



MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

1000 B Avenue • West Columbia • South Carolina • 29169
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www.mttaborlutheran.org

11:00 AM - September 27, 2026, 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion - Setting 5

INTRODUCTION

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Aria

Andrew Carter

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW p. 94

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
 2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name
 4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
 5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.
 all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.
 on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,
 thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,
 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;
 Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
 all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
 brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.
 let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
 and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877

Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

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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

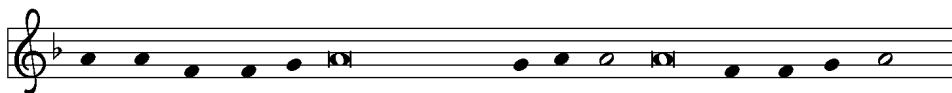
ELW p. 156



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

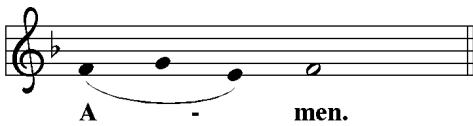
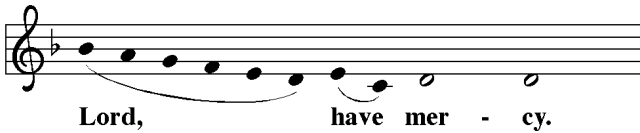
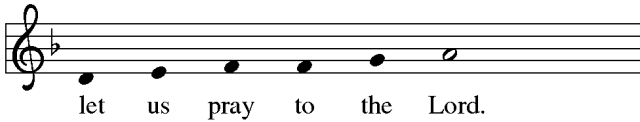
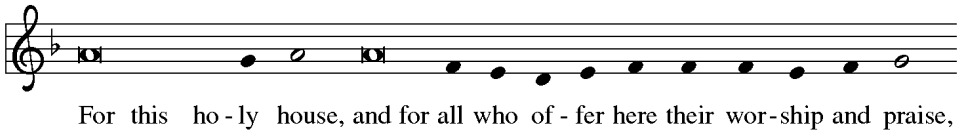
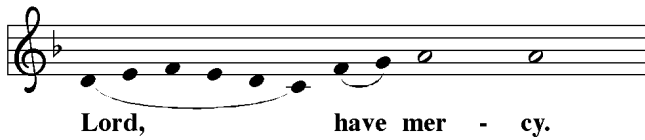


For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Continued on next page.



Assisting minister

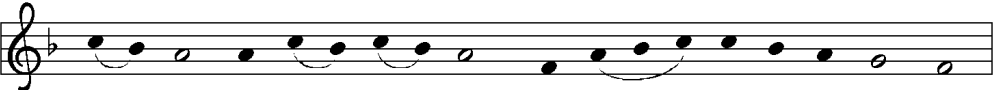


Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor -



ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



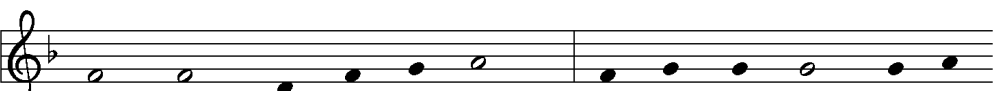
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, O Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have



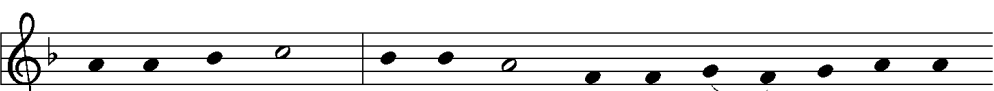
mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



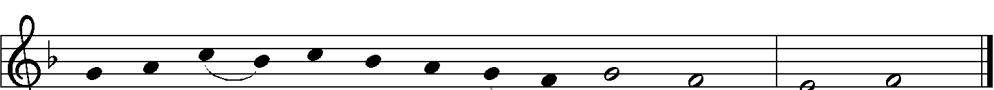
Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the



Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone



are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 159

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

A reading from Ezekiel.

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

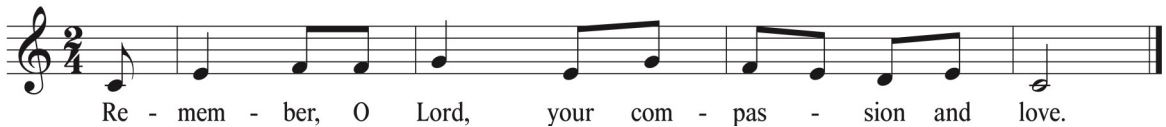
³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-9

The congregation is invited to join in the refrain.

W K Davis



- ¹ To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
- ² My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me. **R**
- ³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- ⁴ Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths. **R**
- ⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- ⁶ Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting. **R**
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- ⁸ You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.
- ⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way. **R**

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

A reading from Philippians.

