

# 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 - January 11, 2026 - Baptism of Our Lord**

**ALIVE! Worship Service**

## INTRODUCTION

*In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.*

### *Take Me to the Water*

1 Take me to the wa - ter. Take me to the wa -  
2 I love Je - sus. I love Je -  
3 He's my Sav - ior. He's my Sav -  
4 Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu -

ter. Take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.  
sus. I love Je - sus, yes, I do.  
ior. He's my Sav - ior, yes, he is.  
jah. Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah to be bap - tized.

This African American spiritual sums up the commitment of a candidate for baptism: the request for the rite, an expression of motivation, and a succinct affirmation of faith. The widening melodic lines build anticipation and give weight to the final phrase of each stanza.

## *Down Galilee's Slow Roadways*



1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways a strang - er trav - eled on  
2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav - ens torn;  
3 We too have found a road - way; it led us to this place.



from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John.  
it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.  
We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.



He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,  
The ho - ly dove de - scend - ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:  
But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.



but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.  
"You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."  
"You are my own, my cho - sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: MERLE'S TUNE, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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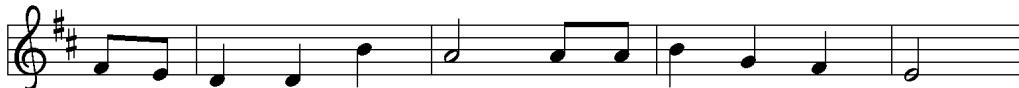
## *Baptized and Set Free*



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.  
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.  
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,  
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956

Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner

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## **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**

## **INSTALLATION AND PRAYER FOR 2026 COUNCIL MEMBERS**

## **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.**

## **PRAAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines*

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, . . . with - out end. A - men.



As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be. A - men.

Text: Paul M. Vasile, b. 1976, based on the Gloria Patri

Music: GLORY TO GOD (VASILE), Paul M. Vasile

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A reading from Acts.

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### PSALM HYMN

#### *The God of Heaven*

1 The God of heav - en thun - ders, whose voice in stri - dent  
 2 The des - ert writhes in tem - pest; wind whips the trees to  
 3 The might - y God e - ter - nal is to the throne as -

ech - oes re - sounds a - bove the wa - ters,  
 fu - ry; the light - ning splits the for - est  
 cend - ed, and we who are God's peo - ple,

and all the world sings, "Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!"  
 and flame dif - fus - es glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!  
 with - in these walls cry, "Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!"

This rather telegraphic paraphrase of Psalm 29 effectively conveys the Psalm's recurring contrast between the mighty voice of God heard in thunder and tempest and the awestruck response of creation. Above this tumult, God reigns in peace, and the people of God sing praise.

GLORY  
Imperial  
1970. © 1970 by Imperial Music Corp. All rights reserved.  
Text and Music © 1973 The Abundant Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

## GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Wade Roof**

**ANTHEM**

*Come to the Water*

**Foley/arr. Schrader**

**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

### *To You All Hearts Are Open*



To you all hearts are open, to you all de-sires known. To you there are no secrets, al-might-y God; we come to you.

Text: John Tirro, b. 1966; based on an 11th cent. collect, tr. *Book of Common Prayer*

Music: ALL HEARTS ARE OPEN, John Tirro

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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.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

ELW p. 153

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.

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.

## 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

## COMMUNION

### COMMUNION HYMNS

#### *We are Baptized in Christ Jesus*



1 We are bap - tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;  
2 In the wa - ter and the wit - ness, in the break - ing of the bread,  
3 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.  
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,  
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread - ful death like his,  
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.  
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.  
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937

Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker

Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

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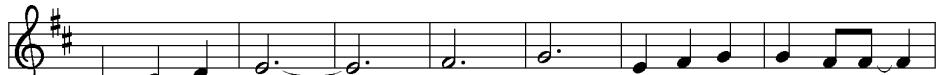
## *Spirit of Gentleness*

verses 3 & 4

*Refrain*



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.

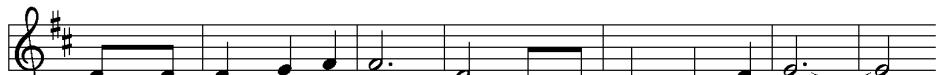


1 You moved on the wa - - ters, you called to the deep,

2 You swept through the des - - ert, you stung with the sand,

3 You sang in a sta - - ble, you cried from a hill,

4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;

and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;

then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;

From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;

and when they were blind - ed with i - dolls and lies,

and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,

our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



"A - - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."

then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.

when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.

