



MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169

803.796.5948

www.mttaborlutheran.org

**11:00 AM - August 25, 2024, Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Traditional Worship Service**

Holy Communion Setting 10

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Voluntary in F

Eric H. Thiman

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

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

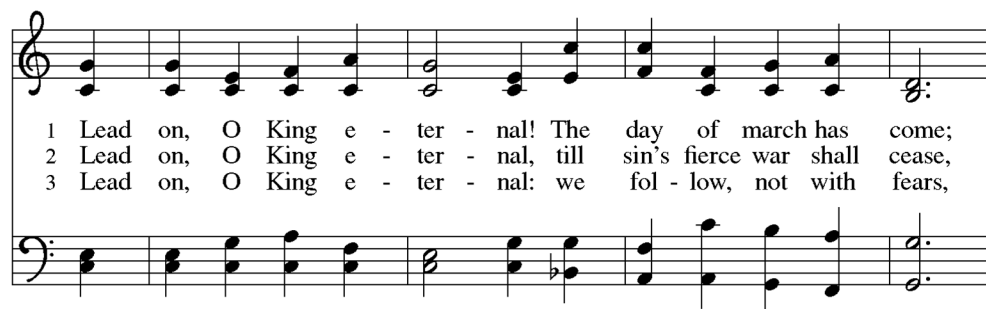
God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else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

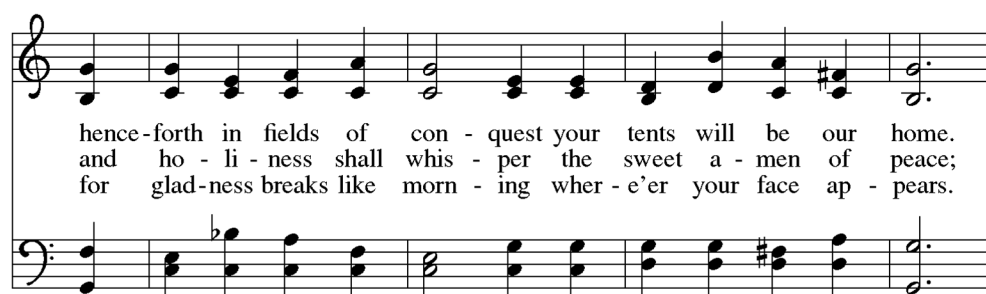
HYMN 805

Lead On, O King Eternal!

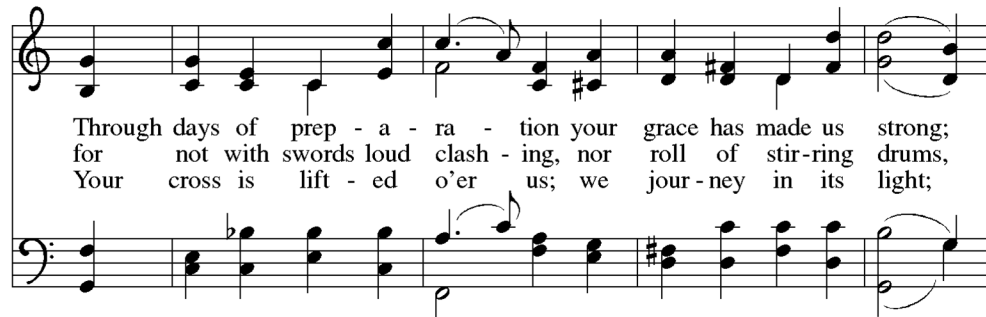
LANCASHIRE



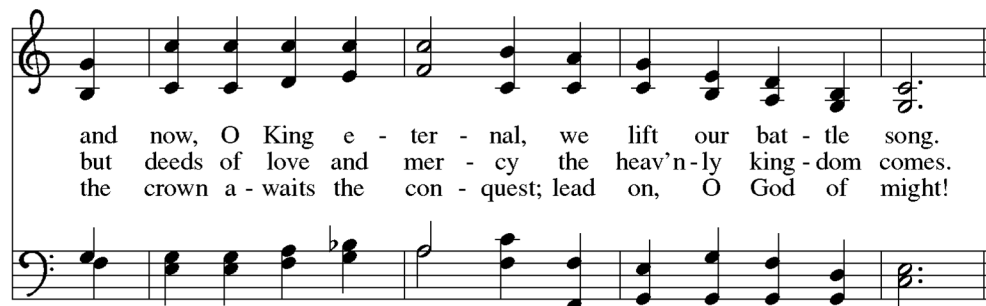
1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

