

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

102 East Orman Avenue

Pueblo, CO 81004

Phone: 719-544-1683

Fax: 719-543-4937

Email: taborinpuebloco@live.com

Website: taborlutheranchurchpueblo.org

Service time: 9:30am

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:00pm

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 8, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion Setting 3 - ELW Year C

INTRODUCTION

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

PRELUDE

Announcements are on pages 19-21.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A very warm welcome to all who worship here this morning, we thank God for sending you to Tabor.

ADVENT HYMN: *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* ELW 240
Sing Verse 2 Only

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned.
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through + Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.

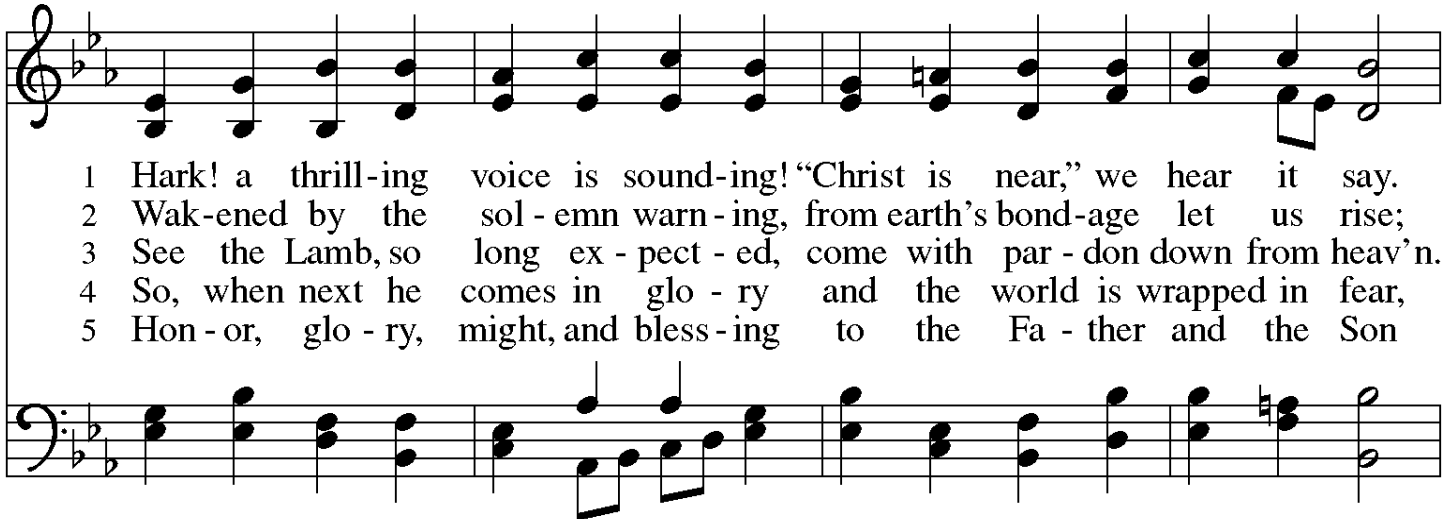
Amen.

GATHERING

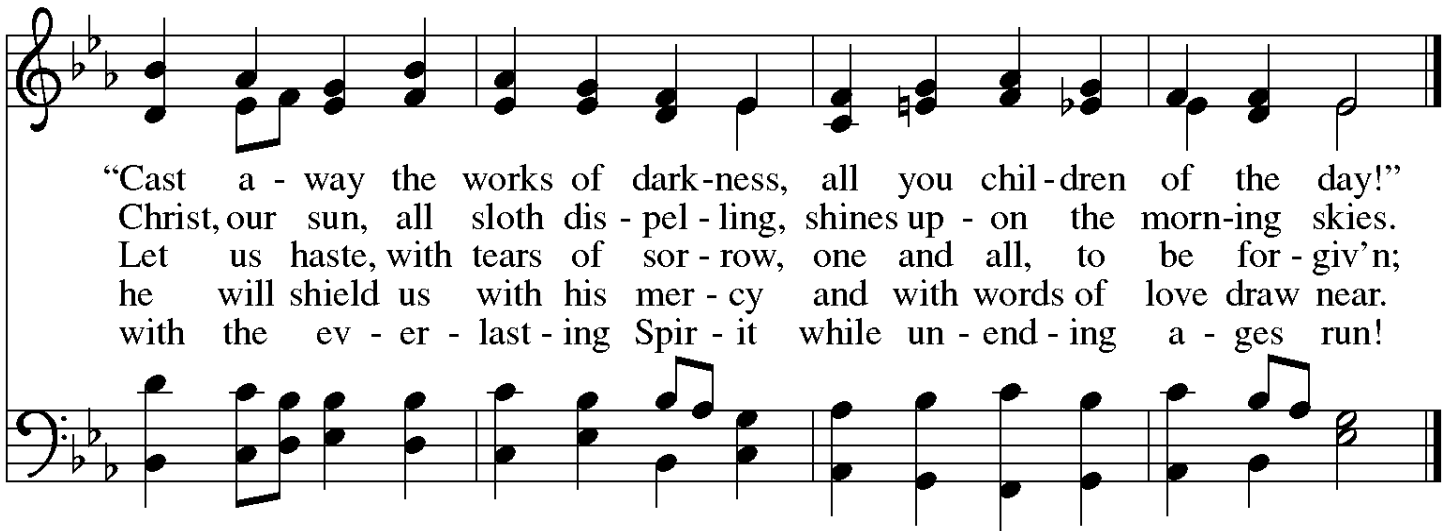
GATHERING SONG

ELW 246

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, come with par - don down from heav'n.
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son