With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo-ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940

Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley

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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

### *Born, Reborn*

*Refrain*

Born, re - born! Born, re - born! Formed, re - formed!

Souls with glad - ness now a - dorned! Born, re - born! Born, re - born!

Formed, re - formed! Praise our God for-ev - er - more!

1 Drown us. Drown us. Raise us. Raise us.  
2 Name us. Name us. Heal us. Heal us.

Mark us. Mark us. Claim us! Claim us!  
Wash us. Wash us. Seal us! Seal us!

*Refrain*

Text: Justin Rimbo, b. 1980  
Music: BORN, REBORN, Justin Rimbo  
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## DISMISSAL

## POSTLUDE

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### **FOR FURTHER STUDY**

#### **Isaiah 42:1-9**

*God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

- <sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- <sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;
- <sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- <sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
- <sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:
- <sup>6</sup> I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
- <sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.
- <sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

## Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
    ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
    worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
    the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
    the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
    the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup> the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
    and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

<sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD  
    bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
    the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
    And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
    the LORD sits enthroned asking forevermore.

<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength to your people;  
    give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## *ALIVE! Musicians*

*Gale McLeod, Co-Director*

*Lyndsey Ebener*

*Ricky Lusk*

*Irelou Moye, Co-Director*

*David Moye*

*Julie Ann Payne*

*Beth Branham*

*Erin Hall*

*Ed Redmond*

*Leah Conrad*

*Vaughn Hall*

*Roxanne Rich*

*Brett Ebener*

*Steve Hamilton*

*Sarah Smith*

*Clark Ebener*

*Stephanie Liscusky*

*Jessica Gibbons*

## *Worship Assistants*

<i>Communion Assistants</i>	<i>.....</i>	<i>Cathy Crawford, Rachel Bundrick</i>
<i>Lector</i>	<i>.....</i>	<i>Cathy Crawford</i>
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>.....</i>	<i>Grace Fuson</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>.....</i>	<i>Adam Parker, Lucky Jones</i>
<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>.....</i>	<i>KateLynn Parker</i>
<i>Livestream coordinators</i>	<i>.....</i>	<i>Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr</i>



Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my mother on her birthday, and in honor of Wayne's and my wedding anniversary, by Sharon Mattern.

Today's bulletin covers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ron Hutto. Your memory is my keepsake, with which we'll never part, God has you in his keeping, I have you in my heart.

Love you dearly, Mom (Patsy Hutto)

~ Bonnie Dodd author of poem

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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:* Ashley Owens, Cade Jeffries, Amelia Hilton, Jackson Sox, Steve Hamilton, Courtney Sox, Beau Wright, Patti Gobbel, Tammy O'Quinn, Augusta Anderson, Bonnie King, Carol Glance, Gale McLeod Adam Parker, BobbiAnn Parker, KateLynn Parker, Austin Parker, Cindy Edge, Mason Edge Kimberly Smith, Foster Rich, Hannah Williams, Pat Watts.

**Most Recent Prayer Concerns:**

Murray Hoskins, Paul Dufries, Addie Wilkerson Pinner, Natalie Cook, Karen Holton

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:**

Jana Payne, Grace Kelly, Carolyn Dufries, Pastor Lavaughn Keisler, John Conrad, Linda Price  
Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Sandra Baker, Alice Pollock, Jimmy Williams  
Mona Myers, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Emma Lou Easley, Paul Addy  
Paul & Jeanie Jacobs, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

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

Lewis Tankersley, Danny Baker, Jensen Daniel, Suzanne Oxner Stello, Dr. Chris Wicker  
William & Janet Wood, Judy Lazarczyk, Bobby LoVine, Robbie Burgess, Ronnie Boland  
Tonia Boland, Andy Rauch, Peggy Roessler, Sherwood Williams, John Bailey, John Sharpe  
Bishop Ginny Aebischer, Bobby Brown, Steve Blake, Zach Wash, Tyler Corbitt  
Nancy Waugh, Emily Waugh, Sam Waugh, Laura Ann Merrill, Anne Moye

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

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

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

Cory Fabian, Zachery Gayden, Josh Watson, Jacob Henry Burgan, Caleb Neff

**The Family Of:**

Melvin Manus, Al Jordan, Barbara Raulerson, Evelyn Furtick, Michael Rodgers  
Robert C. Lybrand

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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*