

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

11:00 AM - November 29, 2026, First Sunday of Advent
Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion Setting 4

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* **Johann Sebastian Bach**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh Great God, we are gathered here, your people, seeking out your face and the peace that is found in your presence.

Let us dwell always in Your presence, and walk in Your peace.

When humanity opened the door to sin, we were plunged into darkness and despair. But You, Loving God have made peace with us and restored us to grace.

For Your infinite mercy and lovingkindness, we thank You.

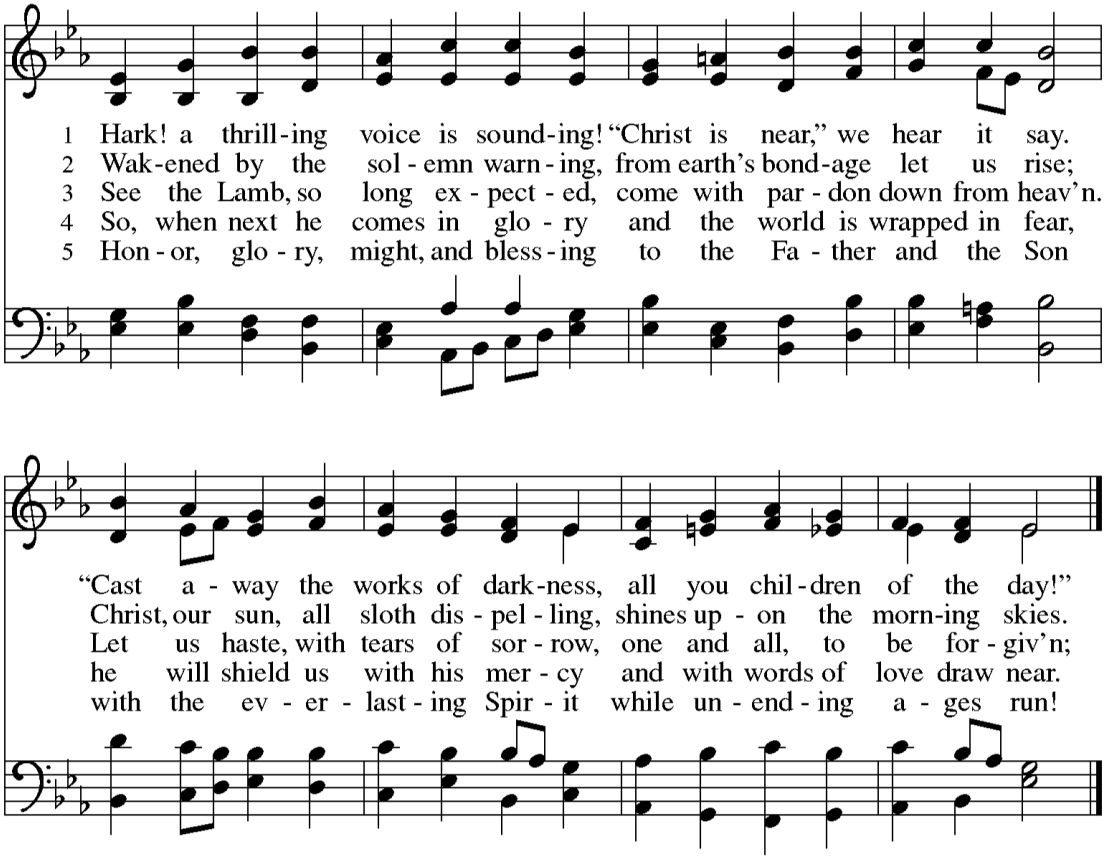
You sent your son Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, into the world as a human to save and heal Your children who were lost. The light of peace came into the world.

We who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!

We prepare our hearts now and acknowledge that Christ's work on the cross was the beginning of Your kingdom here on earth. Your kingdom is a peaceable kingdom, where lion and lamb may lie down together, where there is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female. We are all one in the peace of Christ.

May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, and may we carry the light of peace wherever we go. Amen.

HYMN 246 *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!* **MERTON**



Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

GREETING **ELW p. 147**

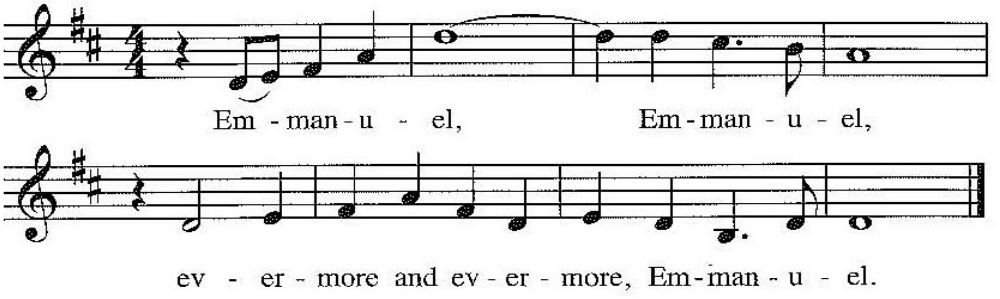
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

(Choir) Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he.

