



MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Growing a deeply connected family of faith

1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169

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www.mttaborlutheran.org

11:00 AM - December 1, 2024, First Sunday of Advent
Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion Setting 4

INTRODUCTION

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

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.




1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch-ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride-groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night-ed sphere.



The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

GREETING

ELW p. 138

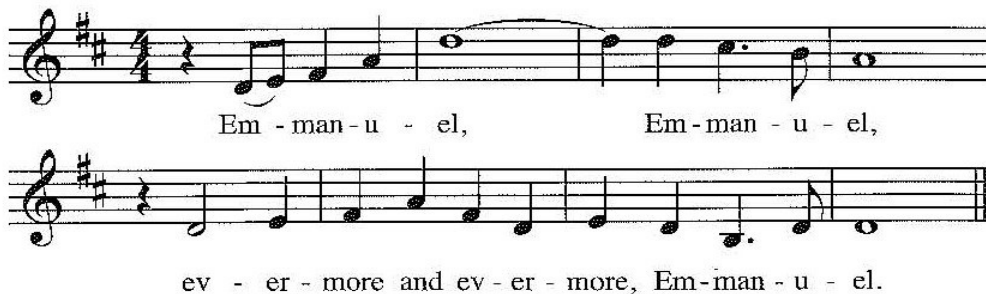
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: PRINCE OF PEACE

(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 Prince of Peace.

We wait for the one who can turn discord into perfect harmony.

And he will be called Prince of Peace.

We wait for the one who can replace hate with love, and anger with understanding.

And he will be called Prince of Peace.

We wait for the one who can replace division with unity, and war with peace.

And he will be called Prince of Peace.

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 alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from Jeremiah.

In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The LORD is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-10

WKDavis



- ¹ To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
- ² My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me. **R**
- ³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- ⁴ Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths. **R**
- ⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- ⁶ Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting. **R**
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- ⁸ You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way. **R**
- ⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.
- ¹⁰ All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

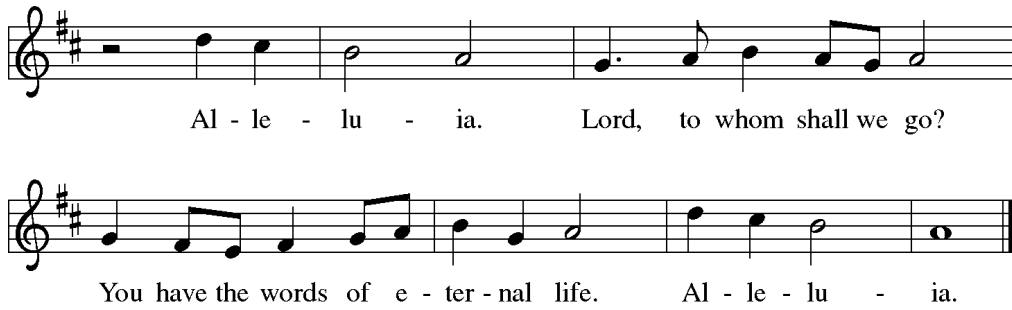
Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL****Luke 21:25-36**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.**SERMON****Pastor Wade Roof**

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim. shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course and the flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and the moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANCON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

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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

**Lord, in your mercy,
Receive our prayer.**

PEACE

ELW p. 152

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Creator of the Stars of Night

Nancy M. Raabe



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

ELW p. 152

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW 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.

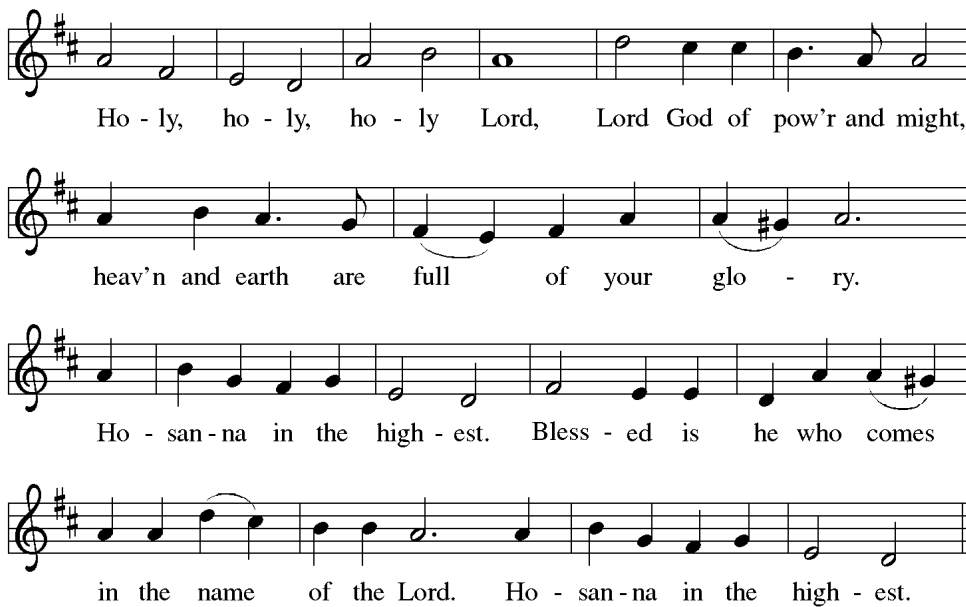
PREFACE

ELW 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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

