

# MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Growing a deeply connected family of faith*

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

[www.mttaborlutheran.org](http://www.mttaborlutheran.org)



**9:15 AM - September 20, 2026 - 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**ALIVE! Worship Service**

## INTRODUCTION

*Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.*

### ***God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me***

verses 1,4 & 5



- 1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
- 2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
- 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,
- 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
- 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

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# Take My Life That I May Be

Verses 1, 3 & 4

*Refrain/Estribillo*



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -  
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón  
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.  
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té  
1 Take my hands and let them move  
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,  
3 Take my voice and let me sing  
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;  
at the im - pulse of thy love;  
not a mite would I with - hold;  
al - ways, on - ly for my King;  
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -  
take my feet and let them be swift and  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry  
take my lips and let them be filled with  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



*Refrain/Estribillo*

pul - so de tu a - mor.  
beau - ti - ful for thee.  
pow'r as thou shalt choose.  
mes - sag - es from thee.  
be thy roy - al throne.

# *All the People Said Amen*

***Maher, Moak,  
and Morgan***

## Verse 1

You are not alone if you are lonely  
When you feel afraid you're not the only  
We are all the same in need of mercy  
To be forgiven and be free  
It's all you got to lean on  
But thank God it's all you need

## Chorus

And all the people said amen whoa  
And all the people said amen  
Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends  
And all the people said amen

## Verse 2

If you're rich or poor well it don't matter  
Weak or strong you know love is what we're after  
We're all broken but we're all in this together  
God knows we stumble and fall  
And He so loved the world  
He sent His son to save us all

## Chorus

## Bridge

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart  
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart  
Blessed are the people hungry for another start  
For theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of God

## Chorus

## Repeat chorus

## Ending

And all the people said amen.

## PEACE

Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church

### **Growing a deeply connected family of faith**

Whether by Blood or Baptism, we are family here. Let us share the peace of Christ with each other.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

# HYMN OF PRAISE

## *Praise*

Verse 1     *ALIVE Soloists, congregation remains seated*

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     *Congregation stands & sings*

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

Chorus 2

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

Bridge

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

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

## A READING

## Philippians 1:21-30

A reading from Philippians.

*Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.*

<sup>21</sup> For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, <sup>24</sup> but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup> Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup> so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

<sup>27</sup> Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup> and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup> For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, <sup>30</sup> since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# PSALM HYMN

## *Great Is the Lord*

C Dm G/B C

Great is the Lord, he is ho - ly and just, by his

F/A G F C/E Dm<sup>7</sup> C C Dm

pow-er we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is

G/B C F/A G

faith - ful and true, by his mer - cy he proves he is

F C/E Dm<sup>7</sup> C B $\flat$ /C F/C B $\flat$ /C F C/E Dm<sup>7</sup> C

love. Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of glo - ry.

B $\flat$ /C F/C B $\flat$ /C G/C C B $\flat$ /C F/C B $\flat$ /C

Great is the Lord, and wor-ty of praise. Great is the Lord, now

D G E Am Dm Gsus G

lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the

Am Am<sup>7</sup>/G Dm Gsus G C Csus C

Lord! Great is the Lord!

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 20:1-16**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup> They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

**Pastor Pat Riddle**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. Amen.

## OFFERTORY

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. 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.'

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

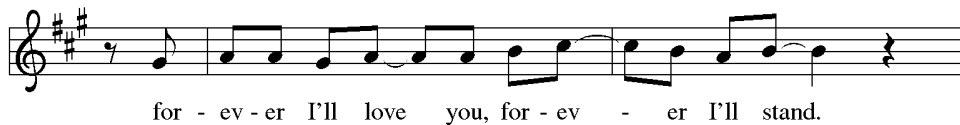
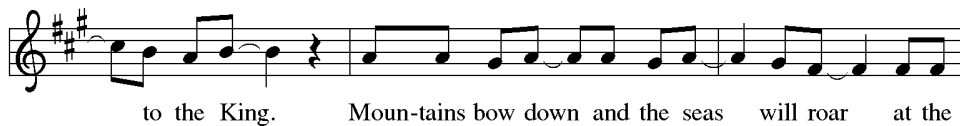
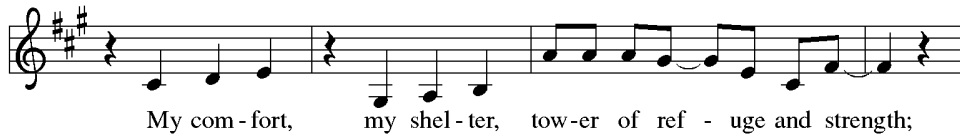
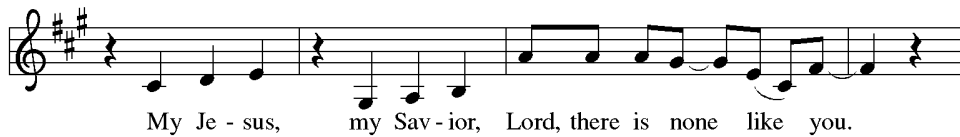
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is 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

