

MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



9:15 AM —September 17, 2023 — Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

ALIVE! Worship Service

INTRODUCTION

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord, o My Soul)

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into a 'Refrain' section and a verse section. The lyrics are as follows:

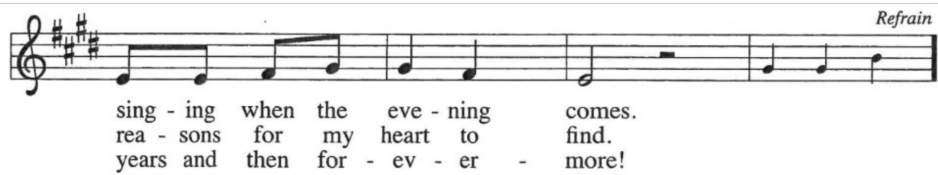
Refrain
Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,
O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name... is ... great, and your heart is kind. For all ... your
end ... draws near, and my time has come; ... still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
good-ness, I will keep ... on ... sing-ing— ten thou-sand
soul will sing your praise un - end - ing— ten thou-sand

Refrain



sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
 rea - sons for my heart to find.
 years and then for - ev - er - more!

Text: Matt Redman, b. 1974, and Jonas Myrin, b. 1982

Music: Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin

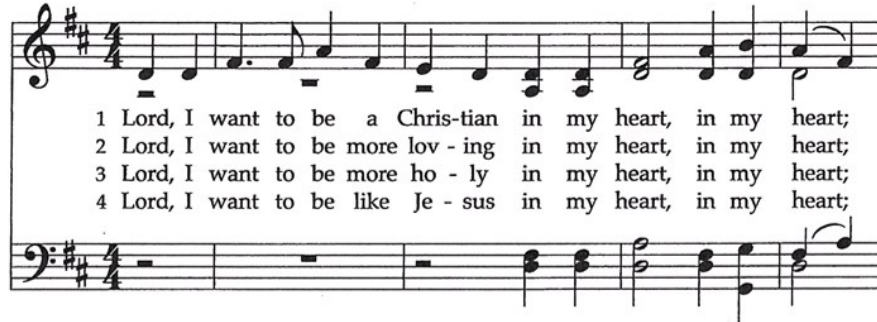
TEN THOUSAND REASONS

Text and music © 2011 Thankyou Music / Atlas Mountain Songs / worshipttogether.com Songs / sixsteps Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com

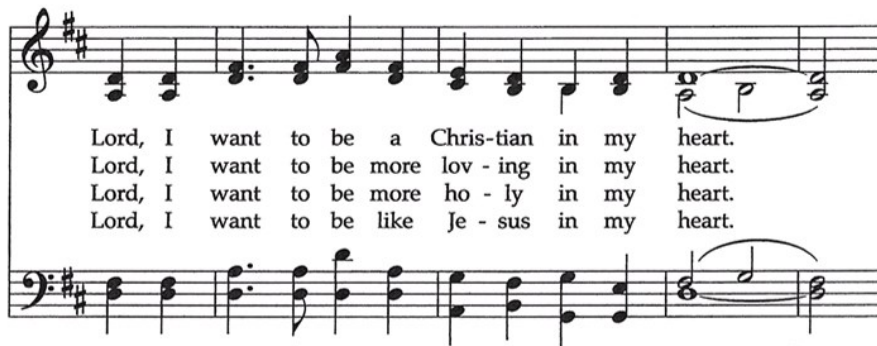
Irregular

The language in the refrain may be adapted to correspond with Psalm 103 in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*: "... worship God's holy name."

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian



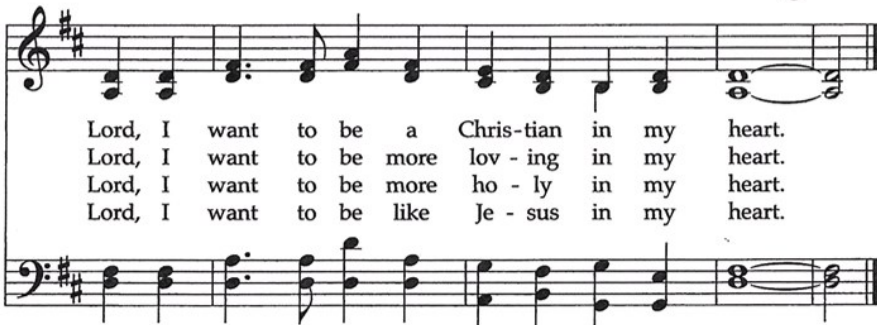
1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart;
3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;



Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.