REFRAIN



RESPONSIVE LITANY

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in scripture.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

We wait for the one who will bring answers to a world filled with questions.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

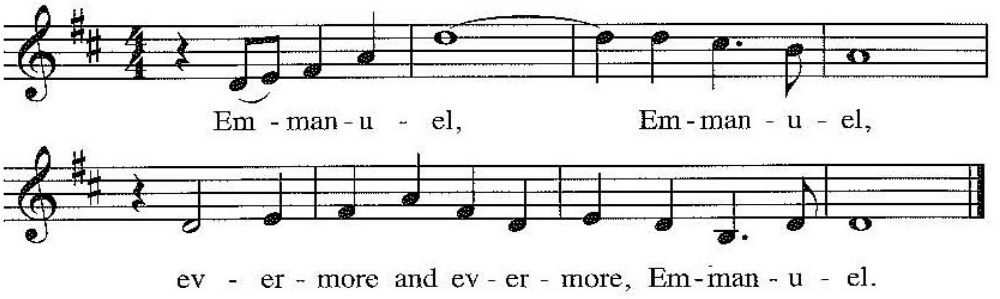
We wait for the one who can heal what has been wounded and mend what has been broken.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

We wait for the one who can renew our weary spirits and ignite our hearts with hope.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.

Today we light the first candle — the candle of hope — reminding us that Jesus was sent not only to be our Savior, but also to be our Wonderful Counselor; the one who hears our prayers with compassion, and who offers guidance when we seek it. As we begin the season of Advent, we remember that our rest can be found in God, and through the gift of God's son our hope is restored.

(Choir) Let the heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts his praises sing: powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.

REFRAIN



(Choir) Evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.

PRAYER OF THE DAY **ELW p. 150**

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

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

A reading from Isaiah.

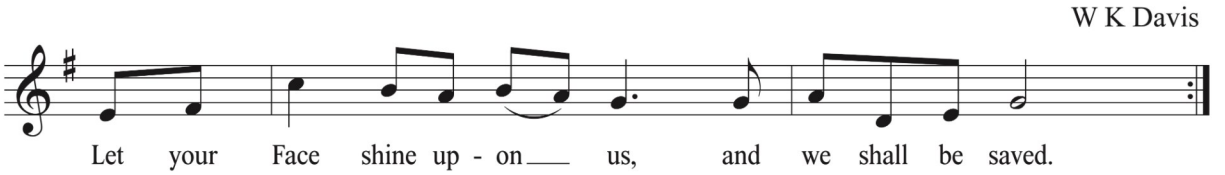
This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought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

[8] Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
[9] Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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. **R**
[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? **R**
[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. **R**
[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. **R**
[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. **R**

SECOND READING **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

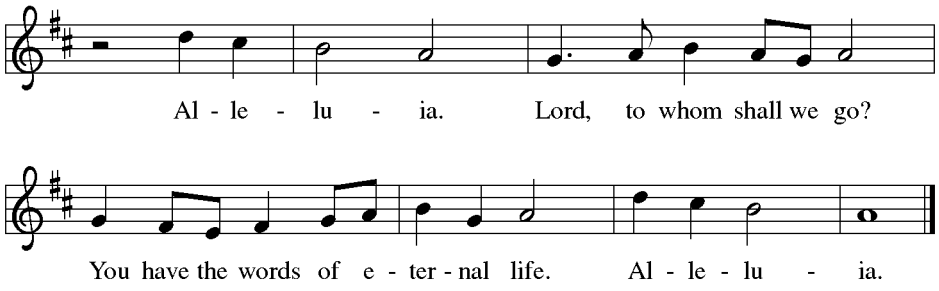
A reading from 1 Corinthians.

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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **ELW p. 151**



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.

