



## **MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

**11:00 AM—December 5, 2021 — Second Sunday of Advent  
Traditional Worship Service & Sunday School Christmas Program**

## Setting Four—Non-Communion

### INTRODUCTION

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

### PRELUDE

### 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.**

**HYMN 264**

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

**BEREDOM VAG FOR HERRAN**

### GREETING

**ELW p. 147**

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: MIGHTY GOD

(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)



Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more, Em - man - u - el.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,'. The second staff contains the melody for the final phrase: 'ev - er - more and ev - er - more, Em - man - u - el.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

## 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 two candles. The first candle reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. As we light the second candle, we remember that Jesus came to earth as the Prince of Peace. In a world filled with conflict and discord, we pray for harmony and unity as we work towards claiming the promise of peace on earth.

(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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

A reading from Malachi.

*God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.*

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** **ELW p. 151**  
**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL** **Luke 3:1-6**  
The holy gospel according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PLAY** **(see program)**

**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.**

**PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS**

(see list at back of bulletin)

**PEACE**

**ELW p. 152**

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

**OFFERTORY**

**OFFERTORY HYMN 257** *O come, O Come, Emmanuel*(vss 3 and 4) **VENI EMMANUEL**  
**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O Come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh: in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. Refrain.**

**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.**

**BLESSING**

**ELW p. 155**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**HYMN 246**

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!*

**MERTON**

**DISMISSAL**

**ELW p. 155**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**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 Virginia Hamson & Family in honor of Mary Hamson for her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Bulletin Covers.** Today's Bulletin Covers are given to the glory of God by Nancy Allen in memory of Lois Shealy's birthday on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Advent Wreath.** Today's Advent Wreath is given to the glory of God by Gary & Ann Spainhour; Wendy Spainhour; Travis, Linda, Alexis & Tristan Spainhour; Melvin & Sandra Manus; Woody & Brenda Manus; and Lee & Joy Smith in memory of Harry Manus Sr., and Maurice & Eleanor Dunlap and in honor of Elizabeth Manus.

**Offering Envelopes.** Offering envelopes for the new year have been issued and can be found in the front pews of the Sanctuary, in alphabetical order. Please pick yours up as well as others of those you can deliver. If you are unable to find a box with your family's name on it, or if your family needs additional envelopes, please contact Stella in the Church Office.



# President's Volunteer Service Award



## Bronze

Jack Fisher Emily Hutto Abby Grace Roof Alexis Spainhour

## Silver

Hannah Fogle

## Gold

Leah Conrad Tristan Spainhour

### award levels by age

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Bronze</u>	<u>Silver</u>	<u>Gold</u>
Kids (5–10 years old)	26–49 hours	50–74 hours	75+ hours
Teens (11–15)	50–74 hours	75–99 hours	100+ hours
Young Adults (16–25)	100–174 hours	175–249 hours	250+ hours

**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: Kevin Bozard, Kenlee Cassella, McKenna Cassella, Sandy Dennis, Andrew Hamson, Carroll Hutchinson, Jake Jacobs, Lucky Jones, Mary Katherine King, Norma McKinley, Becky Newman, Burns Roof, Drew Shealy, Vicki Smallwood, Brittany Smoak, Luke Witherell.*

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

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

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Foster McLeod, Brenda Smith, Elmer Sundlie, Herman Bouknight, Rick Moorer, 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, 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.*

**11:00 Service Worship Assistants**

*Lector*

*Greeter*

*Ushers*

*Communion Assistant*

*Worship Assistant Coordinator*

*Harry or Cheryl Prim*

*Debbie McLeod*

*Harry Prim, Jack Sox, Foster McLeod*

*Randy Klapman*

*Tom Smith*

**Worship Leaders**

*Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor*

*Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music*

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation*

*Vicar Christine Taylor, Intern*