GREETING

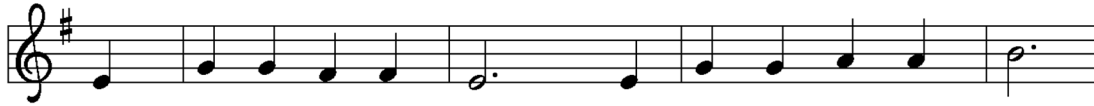
ELW p. 203

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

ELW p. 203



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p. 204



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 205

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

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

A reading from Joshua.

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.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 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**.

SECOND 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

ELW p. 205



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

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?”⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.”⁶⁹ We 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

HYMN 514

O Word of God Incarnate

MUNICH

1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;

we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
 Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

CREED

ELW p. 206

**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**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

PEACE

ELW p. 206

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bread of Life

Joel Raney

HYMN 182*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful***Richard W. Hillert**

Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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OFFERING PRAYER**ELW p. 206**

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.**

HYMN 814*Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am***TAKE ME AS I AM**

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note Bb4. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a half-note pattern in the right hand. The second system continues the vocal line with a half note C5, followed by a quarter note D5, and then a half note E5. The piano accompaniment continues with the same pattern. The lyrics are: 'Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.'

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**ELW p. 207**

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.

HYMN 814*Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am***TAKE ME AS I AM**

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.

HYMN 814*Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am***TAKE ME AS I AM**