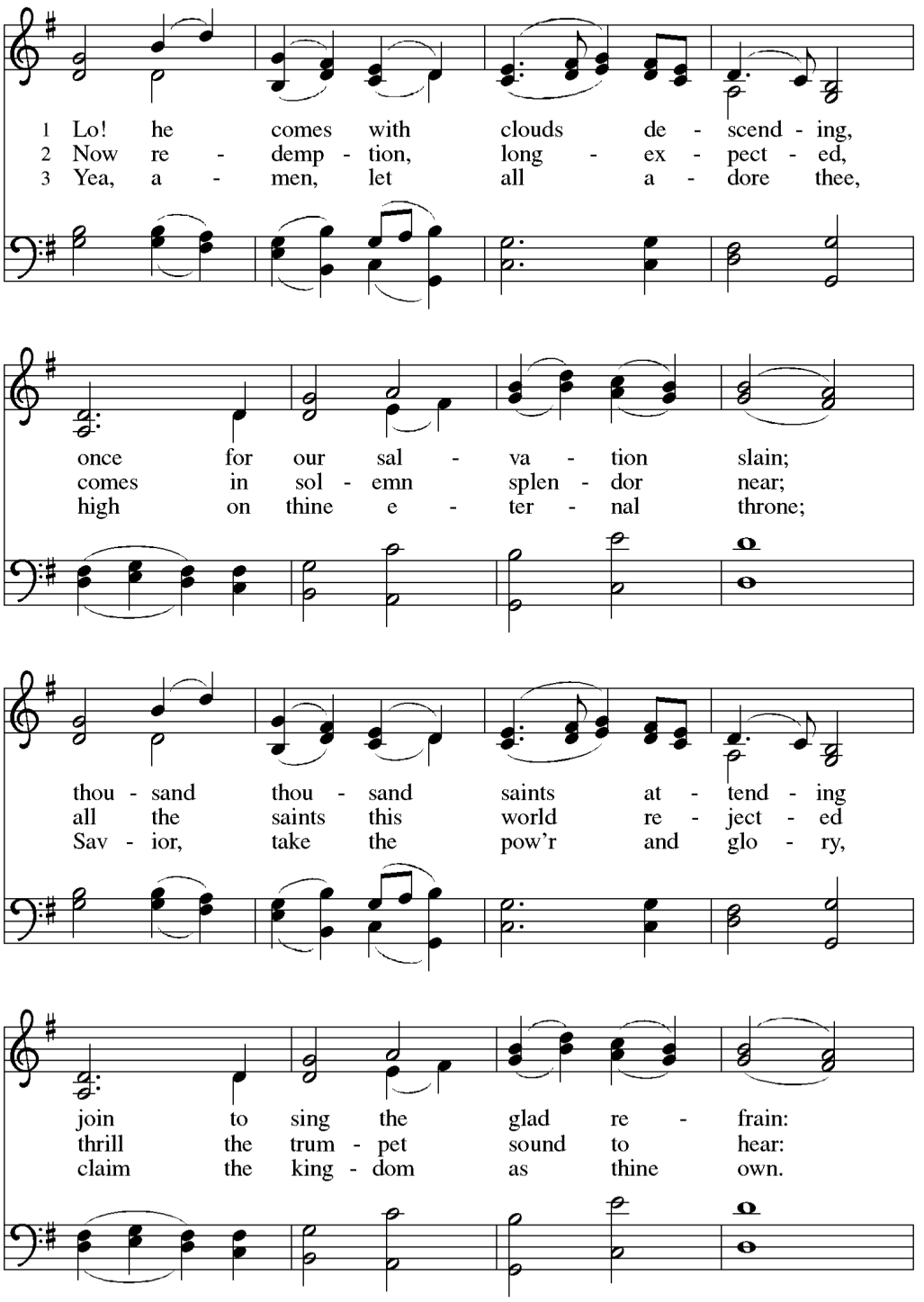
28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these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

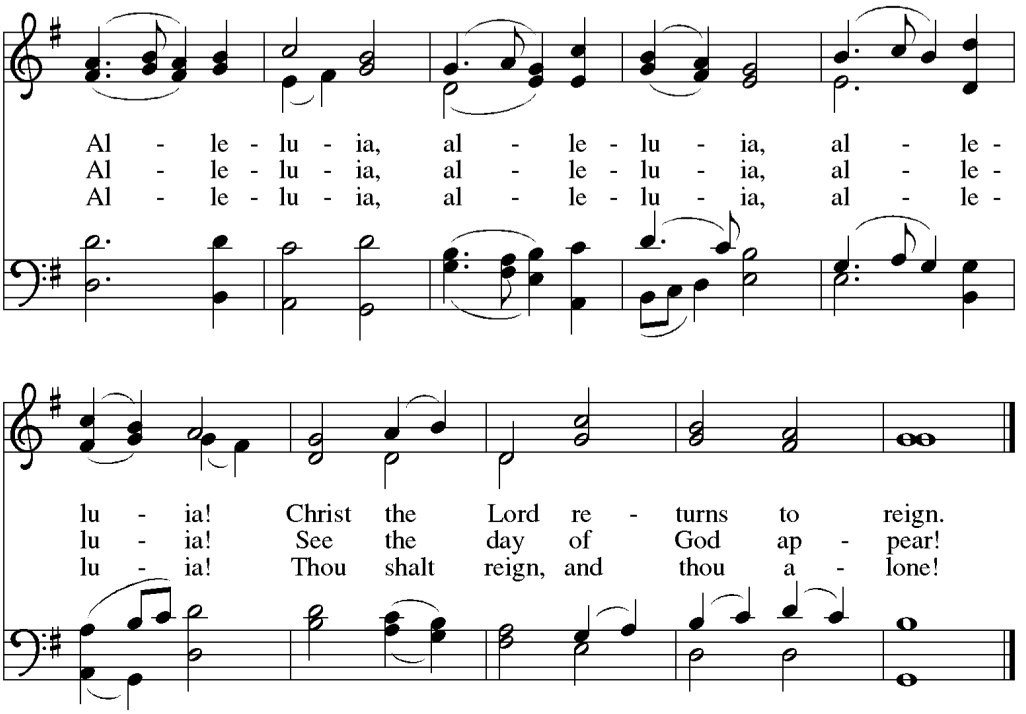
32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the 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**

