



# MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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11:00 AM - August 23, 2026, 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Traditional Worship Service

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## Holy Communion - Setting 5

### INTRODUCTION

*In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*Sarabande*

**Eric Thiman**

#### 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.**

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.**

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and  
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of  
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from  
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
 hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,  
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er  
 to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
 hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est  
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter  
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.  
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.  
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

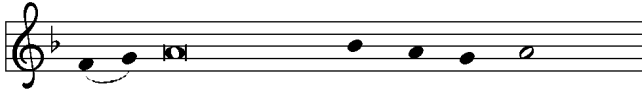
## GREETING

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.



Lord, have mer - cy.

*Continued on next page.*



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p. 158



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



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.

*Continued on next page.*

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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 159

Let us pray.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

A reading from Isaiah.

*Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.*

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,  
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

<sup>2</sup> Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah, who bore you,  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.

<sup>3</sup> For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup> Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation,  
for a teaching will go out from me  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;  
my salvation has gone out,  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.

<sup>6</sup> Lift up your eyes to the heavens  
and look at the earth beneath,  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats,  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 138

*The congregation is invited to join in the refrain.*

W K Davis



- <sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- <sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things. **R**
- <sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.
- <sup>4</sup> All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth. **R**
- <sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup> The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty from afar. **R**
- <sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.
- <sup>8</sup> You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. **R**

## SECOND READING

**Romans 12:1-8**

A reading from Romans.

*In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

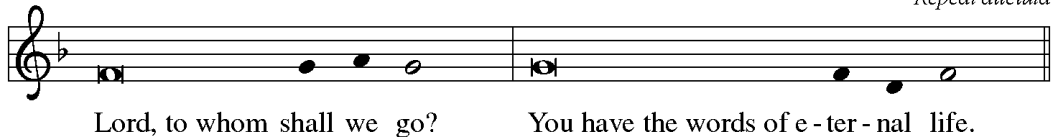
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 160



*Repeat alleluia*



## GOSPEL

**Matthew 16:13-20**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.*

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" <sup>14</sup> And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup> He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

**Pastor Nathan Gragg**





1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,  
 2 A - pos - tles, proph - ets, mar - tyrs, and all the no - ble throng  
 3 Give praise to God Al - might - y, and wor - ship God the Son,



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed!  
 who wear the spot - less rai - ment and raise the cease-less song -  
 and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



For you a - rose vic - to - rious that they might wear the crown  
 for these passed on be - fore us, we sing our praise a - new  
 till all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



and share the light of glo - ry re - flect - ed from your throne.  
 and, walk - ing in their foot - steps, would live our lives for you.  
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.  
 Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

7 We praise you, Lord, for Peter,  
 so eager and so bold,  
 thrice falling, yet repentant,  
 thrice charged to feed your fold.  
 Lord, make your pastors faithful  
 to guard your flock from harm,  
 and hold them when they waver  
 with your almighty arm.

## **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**

Merciful God,  
**Receive our prayer.**

## **PEACE**

**ELW p. 161**

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

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Many Gifts, One Spirit*

**Allen Pote**

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.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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## OFFERING PRAYER

ELW p. 161

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 bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves, with the first line of music corresponding to the first line of lyrics, and the second line of music corresponding 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 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

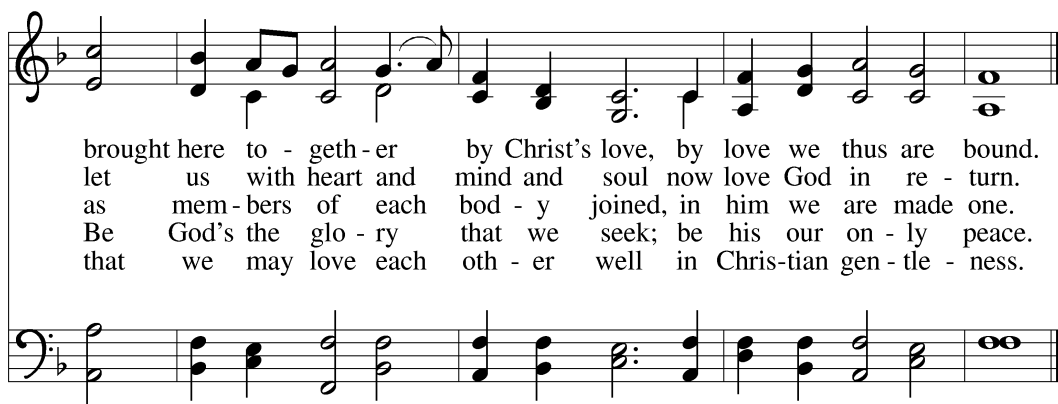
take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
 it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own;  
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 at thy feet its treasure store;  
 take myself, and I will be  
 ever, only, all for thee.



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten-tions cease.  
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;  
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,  
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;  
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,

O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:  
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:  
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.  
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;

we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,

we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.  
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.  
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.  
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!



## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**ELW p. 164**

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our 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 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

*Continued on next page.*

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with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900  
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

## DISMISSAL

ELW p. 164

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Carillon*

**Herbert Murrill**

## *Worship Assistants*

|                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Communion assistants</i> .....    | <i>Ann Spainhour, Tammy O'Quinn</i> |
| <i>Lector</i> .....                  | <i>Sarah Whitehead</i>              |
| <i>Ushers</i> .....                  | <i>Jeremy Goings, Tex Davis</i>     |
| .....                                | <i>Freddy Vallejo, Fred Vallejo</i> |
| <i>Greeter</i> .....                 | <i>Elizabeth Goings</i>             |
| <i>Acolyte</i> .....                 | <i>Vicki McFarland</i>              |
| <i>Crucifer</i> .....                | <i>Paxton Goings</i>                |
| <i>Livestream coordinators</i> ..... | <i>Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr</i>   |



To the glory of God and with celebration the altar flowers are given in honor  
 of the birthdays of David and Lisa Moye, Steven Vanlangendon,  
 and Lillian Minor by Richie and Irelou Moye.

**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:* Chris Elledge, Court Morris, Mary Garrett Waring, MJ Witcher, Stanton Moye, Jackson Addy, Paxton Goings, Sally McFarland, Nicole Thompson, Tyler Wiggers, LJ Witcher, Stephen Hamilton, Charlotte Rister, Mindy Williams, Ray Conrad.

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

John Morris, Michael Gayden, Murray Hoskins, Christie Cook, Michael Bradshaw, Foster McLeod, Abby Grace Roof, Liliana Stork, Tammy Quarles, Hoa O'Kelley, Sally Kleber, James Campbell

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Jeanie & Paul Jacobs, Rachel Bundrick, Karen Holton, Sandra Baker, Paul & Carolyn Dufries, John Conrad, Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Alice Pollock, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Paul Addy, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

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

Derek Rickenbaker, Mike Baxter, Ed & Monica Emmer, Adrian Moldovan, Mike McCarn, Heather Topolski, Daryl Tarte, Paul Price, Andy Granger, Mary Oliver, Meryn Rawl, Russell Grant, Sherwood Williams, Al Roberts, Don Ackerman, Paula Miller, Chet Popkowski, Jared Lough, 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:**

John Jowers, Mona Myers

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***Worship Leaders***

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

*Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation*

*Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music*