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be grasped,
⁷ but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 assuming human likeness.
 And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death—
 even death on a cross.
⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
 and gave him the name
 that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

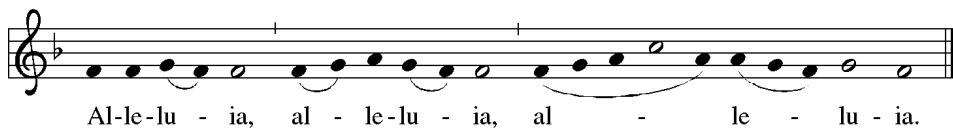
¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but
 much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is
 God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 160



Repeat alleluia



GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

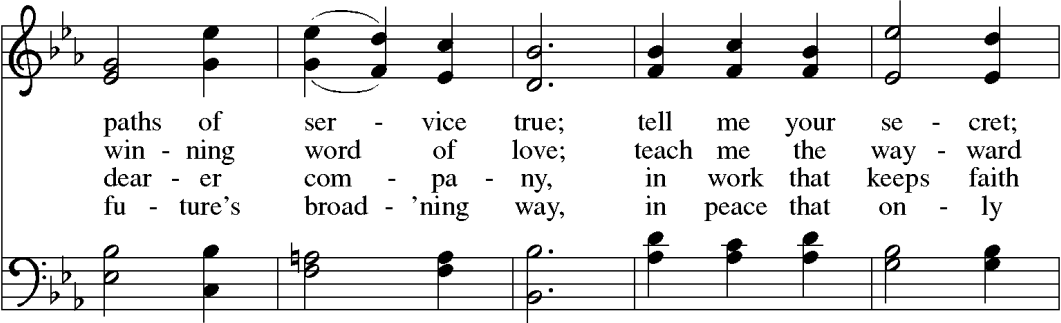
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

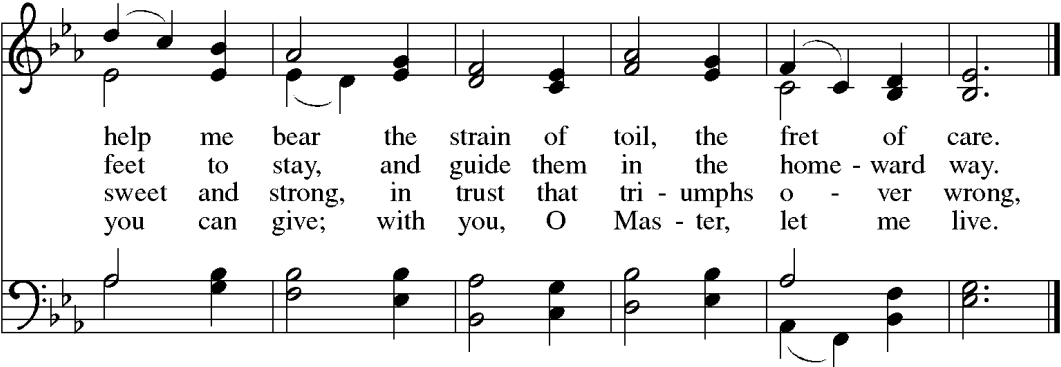
Pastor Pat Riddle



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
 Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

APOSTLES' CREED

ELW p. 105

**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

**Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.**

PEACE

ELW p. 161

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast

Donald Busarow

OFFERTORY 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

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key of three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line of music corresponds to the second line of lyrics. The score ends with a double bar line.

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. 162**

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. 112

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. 164

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy

on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
 4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;

Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - spect - ant, o - pen,
 2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,

in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
 in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,

Refrain

Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;

Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
 Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
 Text and music © 1999 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
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1 Streng-then for ser-vice, Lord, the hands that ho-ly
 2 The tongues that sang your ho-ly name now purge of
 3 And may the feet that walked your courts be nev-er



things have ta-ken; and let the ears that heard your
 all de-cep-tion; keep bright the eyes that saw your
 lured to wan-der; but lead the faith-ful nour-ished



word to false-hood nev-er wak-en.
 love and sharp-en their per-cep-tion.
 here to jour-ney on in splen-dor.

Text: Syriac Liturgy of Malabar; tr. composite
 Music: BUCKHURST RUN, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ELW p. 164

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

ELW p. 164

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.**

1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun - tain ev - er flow - ing,
 2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
 3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
 4 When dan - gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;

with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing;
 what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
 guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
 help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;

give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
 to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
 but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
 help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,

a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
 what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
 then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
 and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Andrew Carter

Worship Assistants

Communion assistants *Randy & Elizabeth Klapman*
Lector *Randy or Elizabeth Klapman*
Ushers *Travis & Linda Spainhour*
Greeter *Sandy Dennis*
Acolyte *Vicki McFarland*
Crucifer *Drewby McQuillen*
Livestream coordinators *Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr*



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Julie K. Miller's birthday today, September 27th, by her father.

The bulletin covers are given to the glory of God in honor of Julie K. Miller's birthday today, September 27th, by her father.



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EEVSAL _____

WOLAHLENE _____

FOBREIN _____

NGORAE _____

RWESATE _____

KIPNPMU _____



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: Judy Fisher, Kaitlyn Liafsha, Amaya McCoy, Carter McCoy, Paul Hutto, Gilene McCullough, Evan Rybicki, Melissa Hughes, Chris Dawson, Mitzi Epting, Johnathon Hall, Tanner Anderson, Sam Davis, Hailey DuVall, Eliza Scyphers, Vaughn Hall, Lynn Hostetter, Christina Henricks, Miley Rhodes, Cassie Kelly.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Dora Miller, Annie Ruth Addy, Bruce Busbee, 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:

Irene Schreiber, 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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Patrick W. Riddle, Interim Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music