HYMN 435 *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* **HELMSLEY**





Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

APOSTLES' CREED **ELW p. 152**

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

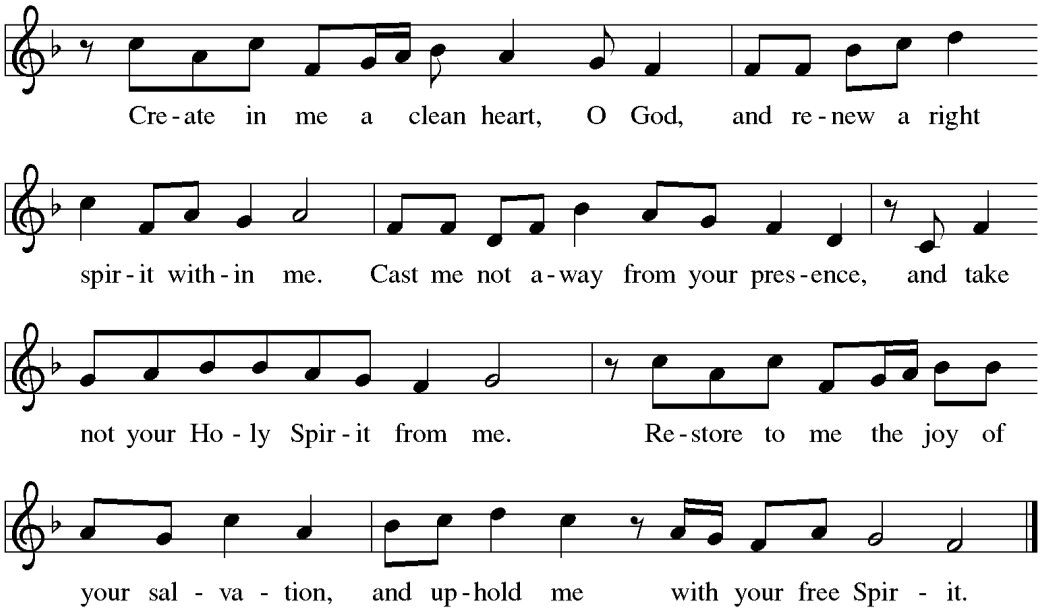
God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Advent Message* **Martin How**

OFFERTORY HYMN 186 *Create in Me a Clean Heart* **Richard W. Hillert**



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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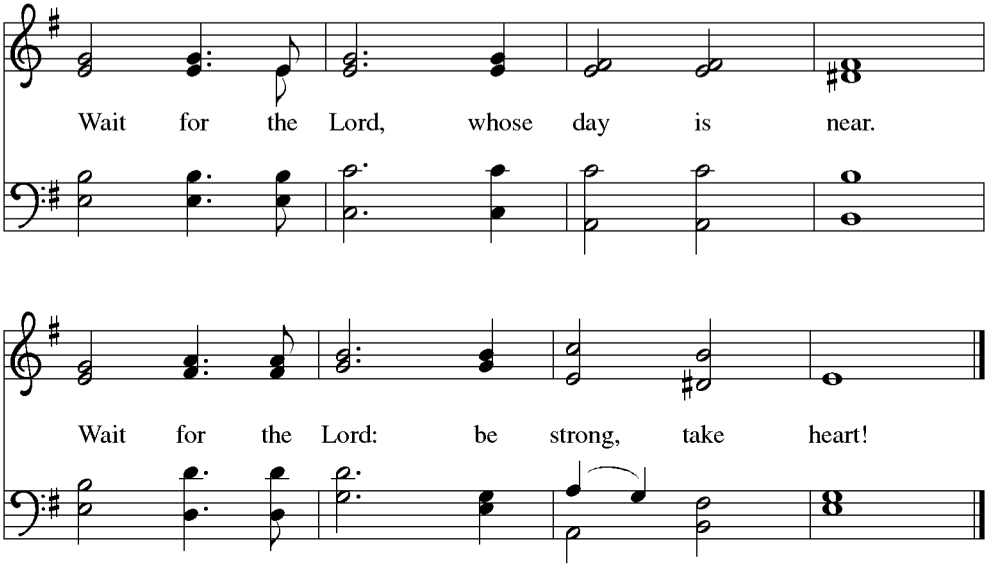
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN 262 *Wait for the Lord* **WAIT FOR THE LORD**



