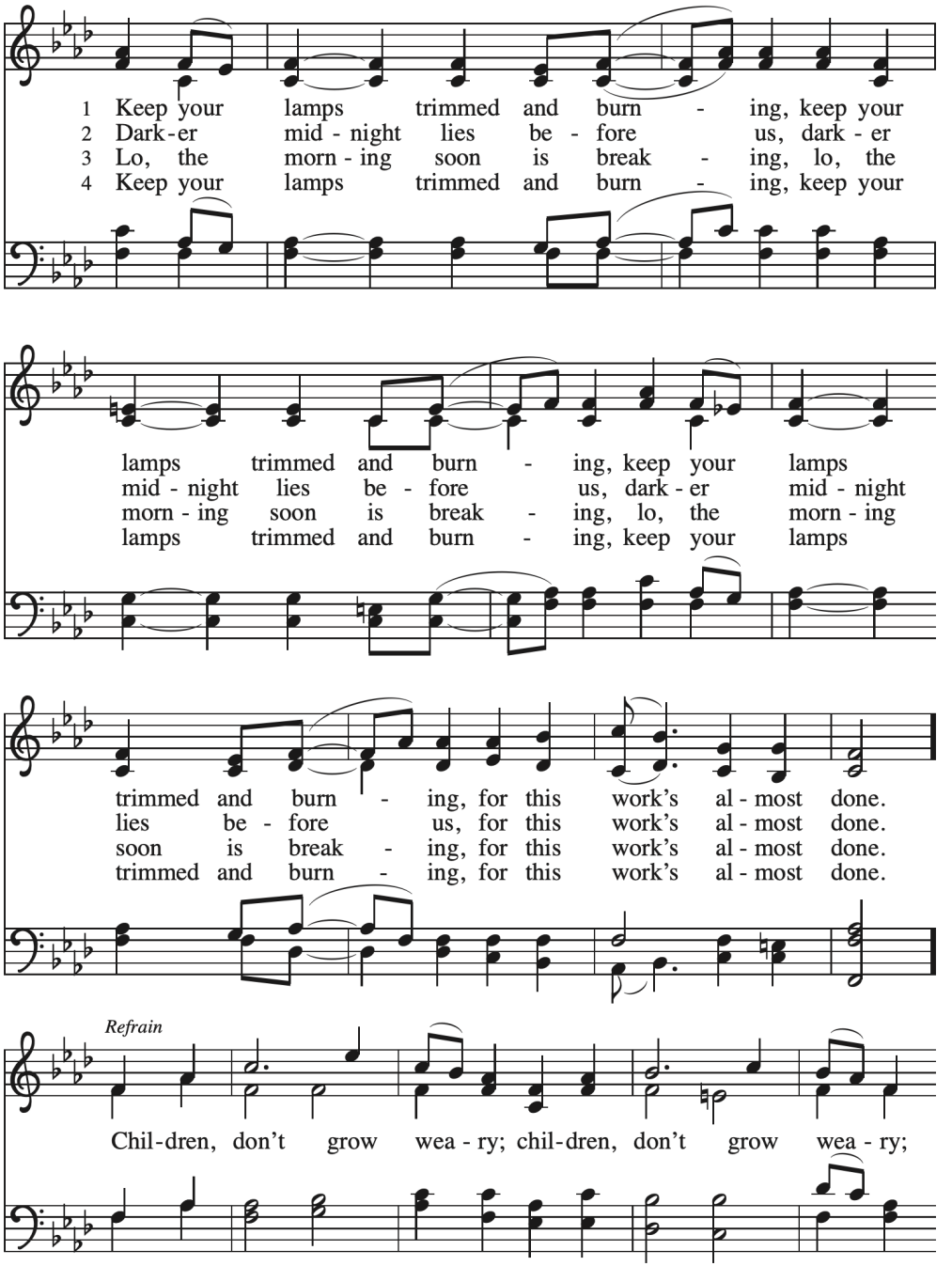
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

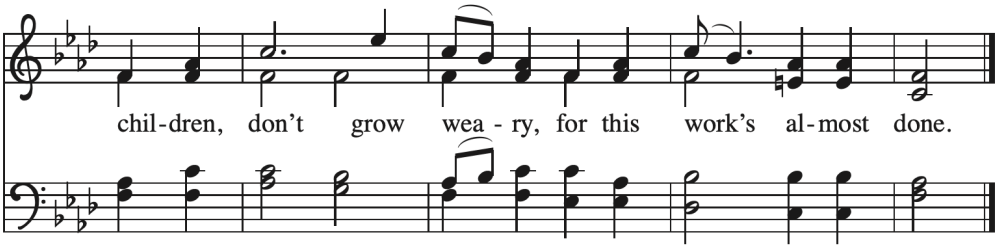
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the 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.**

SENDING HYMN *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*





Text: African American spiritual
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

ALIVE! Musicians

Gale McLeod, Co-Director	*Stephanie Liscusky*	*Ricky Lusk*
Irelou Moye, Co-Director	*David Moye*	*Ed Redmond*
Beth Branham	*Erin Hall*	*Sarah Smith*
Clark Ebener	*Vaughn Hall*	*Jessica Gibbons*
Lyndsey Ebener		*Julie Ann Payne (Sub)*

Worship Assistants

Lector ..... *Nancy Smith*
Greeter ..... *Grace Fuson*
Ushers ..... *Ed & Grace Fuson*
Acolyte ..... *KateLynn Parker*
Livestream coordinators ..... *Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr*

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The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Pastor Pat Riddle by the Ladies Aid. We are thankful for your faithful guidance and leadership as our interim pastor.

The Advent wreath is given by Harry and Cheryl Prim to the glory of God and in honor of Annie Ruth Addy, who celebrates her 91st birthday today.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3 Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
4 O Lord God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
17 Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
18 And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
19 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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: Karen Foley, Shawna Busbee, Acy Flora, IV, Gavin Carrion, Lynda Mason, Thomas Tuten.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Karen Carnes, Linda Price, James Campbell, Rue Jeffcoat, Jeanie Jacobs, Kim Pittman, Mary Davis, Michael Gayden, Dora Miller, Annie Ruth Addy, Ruth Goldsmith, Fred Vallejo, Amy Oliver

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Michael Bradshaw, Hoa O'Kelley, Sally Kleber, Paul Jacobs, Rachel Bundrick, Karen Holton, Sandra Baker, Paul & Carolyn Dufries, John Conrad, Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Alice Pollock, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Paul Addy, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Greg Geiger, Larry Cato, Justin Casteel, Irene Schreiber, Leonard Chapman, Derek Rickenbaker, Ed & Monica Emmer, Heather Topolski, Daryl Tarte, Paul Price, Andy Granger, Mary Oliver, Sherwood Williams, Don Ackerman, Paula Miller, Chet Popkowski, Linda Wright, 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, 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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Patrick W. Riddle, Interim Pastor *Rev. Dr. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation*

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music