



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 - January 25, 2026, Third Sunday after Epiphany
Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion Setting 3

INTRODUCTION

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around The Word, The Font, and The Holy Table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Sarabande

Gordon Young

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 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 mouths to speak thy holy name.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 May the light which thou dost send
 fill our songs with alleluias,
 alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
 to thee laud and honor be.
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,
 praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 glory, glory be to thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 praise the holy Trinity!

GREETING

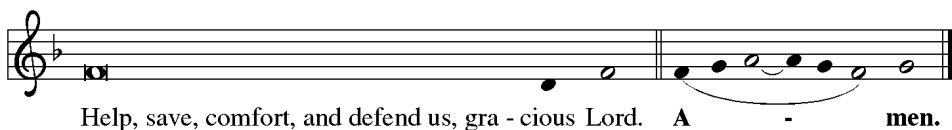
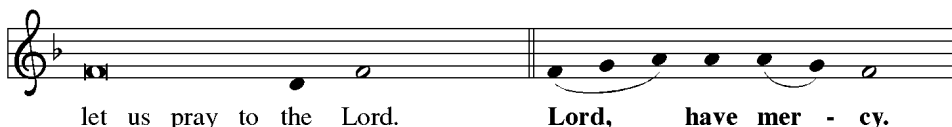
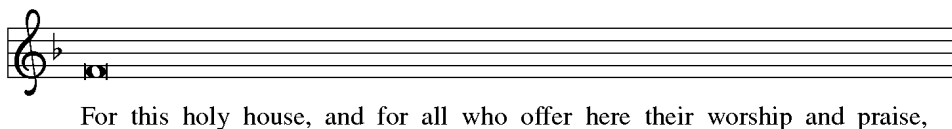
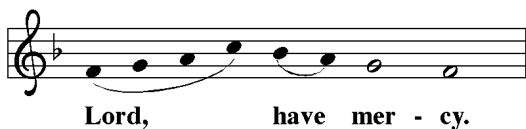
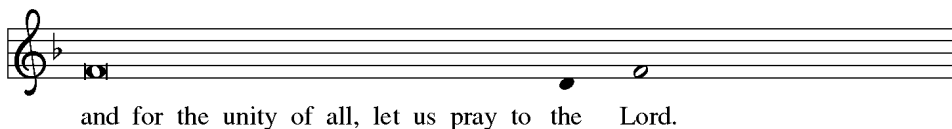
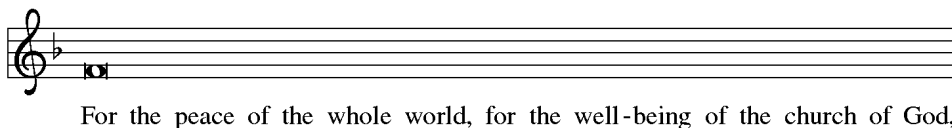
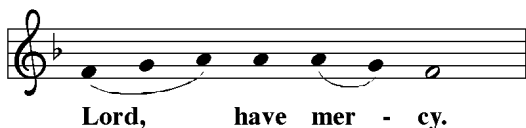
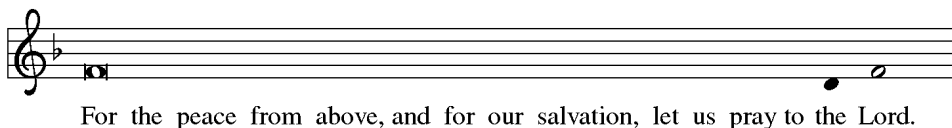
ELW p. 156

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.

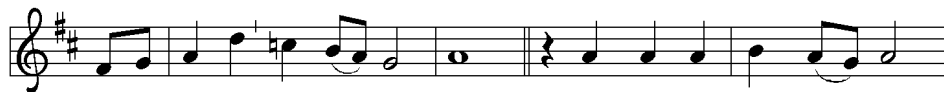
KYRIE

ELW p. 138





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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



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



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

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

Refrain

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

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

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 142

Let us pray.

Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

A reading from Isaiah.