Text: Taizé Community
Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE **ELW p. 153**

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.

HYMN 262 *Wait for the Lord* **WAIT FOR THE LORD**

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.

HYMN 262 *Wait for the Lord* **WAIT FOR THE LORD**

LORD'S PRAYER **ELW p. 154**

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.

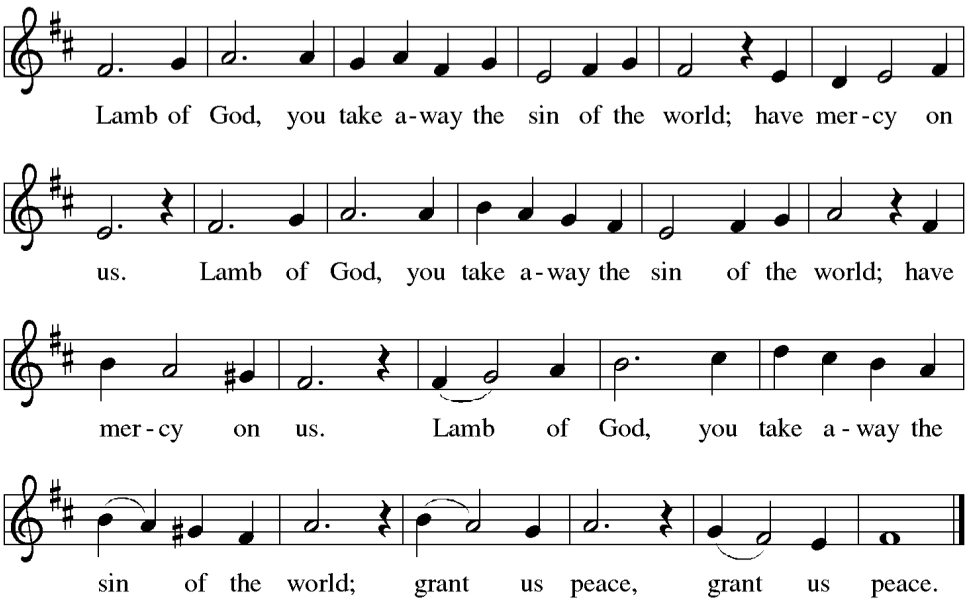
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