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 208

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

The gifts of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

ELW p. 208

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

HYMN 758

You Are the Way

DUNDEE



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

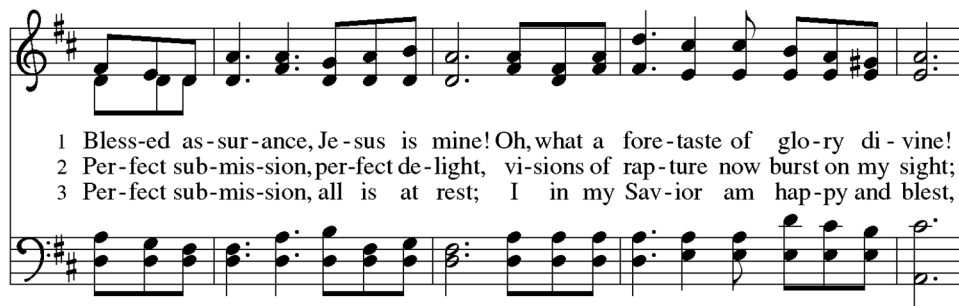


Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

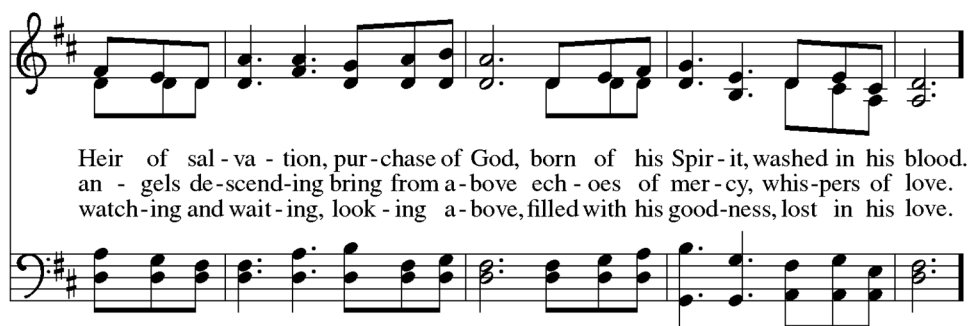
HYMN 638

Blessed Assurance

ASSURANCE

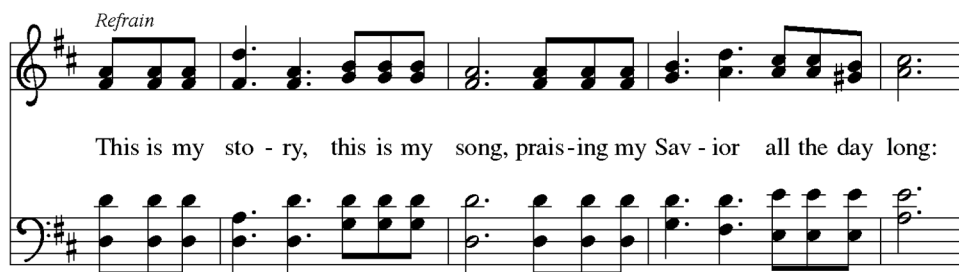


1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**ELW p. 208**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

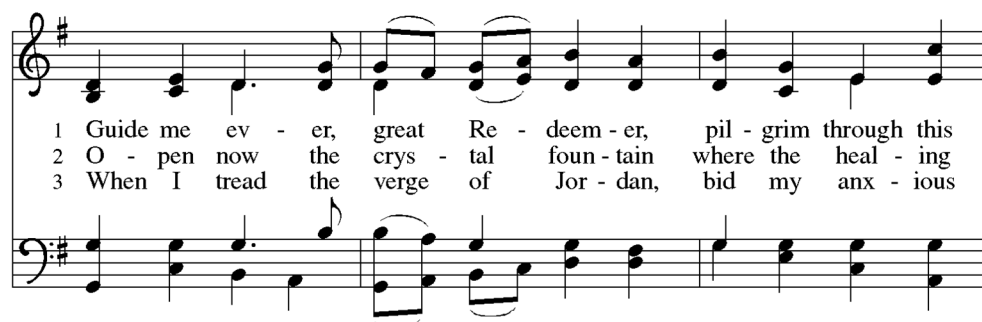
BLESSING**ELW p. 209**

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.**

HYMN 618

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

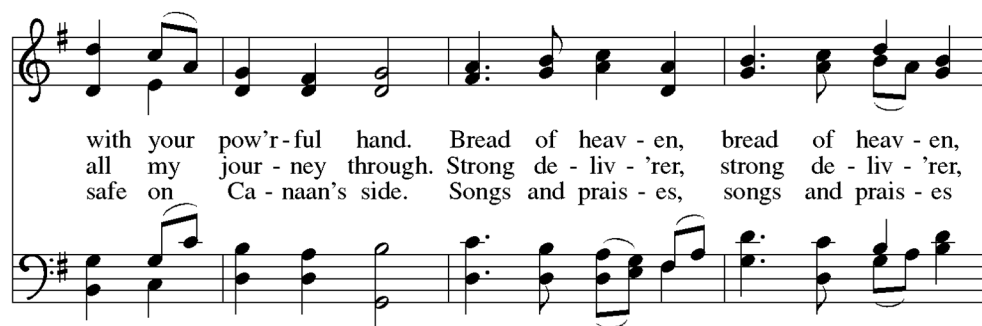
CWM RHONDDA



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL

ELW p. 209

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C

Johann Pachelbel

Worship Assistants

Lector *Randy Klapman*
Communion assistants *Randy & Elizabeth Klapman*
Greeter *Debbie McLeod*
Ushers *Foster McLeod, Clyde Nelson*



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.



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CHOCOLATE

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



The words appear UP, DOWN,
BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.

