



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

11:00 AM - February 2, 2025, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion Setting 4

INTRODUCTION

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Andante Tranquillo *from Sonata No. 3*

Felix Mendelssohn

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.

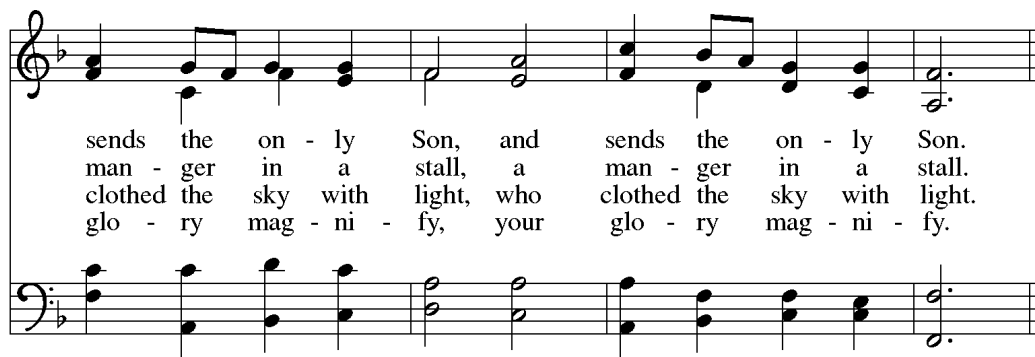
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the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



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the
 2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an
 3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor
 4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a



high - est throne; to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and
 in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a
 of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who
 lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your



sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.
 man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.
 clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.
 glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

5 A wonderful exchange you make:
 you take our flesh and blood,
 and in return give us to share
 the shining realm of God,
 the shining realm of God.

6 Unlock the door again today
 that leads to paradise;
 the angel bars the way no more.
 To God let praises rise,
 to God let praises rise!

GREETING

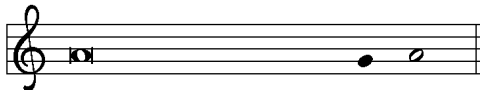
ELW p. 147

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. 147



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, 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,

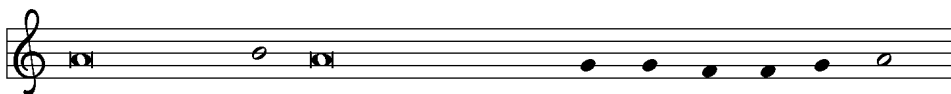


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Continued on next page



For this holy house, and for all who offer 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. 148

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 150

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 1:4-10

A reading from Jeremiah.

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” ⁷ But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD.”

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,
“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

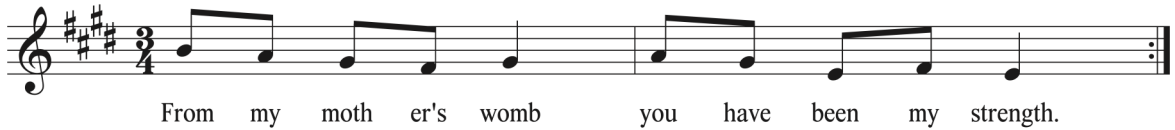
¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 71:1-6

WK Davis



¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

² In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;
incline your ear to me and save me. **R**

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;
you are my crag and my stronghold.

⁴ Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor. **R**

⁵ For you are my hope, O Lord GOD,
my confidence since I was young.

⁶ I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have been
my strength; my praise shall be always of you. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

¹ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

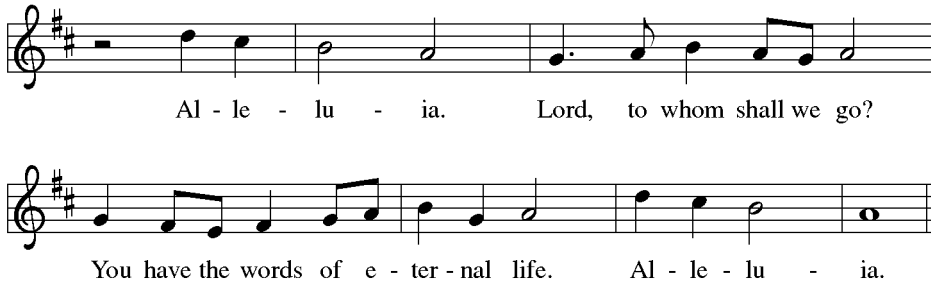
⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL

Luke 4:21-30

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

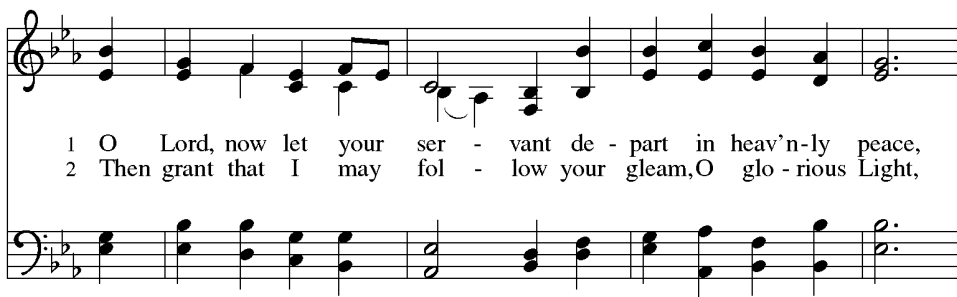
²¹ Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' " ²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

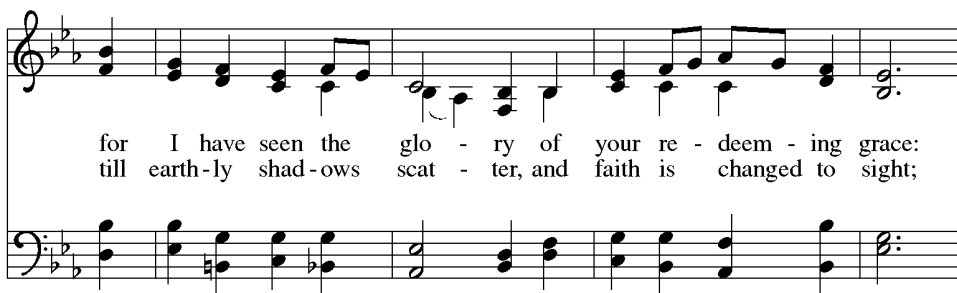
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

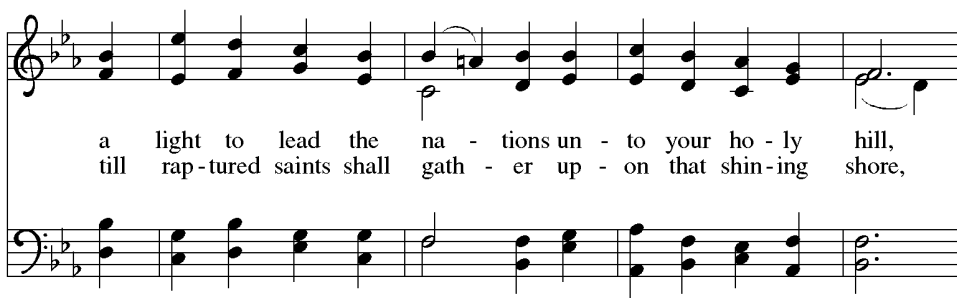
Pastor Nathan Gragg



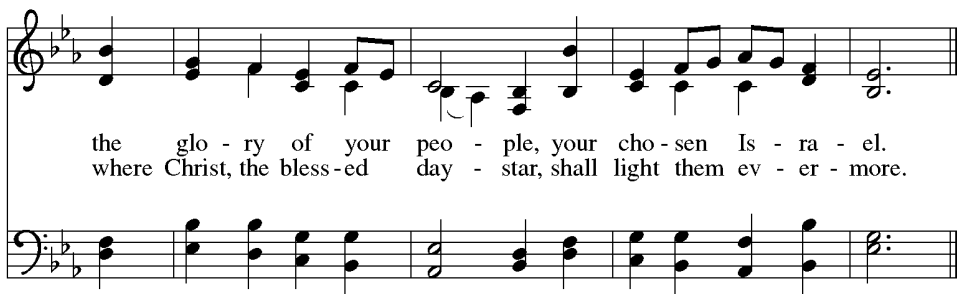
1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
till rap - tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin - ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
where Christ, the bless - ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt.