ELW p. 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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

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





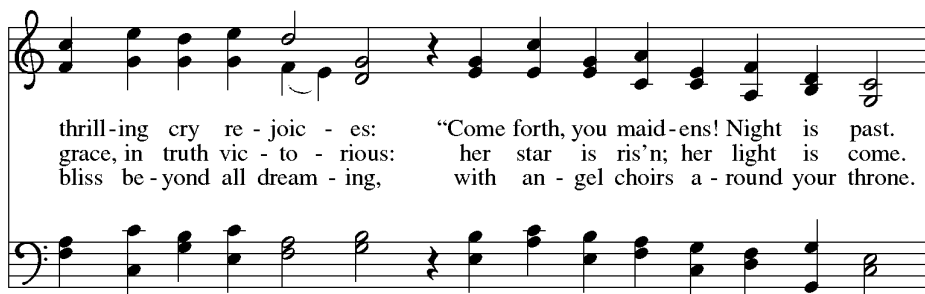
1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



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.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

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

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1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?
 2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.
 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
 4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,

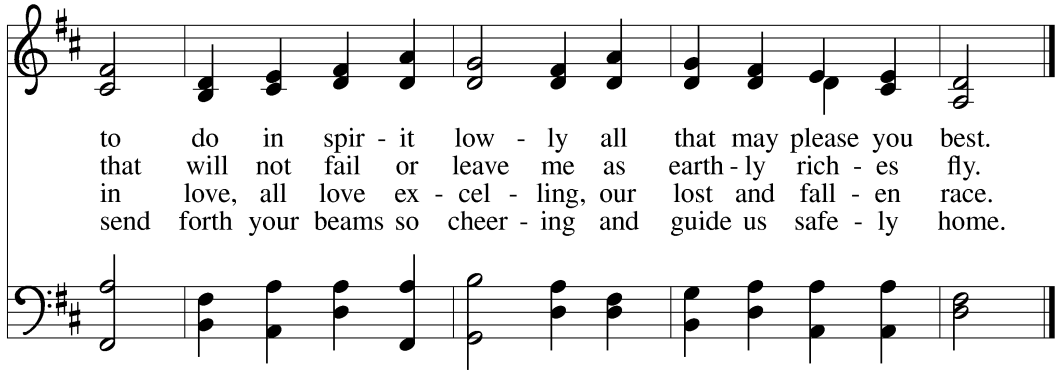


Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
 who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.



Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast
 A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,





Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite
Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ELW p. 155

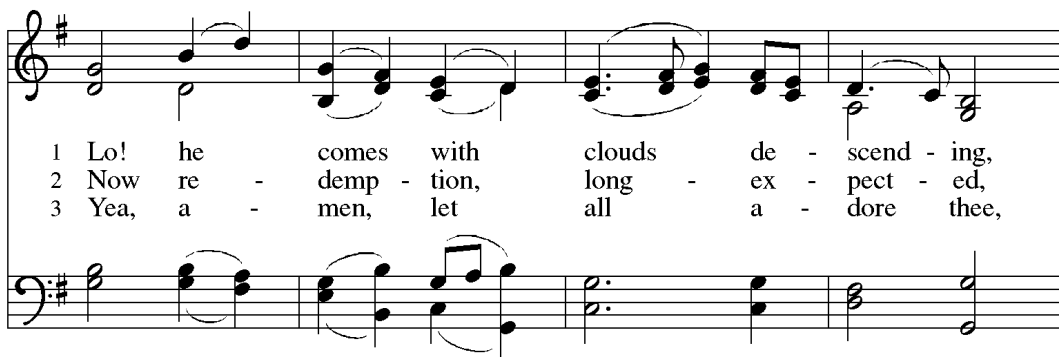
Let us pray.

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

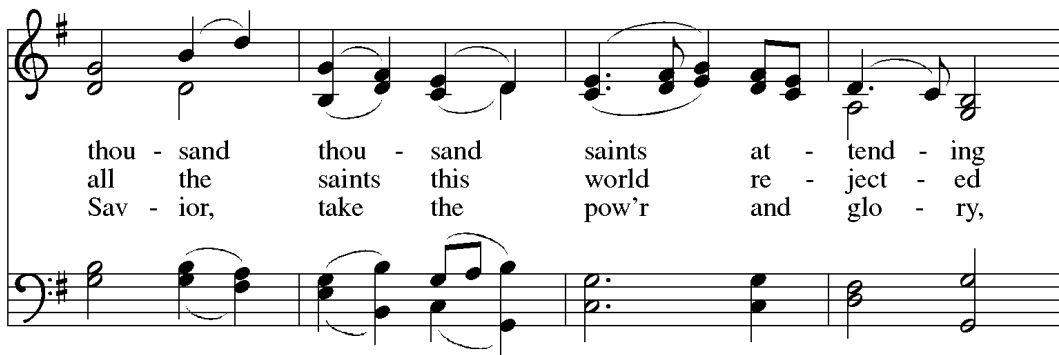
God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ☩ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once for our sal - va - tion slain;
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

join to sing the glad re - frain:
thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:
claim the king - dom as thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