## *Shout to the Lord*



Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

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DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

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*Worship Assistants*

*Lector* ..... *Rachel Bundrick*  
*Ushers* ..... *Ray Conrad, Adam Parker*  
*Greeter* ..... *Grace Fuson*  
*Acolyte* ..... *KateLynn Parker*  
*Livestream coordinators* ..... *Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr*

*ALIVE! Musicians*

|                                 |                        |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Gale McLeod, Co-Director</i> | <i>David Moye</i>      | <i>Ed Redmond</i>      |
| <i>Irelou Moye, Co-Director</i> | <i>Erin Hall</i>       | <i>Roxanne Rich</i>    |
| <i>Beth Branham</i>             | <i>Vaughn Hall</i>     | <i>Sarah Smith</i>     |
| <i>Clark Ebener</i>             | <i>Ricky Lusk</i>      | <i>Jessica Gibbons</i> |
| <i>Lyndsey Ebener</i>           | <i>Julie Ann Payne</i> |                        |



The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Irelou Moye, whose birthday is September 22<sup>nd</sup>, by her family. She is clothed in strength and dignity, fears the Lord, opens her arms to the poor and speaks with wisdom ~ more precious than rubies, indeed!

The bulletin covers are given to the glory of God in honor of Beau Wright's 11<sup>th</sup> birthday by Steve, Doris, and Kyle Rabon, and Chris and Jenny Wright.



## **FOR FURTHER STUDY**

### **Jonah 3:10—4:11**

*After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?*

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup> But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. <sup>3</sup> And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup> And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup> Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup> But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup> When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

<sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup> Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night.

<sup>11</sup> And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

## Psalm 145:1-8

- <sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, my God and king,  
and bless your name forever and ever.
- <sup>2</sup> Every day will I bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.
- <sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!  
There is no end to your greatness.
- <sup>4</sup> One generation shall praise your works to another  
and shall declare your power.
- <sup>5</sup> I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty  
and all your marvelous works.
- <sup>6</sup> They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,  
and I will recount your greatness.
- <sup>7</sup> They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

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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!

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**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:* Trevor Anderson, Hannah Fogle, Shannon Bolick, Allen Shealy, Quinton Smoak, Rachel Smoak, Rachel Sullivan, Sarah Rybicki, Ashley Harris, Becky Rybicki.

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

Sarah Rybicki, Ruth Goldsmith, Jack Sox, Fred Vallejo, Amy Oliver, Nancy Stone-Collum,  
John Morris, Murray Hoskins, Christie Cook, Michael Bradshaw, Abby Grace Roof,  
Liliana Stork, Tammy Quarles

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Hoa O'Kelley, Sally Kleber, James Campbell, Jeanie & Paul Jacobs, Rachel Bundrick, Karen Holton,  
Sandra Baker, Paul & Carolyn Dufries, John Conrad, Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Alice Pollock,  
Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Paul Addy, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

**Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:**

Sherrill Chaney, Leonard Chapman, Derek Rickenbaker, Mike Baxter, Ed & Monica Emmer,  
Adrian Moldovan, Heather Topolski, Daryl Tarte, Paul Price, Andy Granger, Mary Oliver,  
Sherwood Williams, Don Ackerman, Paula Miller, Chet Popkowski, Linda Wright,  
Beth Franklin, Ronnie Crim, Shirley Spruill, Russell Altman, Eddie Porter, Eddie Broughman,  
Julie Johnson, Lewis Tankersley, Danny Baker, Suzanne Oxner Stello, Dr. Chris Wicker,  
William & Janet Wood, Judy Lazarczyk, Robbie Burgess, Ronnie Boland, Tonia Boland,  
Andy Rauch, Peggy Roessler, John Bailey, John Sharpe, Bishop Ginny Aebischer, Zach Wash,  
Tyler Corbitt, Nancy Waugh, Emily Waugh, Sam Waugh, Laura Ann Merrill

**Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:**

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

**Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:**

Justin Casteel, Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

**Family of:**

Patty Horton Turpin, Luther Swicegood, Al Roberts, Jackie Sox

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***Worship Leaders***

*Rev. Patrick W. Riddle, Interim Pastor*

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation*

*Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music*