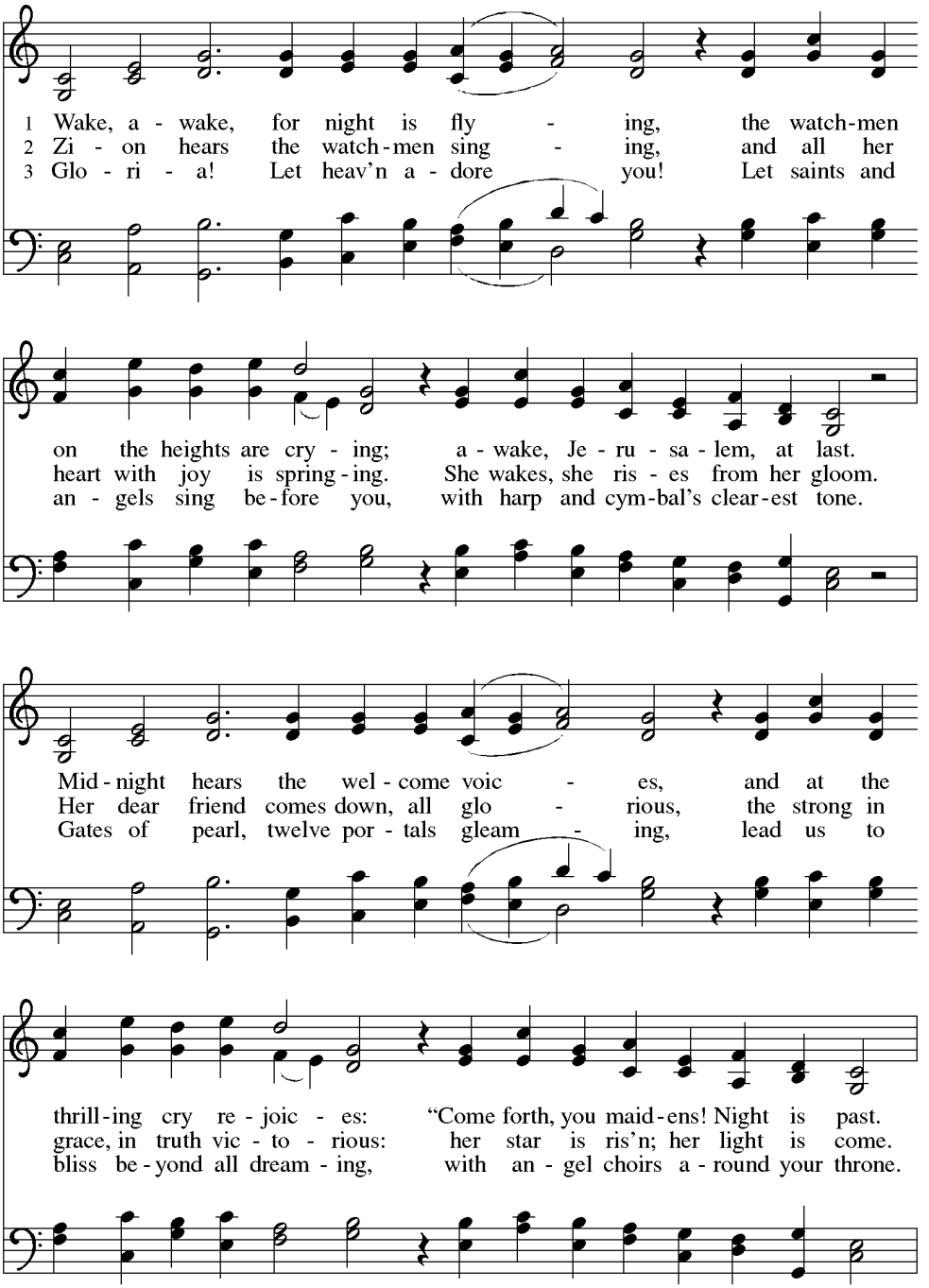
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

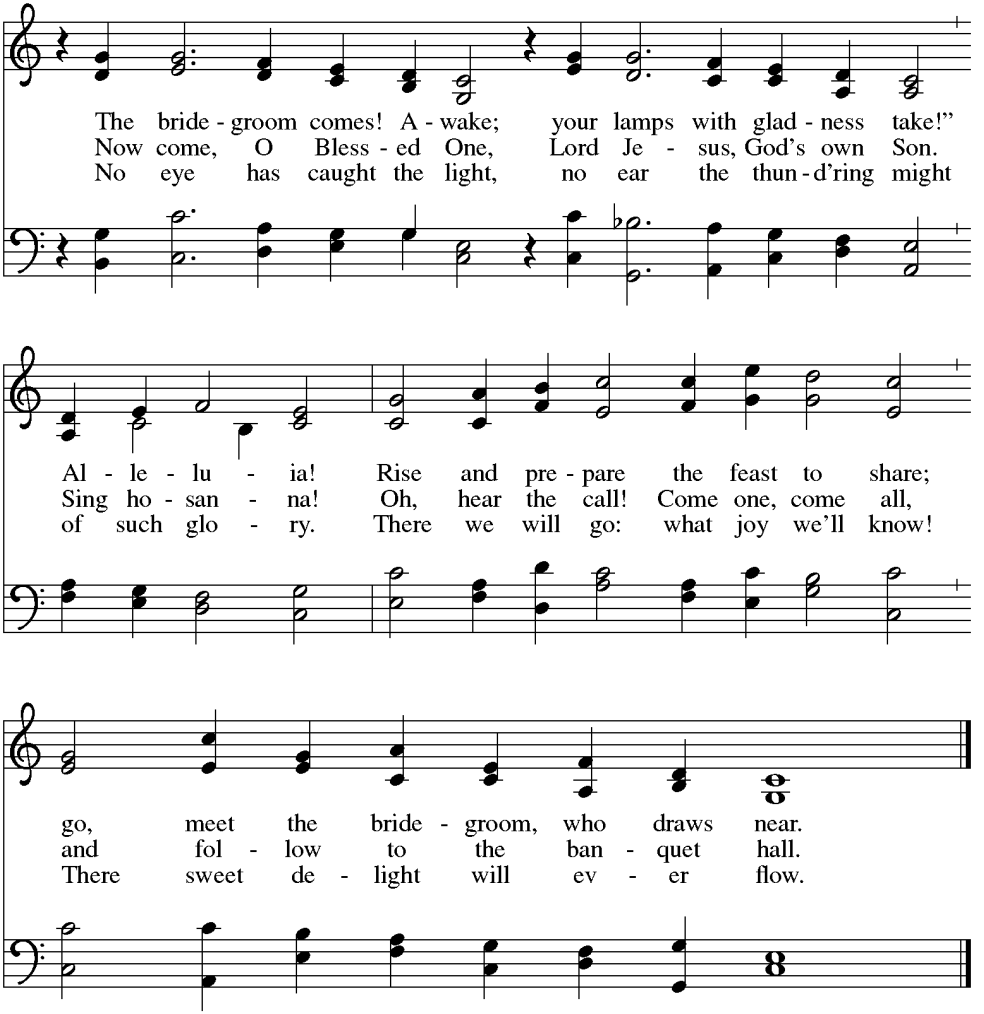
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God, for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI **ELW p. 154**