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

DISMISSAL

ELW p. 155

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme

Simon Sechter

Worship Assistants

Lector *Kendrick Kerr*
Communion assistants *Christie Cook, Annie Ruth Addy*
Greeter *Patsy Gambrell*
Ushers *Hampton Miller, Dennis Shealy*
..... *Mike Cook*



Today's altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in
honor of Docia Jones' birthday on December 19th
by Allison and Jeff King, Adam and Brooke Jones and Joe Jones.

Today's bulletin covers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of the
marriage of Stephen Smith Hamilton, IV and Kendall Greene
on November 23, 2024 by Steve and Beverly Hamilton.

The Advent Wreath is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Linda Vallejo and David Epting by Sharon Mattern.



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Christmas Word Search Puzzle

Courtesy of Christmas-Projects.com



TYULETIDEMCHRISTMASLIGHTSPACBNG
NSLIHAOAHVHSNBGESNOWFLAKEBDKHC
CRHDVCGSCTIGNTOMOTATHREEWISEMEN
STOYSYUHAOMEDHEWNUTCRAACKERVFJWG
CNLBJCMEYSNCBORNAMENTSUZSWIYZIE
JOLLYARRUDEHALGAKIGLYMOECRAEOCR
ITYOJWADXNYEMISTLETOEOLSEHSLLEB
NSCANDYCANESSCDFVGRYPNDOPDURNSAR
GOBPUACHRISTMASTREEMNGLSTREMNGE
LCSCROOGEBLNDYCAITNAIAGTREASTYA
ETGTWDMBVSEULSEVNHCCECSFEKRECNAD
BSNHIAEEFUITVCJRKTSEILUCDNHOIRM
EILJRHTMRHGS HAEFEMASGEHOQUCOAIA
LWKFYUZYNERHCDISWBGRCGEVERNAKUKN
LECAEPWVSAYVEQUJB TNALNNCSRSITAE
SOOINREINDEERHS AOECARAHOE MOEAPV
NHTNYEVXRNTNSUMEIKUOMCUECHVSARI
LMSOGSAETAESPODFAVMWSIHSI LESNIT
CEDBUEUNATIVITYOFSOJACKKFROSTUHS
UOGBTNHCOEYKRMUTL NORTHPOLECFWRE
PSWINTERSLTEISDYS PENSASWRUKRNAF
IEFRESVOIWRSTZOMTCHLROUCLYMOIRC
DKLT LULMEUEPRANCEROGARLANDASETA
JOSTVYAEAOUIHBNITREICTOE BWITYRG
NAPWEFRXDEL CMZEPALRANEZVOXTYNOJ
CHRISTMASDINNERNERCDFBLITZENDFIMK

Angels
Candy Canes
Chimney
Comet
Donner
Frosty
Ivy
Joy
Noel
Prancer
Santa Clause
Snowflake
Tinsel
Yuletide

Bells
Cards
Christmas Dinner
Cookies
Elves
Garland
Jack Frost
Manger
North Pole
Presents
Scrooge
Snowman
Toys

Blitzen
Carols
Christmas Lights
Cupid
Family
Gingerbread Man
Jesus
Merry
Nutcracker
Reindeer
Season
Spirit
Vixen

Bow
Cheer
Christmas Tree
Dancer
Festive
Holidays
Jingle Bells
Mistletoe
Ornaments
Ribbon
Sled
Stockings
Winter

Candles
Chestnuts
Church
Dasher
Fireplace
Holly
Jolly
Nativity
Peace
Rudolph
Sleigh
Three Wise Men
Wreath

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, Gavin Carrion, Lynda Mason, Thomas Tuten, Ella Senn, Marielle Downing, Aubrey Horton, Rachel Hunnicutt, Kevin Bozard, Andrew Hamson, Lucky Jones Norma McKinley, Brittany Smoak, Mary Katherine King, Burns Roof, Sandy Dennis.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Rachel Bundrick, Pam Burnett, Bruce Merchant, Betty Wise
Victoria Marchant, Dennis Rybicki, Sr.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

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:

Mark Horne, Willie Beason, John Woods, Jimmy Mitchell, David Baldwin, Salvador Brau
Deidre Huckabee Brau, Fallynn Rickards, William Wood, Pat Redmond, Mark Fuller
Chris Holley, Johnny Smith, Earl Hope, 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:

Larry Marchant, Sonia Day, Robbie Hunter, Katie Blackwell Feaster, Don McCraw

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music