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

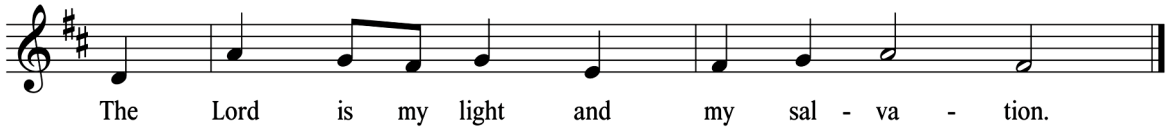
⁴ For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27:1, 4-9

W K Davis



¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple. **R**

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD. **R**

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;

have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ My heart speaks your message—"Seek my face."

Your face, O LORD, I will seek. **R**

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

15 “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

16 the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.

²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

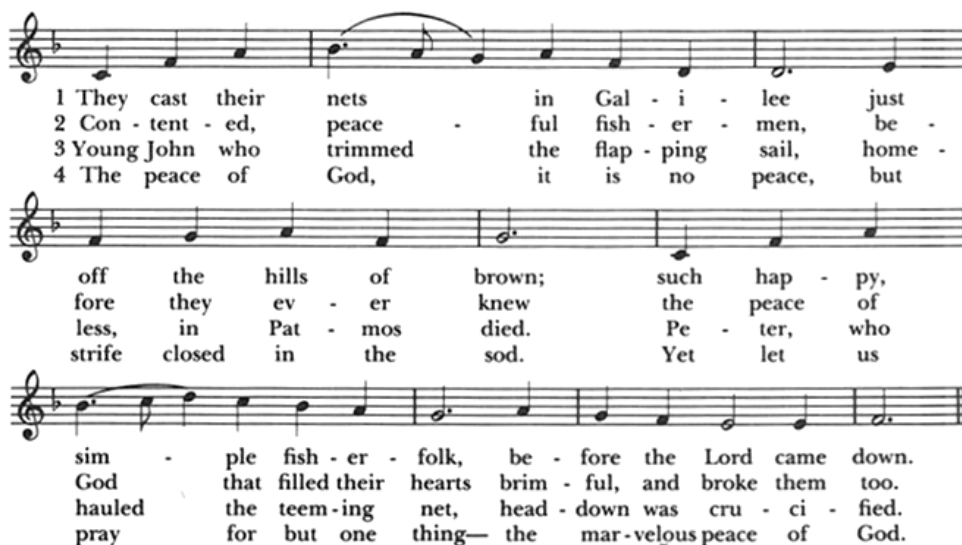
²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Wade Roof



1 They cast their nets in Gal - i - lee just
 2 Con - tent - ed, peace - ful fish - er - men, be -
 3 Young John who trimmed the flap - ping sail, home -
 4 The peace of God, it is no peace, but

off the hills of brown; such hap - py,
 fore they ev - er knew the peace of
 less, in Pat - mos died. Pe - ter, who
 strife closed in the sod. Yet let us

sim - ple fish - er - folk, be - fore the Lord came down.
 God that filled their hearts brim - ful, and broke them too.
 hauled the teen - ing net, head - down was cru - ci - fied.
 pray for but one thing— the mar - velous peace of God.

Words: William Alexander Percy (1885-1942), alt.

Music: *Georgetown*, David McKinley Williams (1887-1978)

CM

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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

ELW p. 143

Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

PEACE

ELW p. 143

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Arise, Shine

Mark Bender

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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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.**

HYMN 306

Come, Beloved of the Maker
verse 5

JILL



1 Come, be - lov - ed of the Mak - er, come, be -
2 See the Morn - ing - star now beck - on to those
3 Fol - low to the birth of new - ness; fol - low
4 There we too will burn and bright - en, God's re -
5 Christ, bright im - age of the Mak - er, God, whose



hold the First - born One; see re - vealed cre - a - tion's
bound to doubt and night; "Fol - low me," Christ calls in
to the life of peace; fol - low to the hill of
splen - dent work be - gun; glo - ry will as - cend and
glo - ry none may pass, Spir - it, sun of love and



splen - dor crowned in glo - ry like the sun.
wel - come, "come from dark - ness in - to light."
an - guish; fol - low to the gar - den bliss.
height - en, crown - ing us with glo - rious sun.
splen - dor, bear us in - to light at last.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: JILL, David Cherwien, b. 1957

Text © 2001 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

ELW p. 145

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 306

Come, Beloved of the Maker
verse 5

JILL

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 306

Come, Beloved of the Maker
verse 5

JILL

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 145

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.