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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CREED

ELW p. 152

**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

God of grace,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE

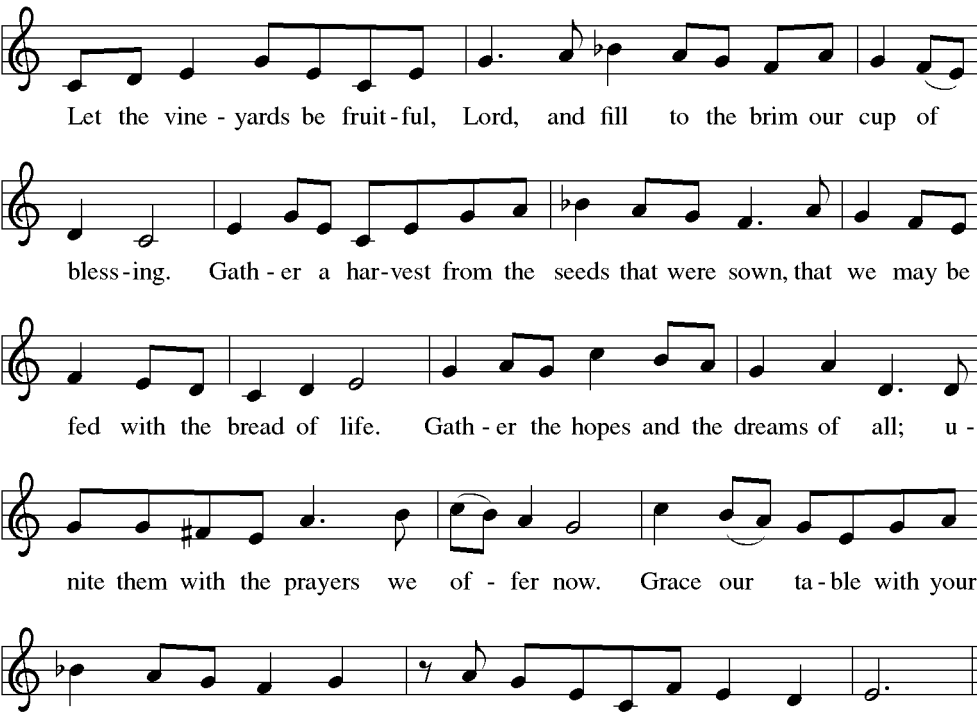
ELW p. 152

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Carl Schalk



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

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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OFFERING PRAYER

