

**MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

**February 2, 2020**

## **Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church**

1000 B Avenue, West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

Phone: (803)796-5948

Fax: (803)794-4089

www.mttaborlutheran.org

**Welcome to Mt. Tabor.** *We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! Please fill out and return the 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!*

**Mt. Tabor's Nursery.** *A nursery is provided during both worship services for children of suggested ages infant to four years old. However, we encourage all children to remain in worship as it is in worship that they learn the faith of the church. In an effort to ensure a safe haven for our children, parents are responsible for signing their child in and out of the nursery as stated in our Risk and Abuse Policy.*

**New Mother's Suite.** *Nursing mothers are invited to take advantage of the private space in our Mother's Suite in room 116 of the nursery wing.*

**Child Protection Policy.** *Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church is committed to being a safe place for children and youth. Our congregation has enacted policies and procedures designed to minimize the risk of abuse. Copies of our Child Protection Policy are available in the narthex and in the Church Office.*

**Children's Activity Bags.** *Children's activity bags are available in the Narthex and can be found hanging under the picture board. These bags contain coloring sheets, activity sheets and crayons for the children to use during the service as well as an information sheet for reminders about the bag. At the end of the service, the child can take home the sheets used and return the bag to the narthex so it is available for the next service. Our hope is that this children's ministry will be another way for our children to enjoy worship with their families.*

**Communion.** *Normally, communion is celebrated with wine and bread; however, those with allergies may choose to receive communion in one kind—either bread or wine. Either is an acceptable practice. Grape juice is also available.*

**Altar Flowers.** *The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by the Ladies Aid in honor of their at-home members: Evelyn Furtick, Mary Hamson, Janice Livingston, Helen Summers, Penny Timmerman, and Betty Wise.*

**Bulletin Covers.** *The bulletin covers are given to the glory of God by Rachel Bundrick in loving memory of her mother, Olive Bundrick, whose birthday would be February 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

### **Worship Leaders**

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mrs. Sandra Lindler, Interim Organist

Mrs. Elise Helms, Interim Choir Director

Rev. Emily Willhide, Pastor of Faith Formation

Vicar Justin Marx, Intern

Ms. Lorie Gladyness, Seminarian

## Fourth Sunday After Epiphany ELW Setting Four—Holy Communion

### INTRODUCTION

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”*

Michael Burkhardt

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the eternal voice from heaven, the anointed and beloved one, the Spirit moving over the waters. **Amen.**

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession, trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

**God who searches us and knows us, you have shown us what is good, but we have looked to other lights to find our way. We have not been just in our dealings with others. We have chosen revenge over mercy. We have promoted ourselves instead of walking humbly with you. With what shall we come before you? Forgive us our sin, and show us your salvation in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved of God, you have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. Receive the promise of baptism: You are God’s child; † your sins are forgiven. Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven. **Amen.**

#### GATHERING SONG

*“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”*

**Hymn 719**

### 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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

p. 147

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

p. 148

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

#### **FIRST READING**

**Micah 6:1-8**

*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.*

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. <sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. <sup>3</sup>"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! <sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. <sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." <sup>6</sup>"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? <sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands

of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" <sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

## Psalm 15

*LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)*

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,  
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.  
Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

## SECOND READING

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. <sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

p. 151

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 5:1-12**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: <sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. <sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Wade Roof

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“We Are Called”*

**Hymn 720**

**CREED**

**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**

...Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### ANTHEM

*“Blest Are They”*

Haas

### OFFERTORY HYMN *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

**Hymn 885**

### OFFERING PRAYER

God of wonder, you formed us in our mother’s womb, and from mother earth you bring forth this bread and wine. We place them on your table, together with our lives and all that you have made. Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit. We wait for your mercy; we long for your peace; we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ, our banquet of life. **Amen.**

### DIALOGUE

**p. 152**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

**p. 153**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**p. 153**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow’r and might: Heav’n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

**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. 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 to the banquet, for all is now ready.

**COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

**COMMUNION SONG**

p. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**HYMNS DURING COMMUNION**

*“Bread of Life from Heaven”* Hymn 474  
*“Where Charity and Love Prevail”* Hymn 359  
*“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”* Hymn 676

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Faithful God, you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God, and the source of our life together, keep you united in mind and purpose. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you always. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

*“Rejoice in God’s Saints”*

Hymn 418

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Let your light shine.  
Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

*“Rise Up, O Saints of God”*

Jacob B. Weber



**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: Beth Branham, Kellie Kleber, Steve Rabon, Brian Sox, Natalee Stover, Olivia Witherell, Laurie Young.*

**This Week's Prayer Concerns:**

Jimmy Williams, Natalie Cook, Dottie Ford, Rachel Bundrick, Todd Smith.