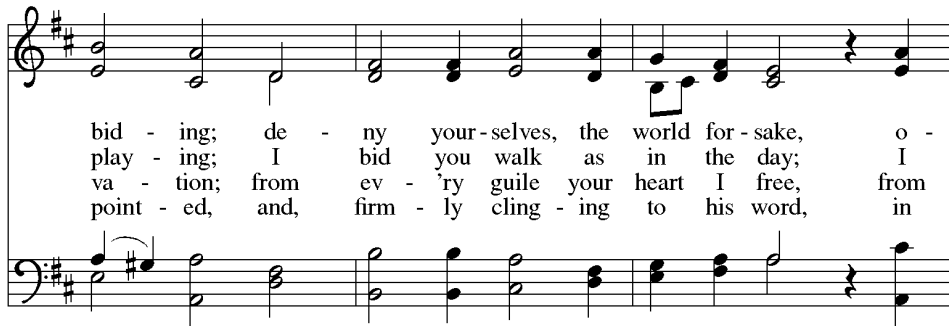
AGNUS DEI

ELW p. 146

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.




1 "Come, fol - low me," the Sav - ior spake, "all in my way a -
 2 "I am the light; I light the way, a god - ly life dis -
 3 "I teach you how to shun and flee what harms your soul's sal -
 4 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, and take the cross ap -




bid - ing; de - ny your-selves, the world for - sake, o -
 play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day; I
 va - tion; from ev - 'ry guile your heart I free, from
 point - ed, and, firm - ly cling - ing to his word, in



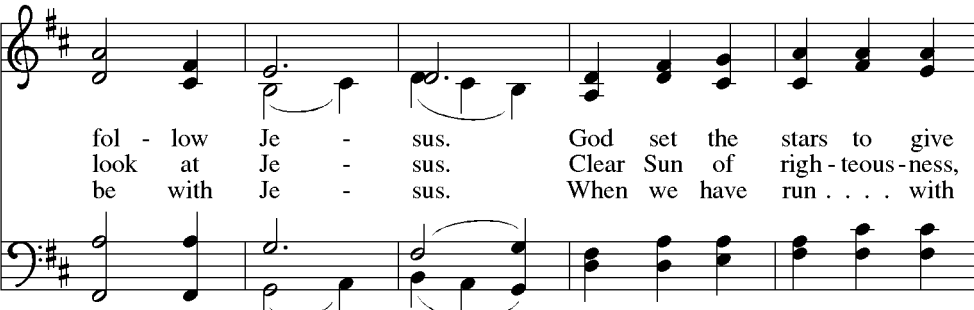
bey my call and guid - ing. Oh, bear the cross, what -
 keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
 sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
 suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide; take my ex - am - ple for your guide."
 well I show how you should so - journ here be - low."
 of the soul and lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
 bat - tle's strain the crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.



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

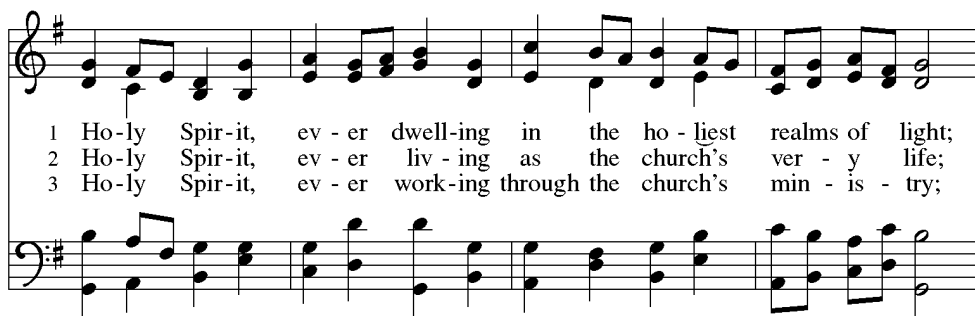
Let us pray.

