

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



9:15 AM - December 1, 2024 - First Sunday of Advent

ALIVE! Worship Service

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.

Advent Hymn

(based on the recording by Christy Nockels)

Words and Music by
Christy Nockels

INTRO

VERSE 1

$\text{♩} = 60$ A^b A^b D^b/A^b A^b

1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the

Fm E^b D^b A^b D^b/A^b A^b A^b/E^b E^b

5 ev - er - last - ing light; Son of right - eous - ness a - rise and tri - umph o'er these chains of

VERSE 2

A^b A^b D^b/A^b A^b Fm E^b

mine. 2. Come, thou long a - wait - ed One, in the full - ness of Your

D^b A^b D^b/A^b A^b A^b/E^b E^b A^b

15 love. And loose this heart bound up by shame, and I will nev - er by the same. So, here I

CHORUS




E^b Fm D^b A^b

wait in hope of You. All my soul's long - ing through and through. And Day - spring



D^b A^b/C B^bm9 E^b7 A^b

24 from on high be near, and Day - star in my heart ap - pear. 3. Dark and

VERSE 3

A^b D^b/A^b A^b Fm E^b D^b A^b D^b/A^b

 cheer - less is the morn, un - til Your love in me is born. And joy - less is the eve - ning
 34 A^b A^b/E^b E^b A^b *D.S. al Coda*

 song, un - til Em - man - u - el has come. So, here I've
 37 B^bm9 E^b7 A^b *Coda*

 in my heart ap - pear. So, here I

CHORUS

E^b A^b D^b A^b

 wait in hope of You. All my soul's long - ing through and through. And Day - spring
 43 D^b A^b/C B^bm9 E^b7 A^b

 from on high be near, and Day - star in my heart ap - pear. ____

Freedom Is Coming

1 Oh, free - dom, oh, free - dom, oh,

1 Free-dom is com-ing. Free-dom is

free - dom.

com - ing. Free-dom is com - ing. Oh, yes, I

free - dom, oh, free - dom, oh,

know. Free-dom is com - ing. Free-dom is

free - dom.

com - ing. Free-dom is com - ing. Oh, yes, I

yes, I know. Oh, yes, I know. Oh,

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, oh, yes, I

yes, I know. Oh,

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, yes, I

yes, I know. Oh, yes, I know. Oh,

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, oh, yes, I

yes, I know.

know. Oh, oh, yes, I know. Oh, yes, I know.

2 Oh, Jesus.
Jesus is coming.
Oh, yes, I know.

Text: South African; transc. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984

Music: FREEDOM IS COMING, South African; transc. *Freedom Is Coming*

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O Come, O Come Emmanuel



- 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:
 refresh the hearts that long for you;
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYERS

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.

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

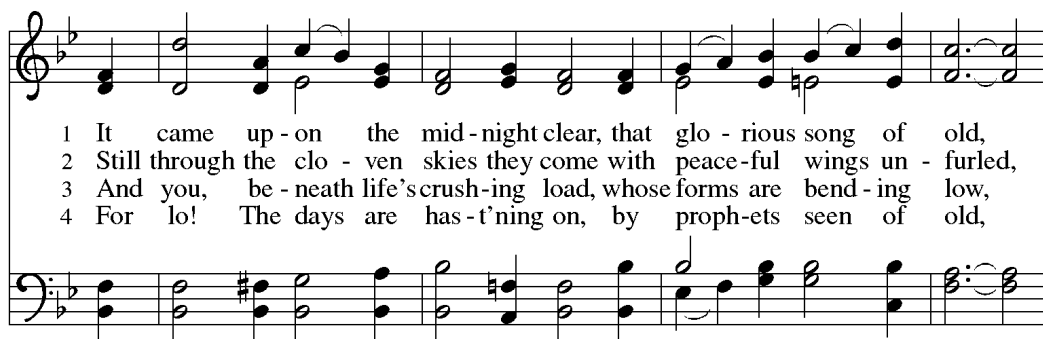
Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection 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.**