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Clara Conrad, Pete Davis, Mary Hamson, Jensen Redmond, Sadie Howard, Jennifer Brazell, Terry Tucker, Betty Wise, Hazel Rauch, Penny Timmerman, Matthew Hook, Elise Harmon, Ann Callison, Adele Rodgers, Faye Smith, Lisa Long.

**Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:**

Pastor Ginny Aebischer, Gail Kneece, Tom Mosteller, Ronnie Boland, Carolyn Sox, Rev. Michael Henderson, Mike Rish, Katie Dutton, Murray Hoskins, Bob Spruill, Henry & Margot Gainey, Jenelle Martin, Tina Scott Frye, Gregg Avedisian, Vladimir Puzdrjakov, Jonathan Anderson, Tommy Roof, Vivian Gwin, Ed Rybicki, Isabelle Sundlie, Bill Hunnicutt.

**Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:**

Andrew Hamson, Samuel Davis, Mike Willhide, Scott Hash, John Post, Dallas Phillips.

**Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:**

Tom Bryant, 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, Bernd Koehler, John Ward.

**The Family Of:**

Harriet Wingard, Brad Barrett, Johnny Miles, Tom Cooperider, Edith Shealy, Peggy Bundrick, Kenneth Cook.

*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.*

<b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<i><b>Worship Assistants</b></i>	<b>11:00 A.M.</b>
Leah Conrad	<i>Acolytes</i>	Alexis Spainhour
	<i>Crucifers</i>	Pete Davis
Docia Jones	<i>Lectors</i>	Nancy Stone-Collum
Renee Shealy	<i>Greeters</i>	Susan Stilwell
Miley Rhodes		
Grace Fuson		
Freddie Fulmer	<i>Ushers</i>	Rick Myers
Gerald Shealy		Mona Myers
Joe Jones		Foster McLeod
Ed Fuson		
Docia Jones	<i>Communion Assistants</i>	Irina Roof
Betsy Sippel	<i>Nursery Assistants</i>	Tommy & Janet Smith
Morning Hymn Choir	<i>Musicians</i>	Adult Choir

<i><b>Budget Information</b></i>	
<b>OFFERINGS: Budgeted for 2019</b>	713,981.00
I. Weekly Offering needed weekly to meet Budget	13,730.40
Offering Received for January 26	5,985.54
II. 2019 Budget Giving (January 26 - week 4 of 52)	
Offering Needed for Budget	54,921.60
Offering Received	42,060.10
YTD Expense	44,945.97
<b>Capital Campaign Total</b>	325,625.09
Memorials/Donations/Pledges/Transfers/Interest	202.00
Capital Campaign Balance as of January 26	325,827.09
<b>First Citizens Loan Balance</b> as of January 13, 2020 @ 4%	4,114.25

## **Sunday School 2019 - 2020**

Superintendent - Linda Spainhour & Sarah Whitehead

Secretary/Treasurer - Jeanie & Paul Jacobs

Nursery Pianist - Janice West

### **Nursery - Room 107**

Nancy Allen

Dottie Ford

### **Room 124 Disciples - Room 109**

Joe Vasquez

### **1, 2 & 3 Year Olds - Room 117**

Barbara Livingston

Tina Conrad

Rhonda White

Mindy Williams

**Curriculum - Deep Blue**

### **Augsburg - Room 101**

Charles Easley

Freddie Fulmer

Allen Wise

Jean Latimer, Sub

**Curriculum - Augsburg Adult Bible Studies**

### **4 & 5 Year Olds - Room 307**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Room 307**

Pam Berrian

Irina Roof

Barbara Stilwell

Betsy Sippel

**Curriculum - Deep Blue**

### **Middle and High School - Room 301**

Tommy Smith

Whitney Glass

Linda Spainhour

### **2nd, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Room 304**

Anna Scyphers

Jimmy Williams

Betsy Sippel

**Curriculum - Deep Blue**

### **New Seekers - Room 121**

Pam Burnett

Janet Wood, Sub

Carol Williams, Sub

Don Simmons, Sub

### **College and Careers - Church office**

Pastor Wade

Pastor Emily

### **Friends & Followers - Room 302**

Harry Prim