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.**

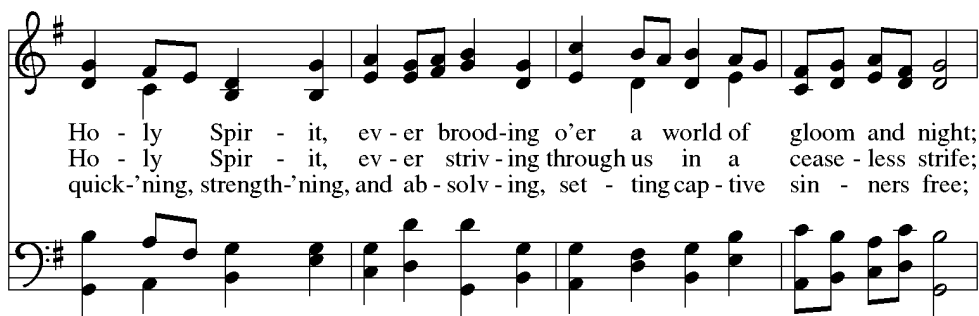
BLESSING

ELW p. 155

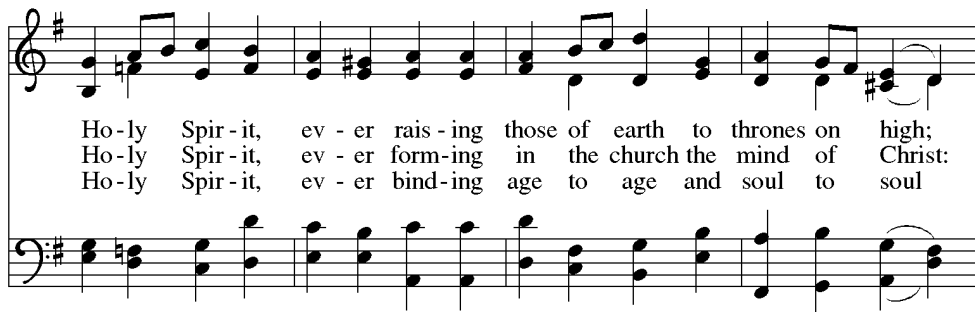
Almighty God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er dwell-ing in the ho - liest realms of light;
 2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er liv - ing as the church's ver - y life;
 3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er work-ing through the church's min - is - try;



Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;
 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing through us in a cease - less strife;
 quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab - solv - ing, set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er rais - ing those of earth to thrones on high;
 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ:
 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul



liv - ing, life - im - part - ing Spir - it, you we praise and mag - ni - fy.
 you we praise with end - less wor - ship for your gifts and fruits un - priced.
 in com - mu - nion nev - er end - ing, you we wor - ship and ex - tol.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Gordon Young

Worship Assistants

Communion assistants Pam Burnett, Docia Jones
Lector Irelou Moye
Greeter Carol Williams
Usher Hampton Miller
Acolyte Zoi Haftoglou
Crucifer Eli Haftoglou
Livestream coordinators Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr



Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of
Mitzi Epting’s birthday on January 26th by Jolene Marchant.