ELW p. 152

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.**

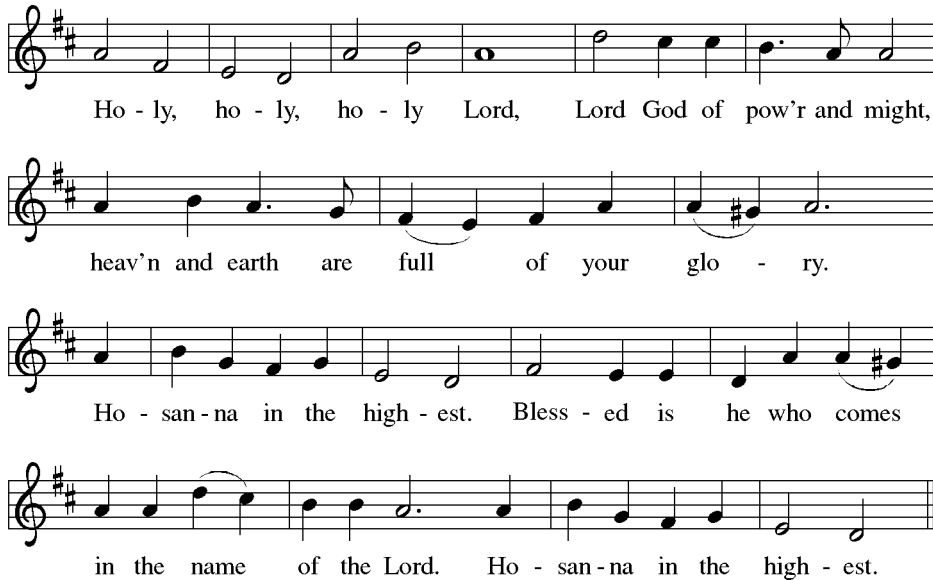
PREFACE

ELW p. 153

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

ELW p. 154

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. 154



HYMN 490

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY



- 1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van - guard on the way;
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:

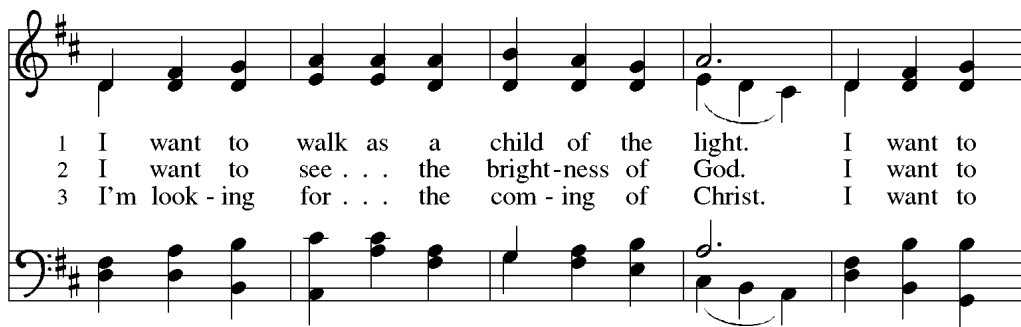


Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
 he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

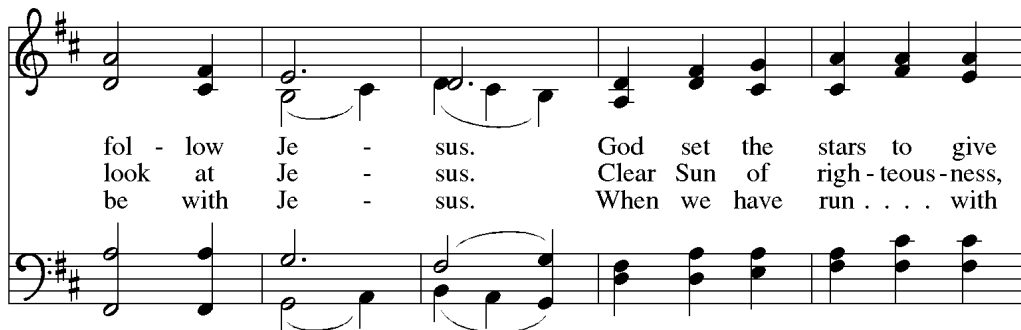
HYMN 815

I Want to Walk as a Child


HOUSTON



- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright - ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

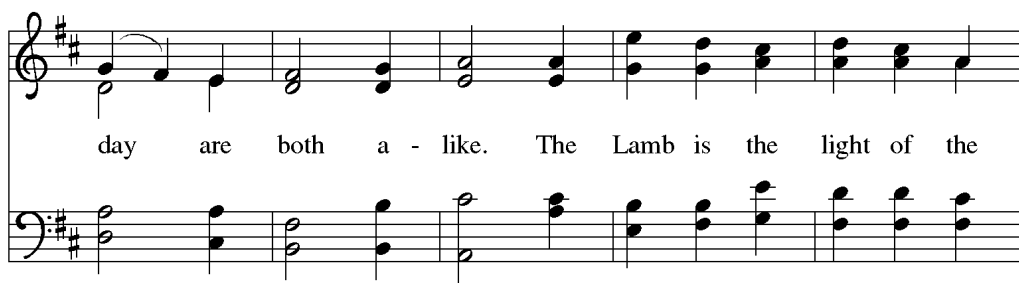


light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ELW p. 155

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

ELW p. 155

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN 545

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

SICILIAN MARINE

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Nicolas-Jacques Lemmens

Worship Assistants

Lector *Joe or Docia Jones*
Communion assistants *Joe & Docia Jones*
Greeter *Docia Jones*
Usher *Joe Jones, Chris Sox*



Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in honor of Jilda Ward’s birthday by Carol, Jody, Arlette and Arwynn.