E	H	S	S	P	B	J	R	I	C	H	T	E	T	I
L	S	B	W	D	S	S	E	I	N	W	O	R	B	G
Z	E	F	Z	E	R	E	T	T	I	B	P	P	Y	S
Z	Y	L	L	D	E	W	I	W	A	Y	S	E	O	D
I	I	K	E	A	H	T	A	K	Y	M	C	A	T	H
R	D	F	C	I	V	M	E	H	R	A	O	F	A	Y
D	E	U	T	H	I	O	P	M	C	E	N	U	S	F
P	S	E	Y	L	I	U	R	O	G	R	F	D	T	R
U	S	D	K	D	D	P	C	R	V	C	E	G	E	O
R	E	T	A	D	N	O	S	P	I	E	C	E	C	S
Y	R	W	I	K	A	A	O	G	N	A	T	Z	B	T
S	T	N	R	F	R	M	C	F	K	T	I	W	E	I
U	G	A	M	A	E	R	C	E	C	I	O	S	A	N
J	D	D	B	R	T	E	L	B	B	I	N	G	N	G
G	S	E	I	K	O	O	C	M	M	E	L	T	S	E

BAKE
BAR
BEANS
BITTER
BROWNIES
CAKE
CANDY
CHIPS

COCOA
CONFECTION
COOKIES
CREAMY
DARK
DESSERT
DRIZZLE
FLAVOR

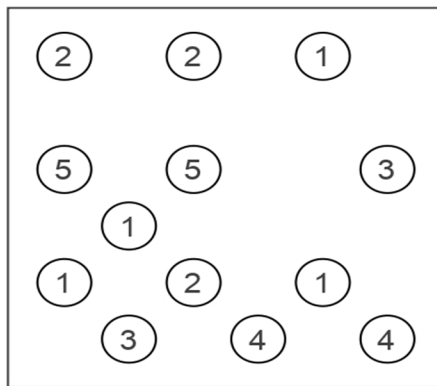
FROSTING
FUDGE
ICE CREAM
MELT
MILK
NIBBLE
PIECE
PUDDING

RICH
SWEET
SYRUP
TASTE
WHITE

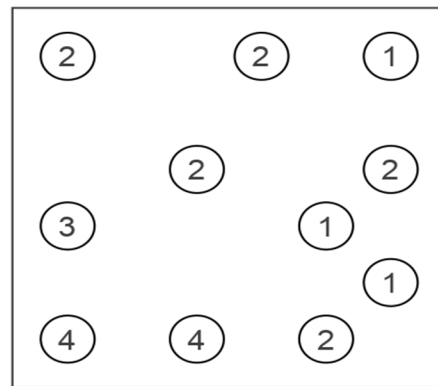
PUZZLES and BRAINS

6 BY 6 BUILD BRIDGES (No. 1 TO 4)

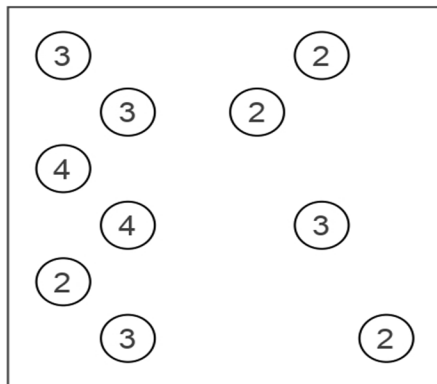
CONNECT ALL ISLANDS INTO A SINGLE GROUP BY DRAWING HORIZONTAL OR VERTICAL LINES (BRIDGES). YOU CAN DRAW A SINGLE OR DOUBLE LINE BETWEEN EACH ISLAND (NOT MORE). THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BRIDGES THAT CONNECT AN ISLAND MATCHES THE NUMBER ON IT. THE BRIDGES MAY NOT CROSS EACH OTHER.



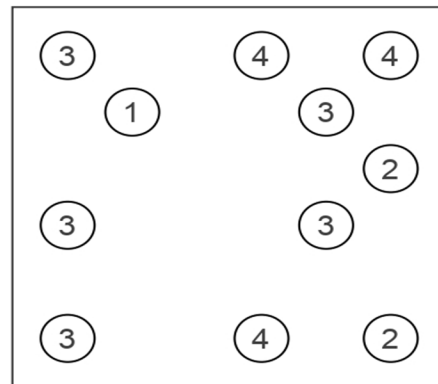
0606 BUILD BRIDGES 1



0606 BUILD BRIDGES 2



0606 BUILD BRIDGES 3



0606 BUILD BRIDGES 4

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, 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