In my heart, in my heart,
In my heart, in my heart,



Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Through its recurring phrase, "in my heart," this poignant African American spiritual expresses the desire that our professed faith will not be superficial or hypocritical but will permeate the very center of our being, so that we may truly be the people God calls us to be.

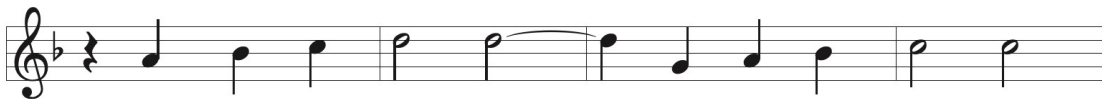
When We Are Living



<p><i>Pues si vi - vi - mos,</i> 1 When we are liv - ing, 2 'Mid times of sor - row 3 A - cross this wide world,</p>	<p><i>pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,</i> it is in Christ Je - sus, and in times of pain, we shall al - ways find</p>
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<p><i>y si mo - ri - mos</i> and when we're dy - ing, when sens - ing beau - ty those who are cry - ing</p>	<p><i>pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.</i> it is in the Lord. . . . or in love's em - brace, . . . with no peace of mind; . . .</p>
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<p><i>Sea que vi - va - mos</i> Both in our liv - ing wheth - er we suf - fer, and when we help them,</p>	<p><i>o que mu - ra - mos,</i> and in our dy - ing, or sing re - joic - ing, or when we feed them,</p>
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<p><i>so - mos del Se - ñor,</i> we be - long to God, we be - long to God, we be - long to God,</p>	<p><i>so - mos del Se - ñor.</i> we be - long to God. we be - long to God. we be - long to God.</p>
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2 En la tristeza y en el dolor,
 en la belleza y en el amor,
 sea que suframos o que gocemos,
 somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

3 En este mundo por doquier habrá
 gente que lloray sin consolar.
 Sea que ayudemos o alimentemos,
 somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942
 st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946

Music: SOMOS DEL SEÑOR, Spanish traditional

Spanish text, sts. 2-3 © 1983 Abingdon Press and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

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PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYERS

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Nancy Smith; Kevin, Melissa, Savannah Rose, Jordan Leigh, and Kevin John Shaver, Jr.;
Scott Wilson; Kevin and Amy Oliver; Alan and Denise Cowles

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

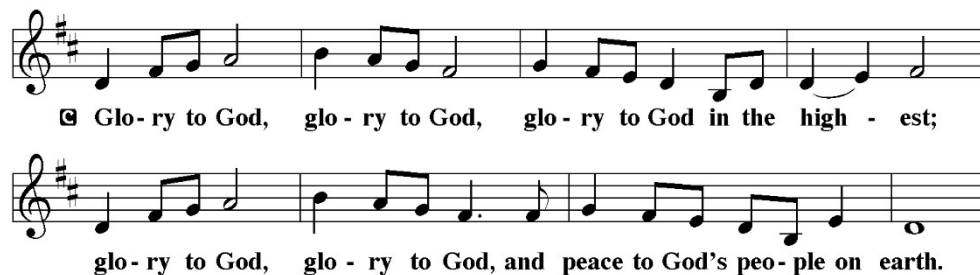
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON



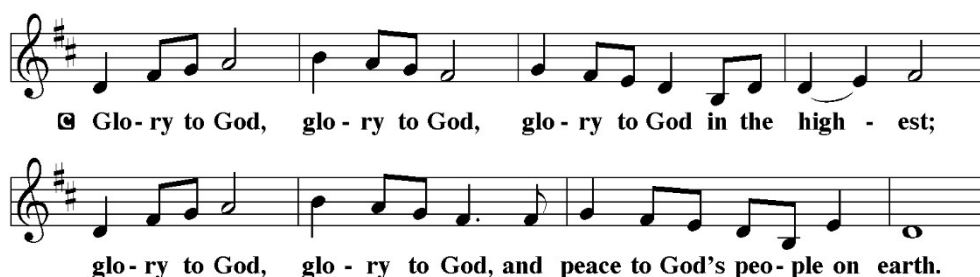
Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**