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Winter Word Search

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

APPLE CIDER

CHRISTMAS

FIREPLACE

GINGERBREAD

HANUKKAH

HOLIDAYS

HOT CHOCOLATE

ICE SKATING



ICICLE

MITTENS

PINECONE

READING

SKIING

SLED

SLEIGH RIDE

SNOW ANGEL

SNOW DAY

SNOWBALL

SNOWBOARD

SNOWFLAKE

SNOWMAN

SWEATER

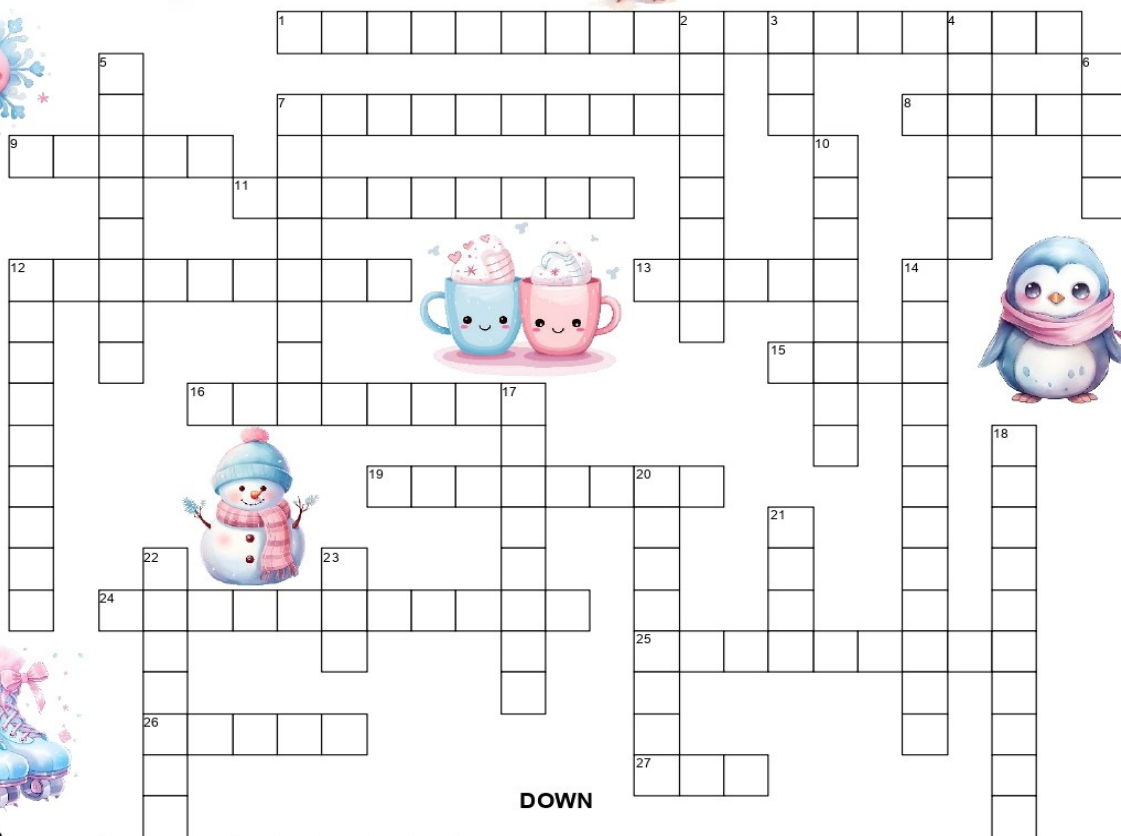
TOBOGGAN

WINTER

Name: _____

Date: _____

JANUARY Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 January 15th, Civil Rights leader's birthday
- 7 Traditional Scottish celebration on January 25th
- 8 Winter constellation known as the Hunter
- 9 Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous speech: "I Have a _____"
- 11 Zodiac sign for most of January
- 12 Animal that predicts the weather on February 2nd
- 13 January is National _____ Month
- 15 January 28th, International _____ Data Privacy Day
- 16 Famous American folk festival in January
- 19 January 21st, National _____ Hugging Day
- 24 January 1st, the start of a new year
- 25 January's birth flower
- 26 National Soup _____ Month
- 27 New Year's _____ (traditional song)
- 28 January's average temperature is often below _____

DOWN

- 2 Traditional January drink to stay warm
- 3 January's gemstone color
- 4 Birthstone for January
- 5 January's weather phenomenon with freezing rain
- 6 Winter precipitation
- 7 Winter sport with skis and shooting
- 10 January is often associated with _____ resolutions
- 12 January is the first month of the _____ calendar
- 14 January 20th, U.S. Presidential _____ Day
- 17 January 6th celebration, also known as Three Kings' Day
- 18 January is often associated with new _____ and fresh starts
- 20 Popular January resolution
- 21 Winter Olympic Games are usually held in _____ years
- 22 Winter month with the shortest days
- 23 Winter headwear to keep warm

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: Aaron Gillis, April South, Beth Holliman, Debbie Rakowski, Kassidy Bozard, Tilly Phillips, Della Phillips, Nicole Rodgers, Brandon Cato, Kim Smith, Jennifer Smith, Toby Wiggers, Annette Monts.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Annie Ruth Addy, Sandra Baker, Murray Hoskins, Paul Dufries
Addie Wilkerson Pinner, Karen Holton

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Natalie Cook, Jana Payne, Grace Kelly, Carolyn Dufries, Pastor Lavaughn Keisler, John Conrad, Linda Price, Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, 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:

Vicki Duval, Trace Wingard, Julie Johnson, 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 Moyer

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:

Gary Johnson, Melvin Manus, Al Jordan, Barbara Raulerson, Evelyn Furtick

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music