

MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.mttaborlutheran.org



**9:15 AM - August 25, 2024 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
ALIVE! Worship Service**

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

Here I Am to Worship

- 1 Light of the World you stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with you

Chorus:

So here I am worship, here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

- 2 Kind of All days oh so highly exalted
Glorious is heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor (Repeat chorus)

Tim Hughes
CCU Song #3266032
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Faith Alive

Call my name and I'll rise up from my sleeping
Give the Word and I'll leave my world behind
All these days like a gentle water falling
Now growing and flowing till I'm swept away
Give me bread for the journey, Oh Jesus, I pray

Light my way with faith alive, Light my way with faith alive
Let me burn so bright, burn with faith alive.

"Faith Alive" by Matt Canniff-Kuhn
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Thy Word



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be -



side me, and noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.



Please be near me to the end.



2 I will not for - get your love for me, and yet my heart for - ev - er is



wan - der - ing. Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and



I will love you to the end.

Text: Psalm 119:105, refrain; Michael W. Smith, stanzas

Music: Amy Grant

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PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYERS

KYRIE

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise

Verse 1 - *(SOLO)*

I'll praise in the valley
Praise on the mountain
I'll praise when I'm sure
Praise when I'm doubting
I'll praise when outnumbered
Praise when surrounded
'Cause praise is the water
My enemies drown in

Pre-Chorus - *(ALL)*

As long as I'm breathing
I've got a reason to

Chorus 2 - *(ALL)*

Praise the Lord oh my soul
Praise the Lord oh my soul
I won't be quiet
My God is alive
How could I keep it inside
Praise the Lord oh my soul

Bridge - *(ALL)*

I'll praise 'cause You're sovereign
Praise 'cause You reign
Praise 'cause You rose and defeated the grave
I'll praise 'cause You're faithful
Praise 'cause You're true
Praise 'cause there's nobody greater than You

Chorus 2 - *(ALL)*

Praise the Lord oh my soul
Praise the Lord oh my soul
I won't be quiet
My God is alive
How could I keep it inside
Praise the Lord oh my soul
Praise the Lord oh my soul

Brandon Lake, Chandler Moore, Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Pat Barrett, Steven Furtick

CCLI Song #7213077

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A READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

A reading from Ephesians.

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

John 6:56-69

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jane Mitcham

ANTHEM

Rescue

Daigle, Ingram, & Mabury/arr.Lojeski

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.

God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: In Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Music: *Liturgv of Ion*, James M. Capers, b. 1948
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The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: '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. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many notes beamed together in groups of four or six. There are several slurs over the lyrics 'with - in me' and 'spir - it with - in me'.

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. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

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.

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 HYMN

May the God of Hope Go With Us

May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en

lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -

on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la es - cu - ri - dad.

Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.

work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.

TEXT: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984
MUSIC: Argentine folk melody

ARGENTINA
11.11.11.11 with refrain

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE



ALIVE! Musicians

Gale McLeod, Co-Director

Clark Ebener

Vaughn Hall

Irelou Moye, Co-Director

Lyndsey Ebener

Ricky Lusk

Beth Branham

Bradley Miller

Ed Redmond

Leah Conrad

David Moye

Roxanne Rich

Brett Ebener

Erin Hall

Worship Assistants

LectorNancy Smith

Communion assistantJulianne Jones

GreeterGrace Fuson

UshersScott Wilson, Ed Fuson



Fred Vallejo has given today's Altar Flowers to the glory of God.

Today's Bulletin Covers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Tommy and Janet Smith's 58th Wedding Anniversary on August 28th, by Eric and Natalie Smith and Kim, Frazier, Cooper and Jensen Redmond.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

Psalms 34:15-22

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,
and God’s ears are open to their cry.

¹⁶The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.

¹⁷The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.

¹⁸The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.

¹⁹Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from every one.

²⁰God will keep safe all their bones;
not one of them shall be broken.

²¹Evil will bring death to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

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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: Nicole Thompson Sally McFarland, Tyler Wiggers, Paxton Goings, Jackson Addy, Stephen Hamilton, Mindy Williams, Charlotte Rister, Ray Conrad, Rick Dinkins, Hunter Dinkins, Jeffery Smith.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Bruce Merchant, Betty Wise, Luther Swicegood, Sheri Self
Larry Marchant, Linda Price, Victoria Marchant, Jeanie Jacobs
Dennis Rybicki, Sr., Ann Crout, Al & Judy Jordan

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Ron Hutto, Sandra Baker, Drewby McQuillen, Mary Davis, Alice Pollock, Jimmy Williams, Mona Myers, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Robert Cromer, Dennis Rybicki Jr.
Emma Lou Easley, Paul Addy, Paul Jacobs, Herman Bouknight, Jane Sexton,
Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Mark Fuller, Joan Bundrick, 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, Glenn Greer, Chuck Backman, Michelle Roe
Beth Murphy, Justin "Cody" Spires, Billy Holton, Barbara Kohr, Jenny Mack
JoAnn Davis, Diana Ruth Henricks, Tommy Cambell, Niko Bosley, Mary Famiglietti
Angela Livingston, Bill Wood, Anne Moye, Isabelle Sundlie, Katie Blackwell Feaster

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:

Barbara Bradshaw, Tom Roof, Buck Trueitt, Micah Garrison

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music