



MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

www.mttaborlutheran.org

**9:35 AM — November 28, 2021 — First Sunday of Advent
Contemporary Worship Service**

Setting Eight—Holy Communion

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.

PRELUDE

Advent Hymn

Nockels

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

We enter into this first Sunday of the Advent season, turning our attention to You, God. We acknowledge the darkness that is within us, and that permeates the world.

Father, forgive us.

We acknowledge the suffering, tragedy, and pain by which humanity is afflicted, which seems at times to overwhelm us.

Draw near to us, Oh God.

We consider the mystery of your ways, that you might choose to send our Savior as an innocent baby and not as a warrior or a king; as one who humbly accepted suffering and humiliation and called it glory.

Our hope is in Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

We choose in this moment to focus our attention on HOPE; the hope of Jesus Christ and all his coming represents for suffering people, the hope for restoration of all that is broken in the world, the hope of new life and resurrection.

Hope is the light we wish to see by.

Grant, Oh God, that when he comes, Christ may find us waiting in expectation, our souls quieted, our hearts soft and open.

We wait in hope for the Lord.

In Christ all things are made new, and we look forward to the day our hope is fulfilled, each heart reconciled, the work of Christ completed in all the earth.

Our hope is in Jesus Christ, the Messiah. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW 815

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***Let There Be Praise***See Hymn Insert****PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.***We sit***CHILDREN'S SERMON****ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING** *Peace, Peace, Peace* (verse 2 HOPE) **(See Hymn Insert)****READING****Jeremiah 33:14-16***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.*¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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***To You, O Lord***See Hymn Insert**

(Congregation sings refrain, Choir sings verses 1 & 2)

We stand
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. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven 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, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be 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.

We sit

SERMON

We stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come To Be Our Hope, O Jesus

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.

We sit

ANTHEM

Even So Come

Tomlin/Ingram/Cates/arr. Duren

OFFERING

We stand

OFFERING HYMN

We Are Waiting for Jesus

See Hymn Insert

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 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

A feast of love is offered here for you and for all the saints.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN*There Is a Longing in Our Hearts***See Hymn Insert***We stand***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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

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*Soon and Very Soon***ELW 439****DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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!

Altar Flowers. Today's Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Susan Hyde & family in memory of her father, Wesley Smith, on his birthday.

Bulletin Covers. Today's Bulletin Covers are given to the glory of God by Norma Riddell in honor of her mother, Donna Shumerski.

Advent Wreath. Today's Advent Wreath is given to the glory of God by Tom & Carol Stork in honor and in memory of their family and friends, especially Charlotte Jeffcoat for her birthday.

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: Shawna Busbee, Gavin Carrion, Marielle Downing, Acy Flora, Karen Foley, Aubrey Horton, Rachel Hunnicutt, Randy Klapman, Lynda Mason, Ella Senn, Thomas Tuten, Lindsey Witcher.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Robert Cromer, Boyd Steele, Katlynn Steele, Cheryl Hall, Nancy Allen.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Foster McLeod, Brenda Smith, Elmer Sundlie, Herman Bouknight, Rick Moorner, Gale McLeod, Barbara Stilwell, Jeanie Jacobs, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston, Boyd Steele, Lucky Jones, Jennifer Brazell, Mary Hamson, Ann Callison, Adele Rodgers, Lisa Long.

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Lori Gladiness, Wickey Shumpert, Robert, Tracie & Harper Hendrix, Murray Hoskins, Linda Goodson, Cole Jacobs, Rick & Jennifer Richardson, Joann Roof, 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:

Eli McCracken, 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:

Ann Cook, Elise Harmon, Henry Robinson, Linda Wessinger, Caroline Swicegood.

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.

FOR HOME SELF-STUDY & REFLECTION

READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

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.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And 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.

Worship Assistants

*Lector
Greeter
Nursery
Ushers
Communion Assistant
Worship Assistant Coordinator*

*Nancy Stone-Collum
Patsy Gambrell
Don Simmons
Paul Jacobs
Gerald Shealy*

Worship Leaders

*Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor
Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music*

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation
Vicar Christine Taylor*

Praise Band

*Gale McLeod, Co-Director
Irelou Moye, Co-Director
Beth Branham
Leah Conrad
Brett Ebener*

*Clark Ebener
Lindsey Ebener
Erin Hall
Vaughn Hall
Jack Latham*

*Ricky Lusk
David Moye
Ed Redmond
Roxanne Rich
Taylor Wilson*