1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and
on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be-fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.
Mid-night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to
thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be-yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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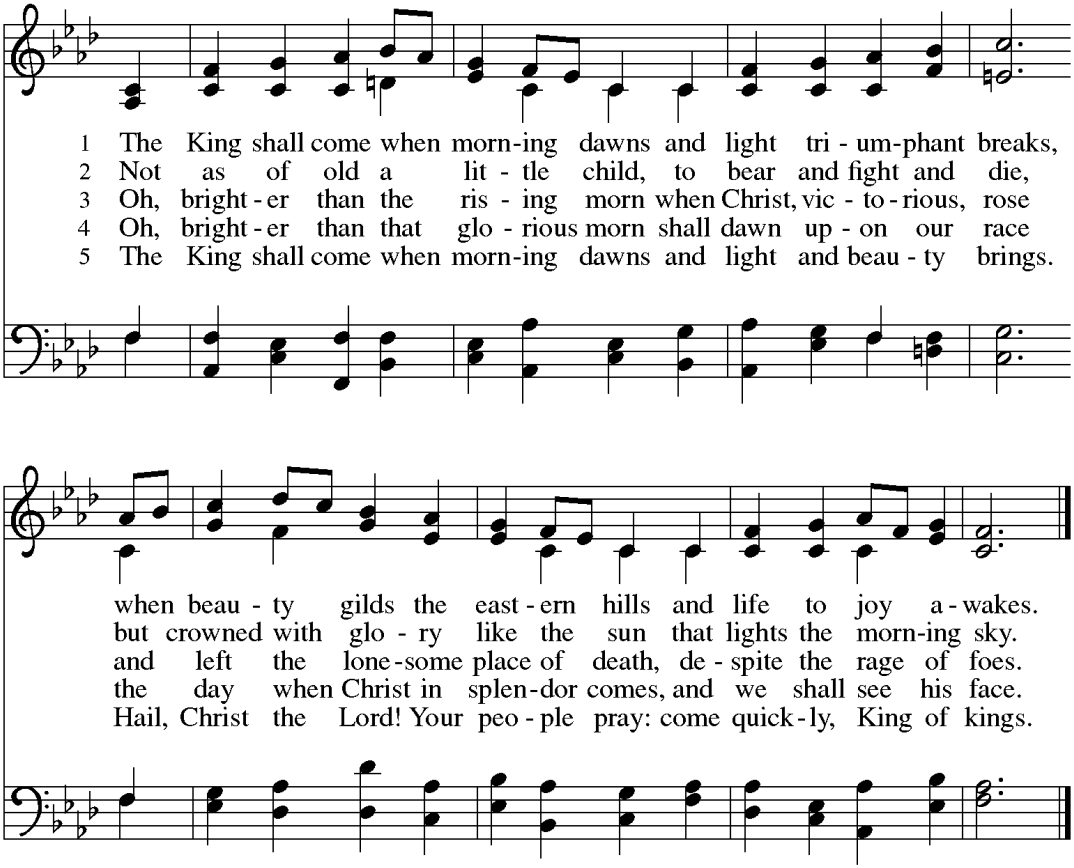
HYMN 260 *The King Shall Come* **CONSOLATION**



Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION **ELW p. 155**

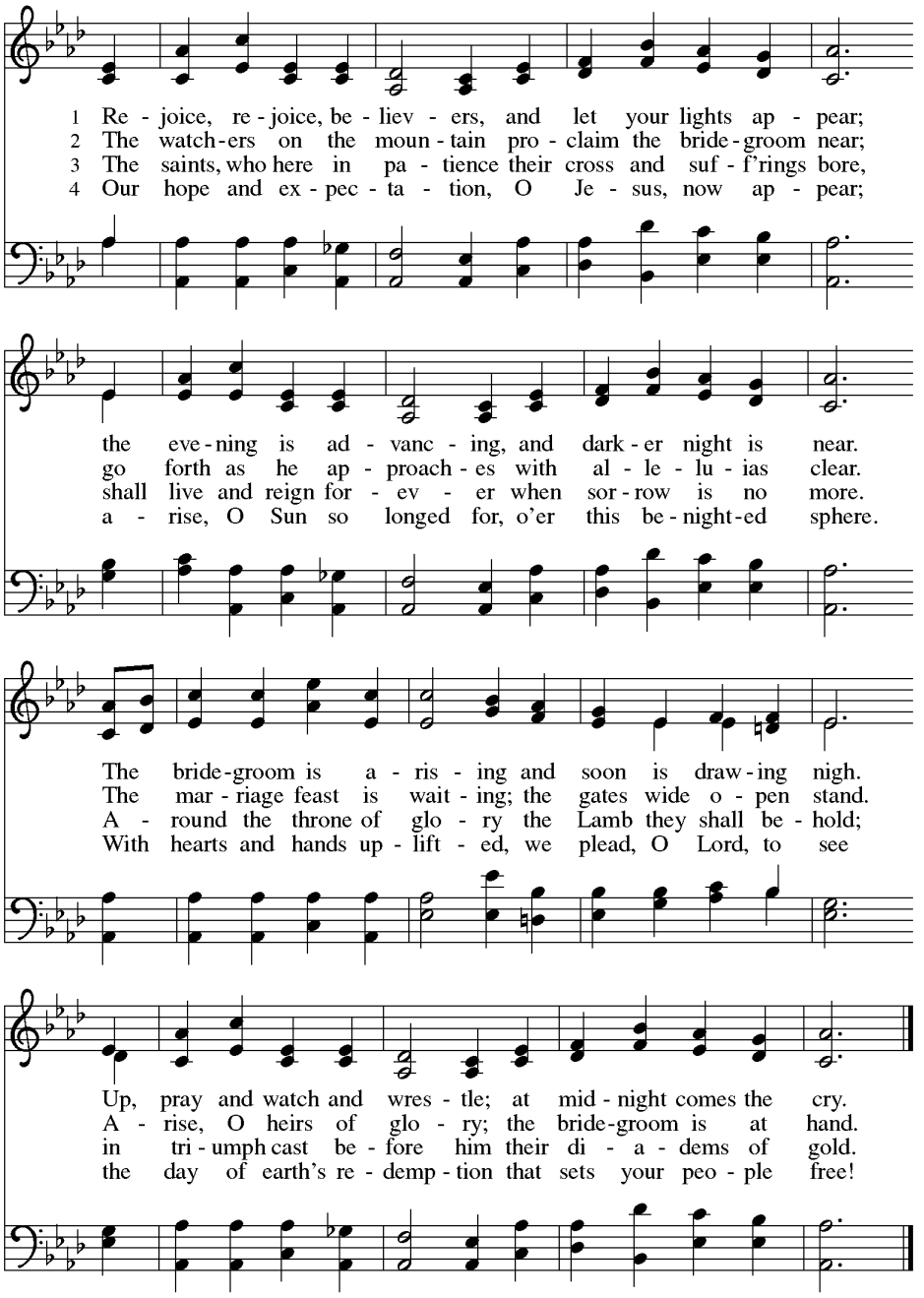
Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING **ELW p. 155**

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN 244 *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* **HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG**



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

DISMISSAL **ELW p. 155**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* **Simon Sechtor**

Worship Assistants

Lector ..... *Docia Jones*
Communion Assistants ..... *Docia Jones, Sarah Whitehead*
Greeter ..... *Janet Smith*
Ushers ..... *Joe Jones, John Belle Isle,*
..... *Jack Sox*
Acolyte ..... *Shepard Belle Isle*
Crucifer ..... *Volunteer needed*
Livestream Coordinators ..... *Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr*
Worship Coordinator ..... *Tom Smith*

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.

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Hope

WORD SEARCH

Find 55 words and phrases in any direction. Ignore spaces.

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

Abound
Always
Answer
Believed
Blessed
Boldness
Built
Christ
Comfort
Confession
Covenant
Creation
Defence
Encouragement
Eschatology
Eternal
Expectation
Fellowship
Fixed
Forever
Freedom
Fulfilled
Future
Gentiles
Glory
Grace
Heaven
Helmet
Jesus
Just
Justified
Liberation
Mystery
New Life
Not Abandoned
Not Disappoint
Perseverance
Plans
Portion
Presence
Promise
Purifies
Purpose
Reconciled
Redemption
Rejoicing
Relationship
Restored
Resurrection
Revelation
Saved
Silence
Steadfast
Strong
Unchangeable

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, Jeanie Jacobs, Rue Jeffcoat, 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