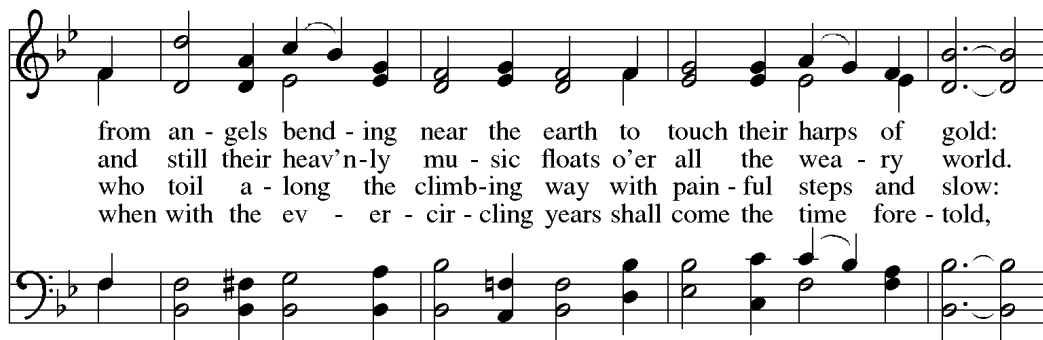
CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF PRAISE

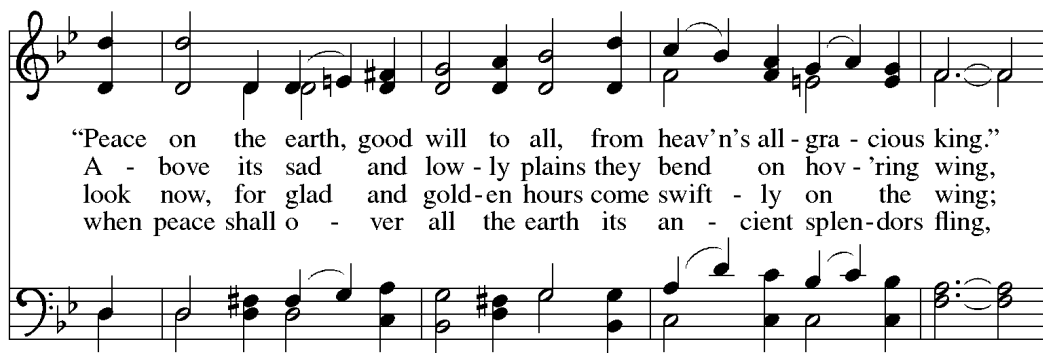
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



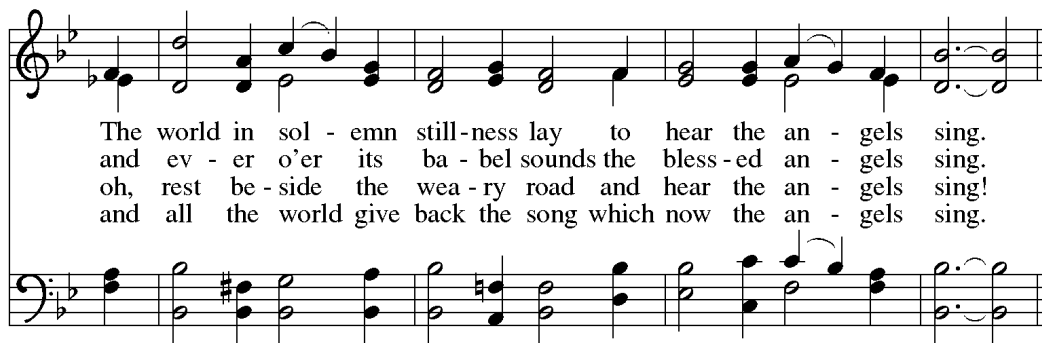
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



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

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 HYMN

To You O Lord

Verse 1

To You O Lord I lift up my soul
In You I trust O my God
Do not let me be put to shame
Nor let my enemies triumph over me

Chorus

No one whose hope is in You
Will ever be put to shame
That's why my eyes are on You O Lord
Surround me defend me
O how I need You
To You I lift up my soul
To You I lift up my soul

Verse 2

Show me Your ways and teach me Your paths
Guide me in truth lead me on
For You're my God You are my Saviour
My hope is in You each moment of the day

Verse 3

Remember Lord Your mercy and love
That ever flow from of old
Remember not the sins of my youth
Or my rebellious ways
According to Your love remember me
According to Your love
For You are good O Lord

Ending

To You O Lord I lift up my soul
To You O Lord I lift up my soul
To You O Lord I lift up my soul
To You my Lord I lift up my soul

Graham Kendrick
CCLI Song #2391207

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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

ANTHEM

Waiting Here for You

**Tomlin, Reeves, and
Smith/arr. Allen**

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



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

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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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

There Is a Longing in Our Hearts

Refrain — All



There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to re -



veal your - self to us. There is a long-ing in our



hearts for love we on - ly find in you, our God.

