

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



9:15 AM - March 22, 2026 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

ALIVE! Worship Service

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

Amazing Love

System 1: Chords: C, Dm⁷, Gsus, G. Lyrics: 1 My Lord, what love is this that pays so; 2 And so they watched him die, de-spised, re-; 3 And now this love of Christ shall flow like

System 2: Chords: Csus, C, G, C, Dm⁷, F/G, G, C. Lyrics: dear-ly, that I, the guilt-y one, may go free?; ject-ed; but, oh, the blood he shed, flowed for me.; riv-ers; come, wash your guilt a-way, live a-gain.

System 3: Chords: Gm⁷, C, E♭. Lyrics: A-maz-ing love, oh, what sac-ri-fice, the Son of God giv'n for

System 4: Chords: G, Gm⁷, C. Lyrics: me; my debt he pays and my death he dies, that

System 5: Chords: Gm⁷, C, Gm⁷, C. Lyrics: I might live, that I might live.

How Can I Be Free From Sin

D F#m/A Bm D⁷ Em⁷ F#m⁷ Bm⁷

1 How can I be free from sin? lead me to the cross of
 3 How can I know peace with-in? lead me to the cross of
 5 How can I live day by day? lead me to the cross of

Em⁷ Asus A D F#m/A Bm⁷ D⁷

Je - sus; from the guilt, the pow'r, the pain,
 Je - sus; sing a song of joy a - gain,
 Je - sus; fol - low - ing his nar - row way,

Em⁷ F#m⁷ Bm⁷ Em⁷ A⁷ D *Fine*

lead me to the cross of Je - sus.
 lead me to the cross of Je - sus.
 lead me to the cross of Je - sus.

F#m⁷ Bm⁷ F#m⁷ Bm⁷

2 There's no oth - er way, no price that I could pay,
 4 Flow - ing from a - bove, all - for - giv - ing love,

Em⁷ G/A A⁷ D

simp - ly to the cross I cling.
 from the Fa - ther's heart to me.

F#m⁷ Bm⁷ F#m⁷ Bm⁷

This is all I need, this is all I plead,
 What a gift of grace, his own righ - teous - ness,

Em⁷ E⁷ Em⁷ A⁷ Em⁷/A G/A A⁷ D.C.

that his blood was shed for me.
 cloth - ing me in pu - ri - ty.

Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa
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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

The Lenten Candles are included as part of our worship to represent the journey of Lent, which is a time of decreasing light leading up to Good Friday. Each week, the extinguished candles signify a deeper reflection of Jesus' sacrifice and the approaching darkness of the cross.

The PURPLE candles symbolize our repentance and preparation. The ROSE candle on the 4th Sunday in Lent, known as the Laetare Sunday, symbolizes a brief moment of joy and anticipation in the midst of Lent. The WHITE candle is the Christ candle, symbolizing purity and holiness.

PRAYERS

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, 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

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your prais-es.
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heav-en to earth to show the way, from the earth
to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave,
from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Text: Rick Founds, b. 1954

Music: Rick Founds

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LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME

PM

A READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from Ezekiel.

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on

them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹² Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

LENTEN ACCLAMATION



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Wade Roof

ANTHEM

Come Alive (Dry Bones)

Farren and Daigle

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

Create in Me a Clean Heart

F C/E C/D Dm Dm/C B \flat Gm
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve

C⁷_{sus} C⁷ F C/E C/D Dm Dm/C
you; cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that

Gm F/A C F Am⁷ Dm⁷
I might be re - newed. So fill me and

Am⁷ Dm⁷ Gm⁷ Gm/D C⁷_{sus} C⁷
heal me, and bring me back to you. Cre -

F C/E C/D Dm Dm/C Gm F/A C F
ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve you.

Text and music: Mary Rice Hopkins
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OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

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.

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

I'm Going on a Journey

verses 1-3, repeat verse 1



1 I'm go-ing on a jour-ney, and I'm start-ing to-day. My



head is wet, and I'm on my way. Christ's mark is on me;



it's on you, too; it says he loves me, and he loves you, too!



2 I'm be-com-ing this day a saint of God. It



real-ly does-n't mat-ter what roads I trod. Wher-ev-er I go, God's



been there, too. God's love has touched me and will car-ry me through.



3 There are oth-er saints who have said a-men. They'll



keep me faith-ful to my jour-ney's end. A - long the way



I want to be the kind of per-son that God set free.

Text: Kenneth D. Larkin
Music: WET SAINTS, Edward V. Bonnemère, 1921-1996
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DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

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

Lector Rachel Bundrick

Greeter Grace Fuson

Usher Ray Conrad

Acolyte KateLynn Parker

Livestream coordinators Pam Hoskins, Kendrick Kerr

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 130

- ¹ Out of the depths
I cry to you, O LORD;
² O LORD, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.
³ If you were to keep watch over sins,
O LORD, who could stand?
⁴ Yet with you is forgiveness,
in order that you may be feared.
⁵ I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;
in your word is my hope.
⁶ My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,
more than those who keep watch for the morning.
⁷ O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;
with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.
⁸ For the LORD shall redeem Israel
from all their sins.

Romans 8:6-11

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

- ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.



The vases of greenery on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God and in appreciation of those who participate in the Choir, Mt. Tabor Ringers, ALIVE!, Cherubs, Angels and Seraph Singers, given by Kevin Davis.

To the glory of God and with love, Rachel Bundrick dedicates today's bulletin covers in loving memory of her brother, John Bundrick, whose birthday would have been on March 20th.



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: Jilda Ward, JoAnn Jones, Rue Jeffcoat, Michael Price, Evan Wise, Mary Caroline Gray, Britt Belch, Rex Bozard, Dottie Ford.

Most Recent Prayer Concerns:

Michael Gayden, Tammy Quarles, Sally Kleber, James Campbell, Earl Macaulay,
JoEllen Anderson, Nancy Smith, Jeanie & Paul Jacobs, Grace Kelly,
Murray Hoskins, Paul Dufries, Karen Holton

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Sandra Baker, Natalie Cook, Carolyn Dufries, Pastor Lavaughn Keisler, John Conrad,
Bruce Merchant, Judy Jordan, Luther Swicegood, Alice Pollock, Jimmy Williams,
Mona Myers, Sadie Howard, Elmer Sundlie, Emma Lou Easley, Paul Addy,
Pastor Jerry & Janice Livingston

Family & Loved Ones of Mt. Tabor:

Linda Wright, John Jowers, Beth Franklin, Ronnie Crim, Claudia Medlin, Shirley Spruill,
Russell Altman, Tim Hopkins, Eddie Porter, Eddie Broughman, Trace Wingard, 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,
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:

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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Wade T. Roof, III, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rus Stilwell, Pastor of Visitation

Mr. Kevin Davis, Director of Music