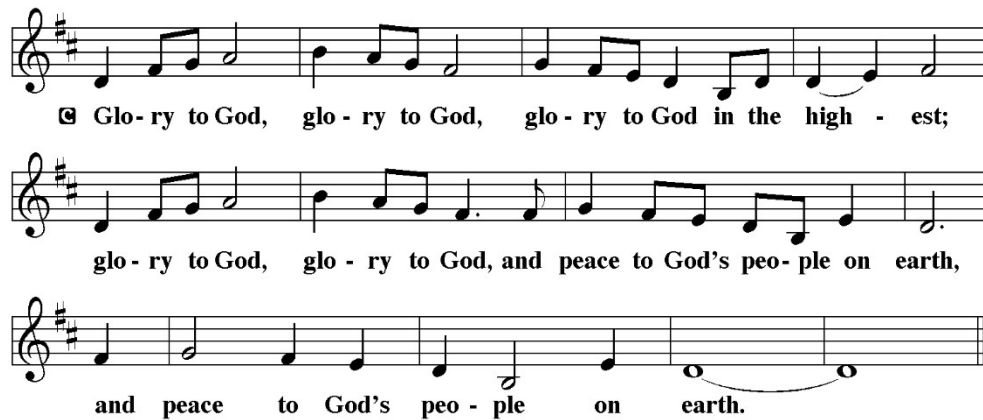
Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**



Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**



A READING

Romans 14:1-12

A reading from Romans.

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who

owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Wade Roof

ANTHEM

Mighty to Save

Fielding and Morgan arr. Sorenson

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.
Amen.

OFFERTORY

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant *Verses 1&2*

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928

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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

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

SENDING HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light Siyahamba

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,
nyen' kwen - khos'.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba
 We are march-ing

oo
oo

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
 We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba
 We are march-ing

oo
oo

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
 We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march-ing in the light of God.

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

ALIVE! Musicians

Gale McLeod, Co-Director

Clark Ebener

Ricky Lusk

Irelou Moye, Co-Director

Lyndsey Ebener

Ed Redmond

Beth Branham

David Moye

Roxanne Rich

Leah Conrad

Erin Hall

Brett Ebener

Vaughn Hall

Worship Assistants

Lector Wendy Spainhour

Greeter Grace Fuson

Ushers Ray Conrad, Dennis Rybicki

Next Sunday's Readings

Jonah 3:10--4:11

Psalm 145:1-8

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Arlene Klapman on her birthday, September 23, by Randy and Elizabeth Klapman and Janet and Tommy Smith.

The bulletin covers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Arlene Klapman on her birthday, September 23, by Kim, Frazier, Cooper and Jensen Redmond and Eric and Natalie Smith.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

A READING

Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalm 103:8-13

⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;
⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.
¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
¹²As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.
¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

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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: Nicholas Hayes, Nikolaus Hostetter, Richard Shirah, Mattie O'Quinn, Joel Smith, Amy Carlton, Rebecca Gaultney, Kim Pittman, Phoebe Steele, Dakota Steele, Katlynn Steele, Justin Steele, Barney Miller, Heath Hutto, Brett Ebener, Linda Price

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Cecilia Dunlap, John Geiger, Rue Jeffcoat, Jimmy Williams, Alice Pollock,
Elmer Sundlie, Mary Davis, Ken Smith

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Robert Cromer, Dennis Rybicki Jr., Emma Lou Easley, Linda Price
Lib Manus, Judy Jordan, Paul Addy, Paul & Jeanie Jacobs
Barbara Bradshaw, Sandra Baker, Betty Wise, Herman Bouknight
Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Angela Livingston, Bill Wood, Jimmy Hardee
Anne Moye, Isabelle Sundlie, Jack Timmerman, Tim Driggers, John Bundrick
Tammy Douglas, Pam Player, Katie Blackwell Feaster

Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash

Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:

Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan

The Family Of:

David Mellichamp, Betty Monts, Ann Callison, Peggy Kelly, Sandra Manus,
Caroyl Witherell, Chris Davis, David Derrick

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music