Leader or All



1 For jus - tice, for free - dom, for mer - cy:
2 For wis - dom, for cour - age, for com - fort:
3 For heal - ing, for whole - ness, for new life:
4 Lord, save us, take pit - y, light in our



hear our prayer. In sor - row, in grief:
hear our prayer. In weak - ness, in fear:
hear our prayer. In sick - ness, in death:
deep-est night. We call you; we wait:



be near; hear our prayer, O God.

Refrain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

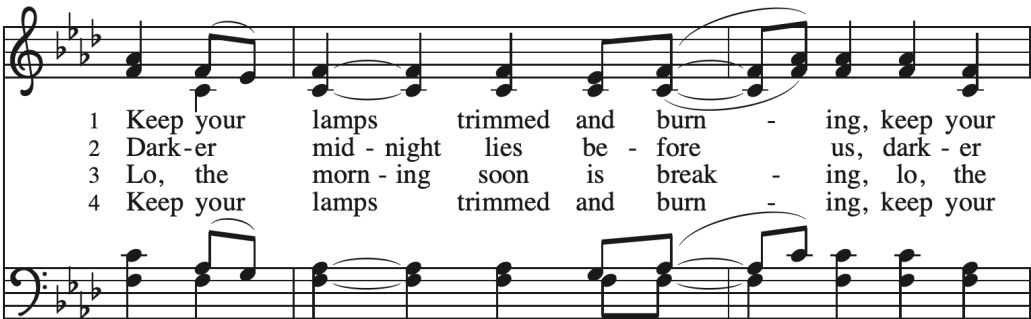
Let us pray.
God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

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.**

SENDING HYMN

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain

Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;

chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.

The image shows a musical score for two systems. The first system is labeled 'Refrain' and contains two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics 'Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;' are written below the first staff. The second system also contains two staves with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics 'chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.' are written below the first staff. The music consists of a melody in the treble staff and a harmonic accompaniment in the bass staff.

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

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

ALIVE! Musicians

Gale McLeod, Co-Director

Clark Ebener

Vaughn Hall

Irelou Moyer, Co-Director

Lyndsey Ebener

Ricky Lusk

Beth Branham

Bradley Miller

Ed Redmond

Leah Conrad

David Moyer

Roxanne Rich

Brett Ebener

Erin Hall

Worship Assistants

Communion assistant Nancy Stone-Collum

Lector Wendy Spainhour

Greeter Grace Fuson

Ushers Brandon & Julie Ann Payne



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 Kendal Greene on November 23rd by Steve and Beverly Hamilton.

Today's 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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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 126

- ¹ When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
- ² Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”
- ³ The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.
- ⁴ Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.
- ⁵ Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
- ⁶ Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.



Christmas Word Search Puzzle

Courtesy of Christmas-Projects.com



TYULETIDEMCHRISTMASLIGHTSPACBNG
 NSLIHAOAHVHSNBGESNOWFLAKEBDKHC
 CRHDVCGSCTIGNTOMOTATHREEWISEMEN
 STOYSYUHAOMEDHEWNUTCRAACKERVFJWG
 CNLBJCMEYSNCBORNAMENTSUZSWIYZIE
 JOLLYARRUDEHALGAKIGLYMOECRAEOCR
 ITYOJWADXNYEMISTLETOEOELSEHSLLEB
 NSCANDYCANESSCDFVGRYPNDOPDURNSAR
 GOBPUACHRISTMASTREEMNGLSTREMNGE
 LCSCROOGEBLNDYCAITNAIAGTREASTYA
 ETGTWDMBVSEULSEVNHCCECSFEKRECNAD
 BSNHIAEEFUITVCJRKTSEILUCDNHOIRM
 EILJRHTMRHGSHAEFEMASGEHOQUCOAIA
 LWKFUYZNERHCDISWBGRCGEVERNAKUKN
 LECAEPWVSAYVEQUJB TNALNNCSRSITAE
 SOOINREINDEERHS AOECARAH OMOEAPV
 NHTNYEVXRNTNSUMEIKUOMCUECHVSARI
 LMSOGSAETAESPODFAVMWSIHSI LESNIT
 CEDBUEUNATIVITYOFSOJACKFROSTUHS
 UOGBTNHCOEYKRMUTL NORTHPOLECFWRE
 PSWINTERSLTEISDYS PENSASWRUKRNAF
 IEFRESVOIWRSTZOMTCHLROUCLYMOIRC
 DKLT LULMEUEPRANCEROGARLANDASETA
 JOSTVYAEAOUIHBNITREICTOEBWITYRG
 NAPWEFRXDEL CMZEPALRANEZVOXTYNOJ
 CHRISTMASDINNERNERCDFBLITZENDFIMK

