



## **MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

***1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169 • 803.796.5948***

**9:35 AM — May 9, 2021 — Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Contemporary Worship Service**

## Setting Eight—Non-Communion

### INTRODUCTION

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

### PRELUDE

*"Love Never Fails"*

**Heath & Cates**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INSTALLTION OF KEVIN DAVIS TO POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

*Stand*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

**Holy God, you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

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

*"Ten Thousand Reasons "*

**See Hymn Insert**

### 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**

*"Majesty"*

**See Hymn Insert**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Sit*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SECOND READING**

**1 John 5:1-6**

*God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM HYMN**

*"Sing a New Song"*

**See Hymn Insert**

*Stand*  
**GOSPEL**

**John 15:9-17**

The holy gospel according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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

**SERMON**

*Stand*  
**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“A New Commandment”

See Hymn Insert

**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**

Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Sit*

## ANTHEM

*“Jesus Loves Me”*

**Morgan/Tomlin/Grover/arr. Kingsmore**

## OFFERING

**OFFERING HYMN** *“What Have We to Offer?”* (verses 1,2 & 4)

**See Hymn Insert**

## 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

*“We Are One in the Spirit”*

**See Hymn Insert**

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

**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: Wanda Addy, Kase Boone, Michael Bradshaw, Pat Bradshaw, Sarah Cargile, Abigail Caulder, Isabelle Caulder, Adam Davis, Al Jordan, Bob Livingston III, George Minor, Jason Nelson, Adam Payne, Kaitlyn Pittman, Hazel Rauch, Venetia Sharpe, Todd Stilwell, Jessica Tablas, Freddy Vallejo, Annabelle Wilson, Isabelle Wilson.*

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

Docia Jones, Jeanie Jacobs, Sadie Howard, Herman Bouknight, Cheryl Hall, Mona Myers.

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Lottie Gregg, Melvin Manus, Samuel Davis, Boyd Steele, Elise Harmon, Lucky Jones, Jennifer Brazell, Hazel Rauch, Matthew Hook, Mary Hamson, Ann Callison, Adele Rodgers, Faye Smith, Lisa Long.

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

Chuck Backman, Michelle Berry, Martha Hinson, Judith Gilmetti, Anne Moye, Linda Goodson, 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:**

Catherine Holladay, Penny Timmerman, Tripp Hatley, Jane Eubanks.

***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.***

**Altar Flowers.** *Today's Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Rachel Popkowski in honor and in memory of all mothers celebrated on Mother's Day, especially these special moms— Mommy, Big Momma, Mom, Rebekah, Roxanne, Betsy, Anna, Blair, & Katie.*

**Processional Cross Flowers.** *Today's Processional Cross Flowers are given to the glory of God by Cathy Crawford in memory and honor of our mothers.*



## FOR HOME SELF-STUDY & REFLECTION

### FIRST READING

**Acts 10:44-48**

*While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

### ***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*