Today’s bulletin covers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
her mom, whose birthday would have been February 3rd, by Rachel Bundrick.



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Apple Core

Spoon

Toothbrush

Teacup

Artist's Brush

Open Book

Heart

Baseball Glove

Slice of Pizza

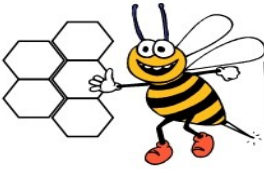
Fish

Banana

Gingerbread

Pencil

Sock



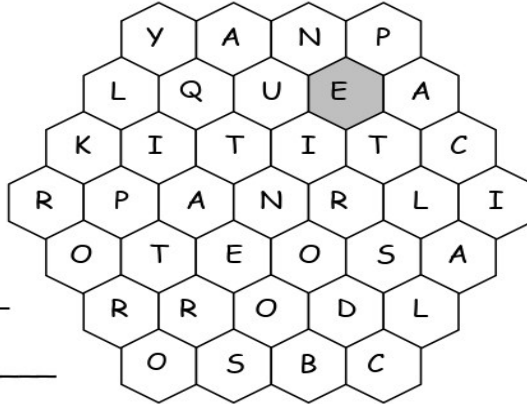
Buzzword!

#1

TM

by Ann Richmond Fisher

The shaded E and the six letters surrounding it spell PETUNIA, which matches one of the clues below. Find 7-letter words for the remaining clues. Shade the center letter of each word.



1. flowering plant petunia -E
2. a solo performance _____
3. excellence _____
4. person receiving medical care _____
5. adult male domestic fowl _____
6. old item _____
7. opening in nose _____

Now unscramble all 7 of the center letters
to spell today's BUZZWORD.

A coin: _ _ _ _ _



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: Don Cole, Lauren Matthews, Beth Branham, Evelyn Tinh Nolan, Brian Sox.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Carolyn Dufries, Patsy Jennings, Lauren Addy, Linda Price, Elise Helms, John Payne
Kim Pittman, Lynda Mason, Bruce Merchant, Betty Wise, Dennis Rybicki, Sr.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Al & Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Sandra Baker
Drewby McQuillen, Mary Davis, Alice Pollock, Jimmy Williams, Mona Myers
Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Dennis Rybicki Jr., Emma Lou Easley, Paul Addy
Paul & Jeanie Jacobs, Herman Bouknight, Jane Sexton, Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Mike Baxter, Easton Cato, Allan Oliver, John Holland, Tonia Boland, Misty Smith, Pastor Kenneth Taylor, Rawlins McCloy & Family, Mark Horne, Willie Beason, John Woods, Jimmy Mitchell, David Baldwin, Salvador Brau, Deidre Huckabee Brau, Fallynn Rickards, William Wood, Pat Redmond, Mark Fuller, Chris Holley, Johnny Smith, Jack Hyde, Teddy Bowden Jackson Bell, Pam Player, Nancy & Emily Waugh, Becky & Phil Frederick, Laura Ann Merrill Kim Coker, Grace Kelly, Chuck Backman, Michelle Roe, Beth Murphy, Justin "Cody" Spires Billy Holton, Barbara Kohr, Jenny Mack, Tommy Cambell, Niko Bosley, Angela Livingston
Anne Moye, Isabelle Sundlie

Members of Mt. Tabor Serving in the Military:

Adam Davis, Samuel Davis, Scott Hash, Alex Morris

Family and Loved Ones Serving in the Military:

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

The Family Of:

Bill Clark, Victoria Marchant, Nancy Padgett, Ron Hutto

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music