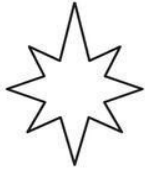
Angels
 Candy Canes
 Chimney
 Comet
 Donner
 Frosty
 Ivy
 Joy
 Noel
 Prancer
 Santa Clause
 Snowflake
 Tinsel
 Yuletide

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

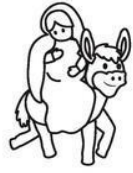
Bow
 Cheer
 Christmas Tree
 Dancer
 Festive
 Holidays
 Jingle Bells
 Mistletoe
 Ornaments
 Ribbon
 Sled
 Stockings
 Winter

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



Advent Crossword

Solve the clues and fill out the grid

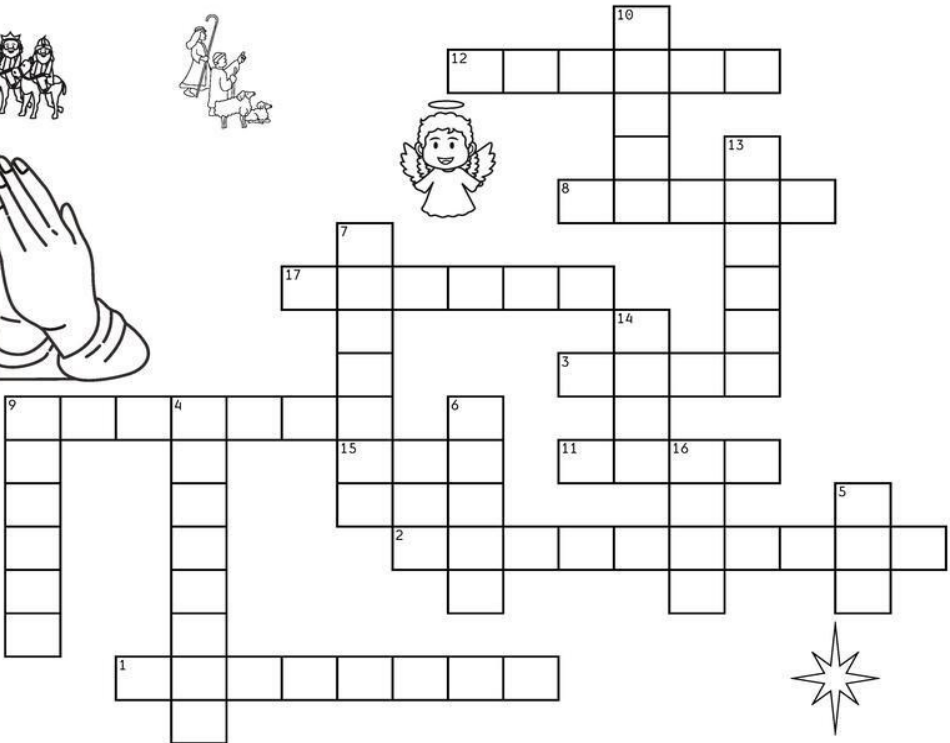


DOWN

4. Who leads the sheep and witnessed joyous Christmas event?
5. Cheerfulness associated with the Christmas spirit
6. An emblematic figure in biblical narratives, especially in relation to the birth of Jesus
7. Visiting a church to bless God is called
9. A trough used as the bed for the newborn king
10. What book contains the Gospel of Luke, which narrates the nativity?
13. A nativity fixture, this animal bore Mary on her journey to Bethlehem
14. Biblical trio bringing presents
16. A famous celestial guide in the nativity tale

ACROSS

1. Prediction about baby Jesus
2. Powerful word for a spiritually surprising moment in the Nativity.
3. The woman who had a special visit from an angel announcing the birth of Jesus
8. King who wanted to find baby Jesus
9. Who the Three Wise Men came to visit in Bethlehem.
11. They discerned the star's meaning and visited Jesus. Who are they?
12. Jesus, also known as
15. Where did Mary and Joseph attempt to get a room in Bethlehem?
17. According to the Bible, he gave up his own bed for baby Jesus in the manger scene



Beeloo

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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
Larry Marchant, 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, Falynn 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:

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