"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

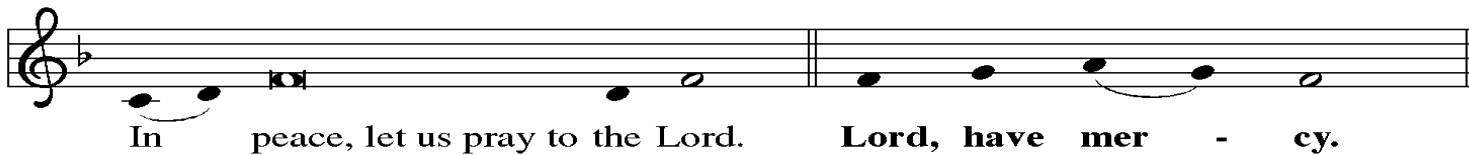
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CHILDREN GO TO JAM

The Children are invited to come forward. The children are dismissed for Children's Jam, Sunday School, returning during the Peace.


KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



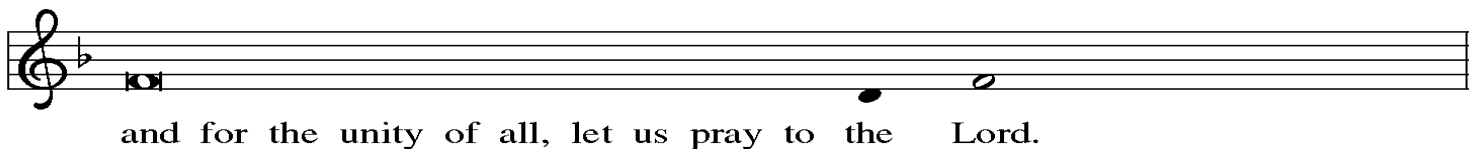
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



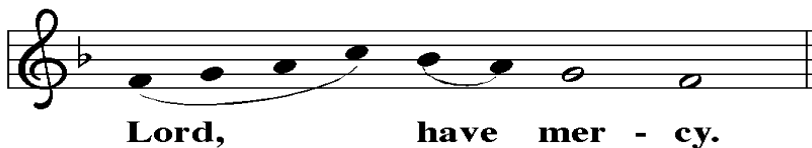
Lord, have mer - cy.



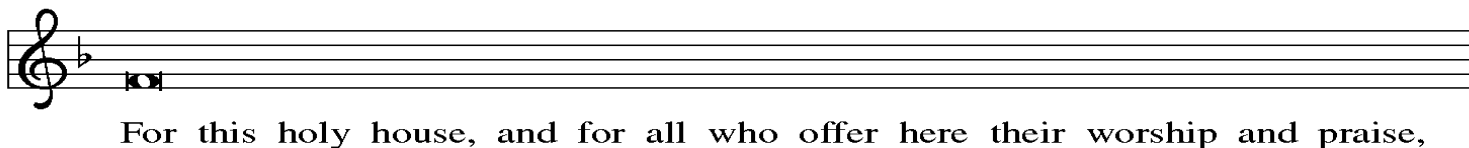
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



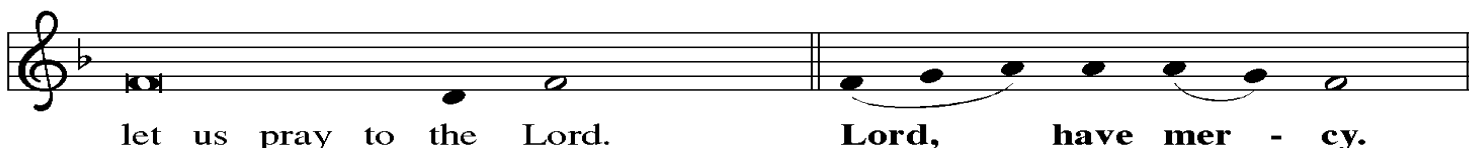
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



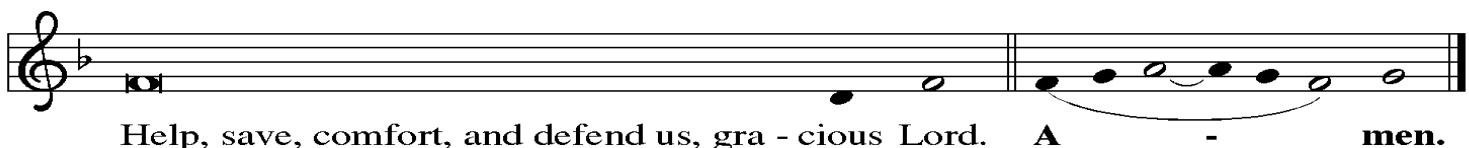
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God

ELW Setting 3



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm: Luke 1:68-79

Read responsively

⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the ¹ God of Israel,
you have come to your people and ¹ set them free.

⁶⁹**You have raised up for us a ¹ mighty Savior,
born of the house of your ¹ servant David.**

⁷⁰Through your holy prophets,
you promised of old to save us ¹ from our enemies,
⁷¹from the hands of ¹ all who hate us,

⁷²**to show mercy ¹ to our forebears,
and to remember your ¹ holy covenant.**

⁷³This was the oath you swore to our ¹ father Abraham:
⁷⁴to set us free from the hands of our ¹ enemies,

**free to worship you ¹ without fear,
⁷⁵holy and righteous before you, all the days ¹ of our life.**

⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of ¹ the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- ¹ pare the way,

⁷⁷**to give God's people knowledge ¹ of salvation
by the forgiveness ¹ of their sins.**

⁷⁸In the tender compassion ¹ of our God
the dawn from on high shall ¹ break upon us,

⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shad- ¹ ow of death,
and to guide our feet into the ¹ way of peace.**

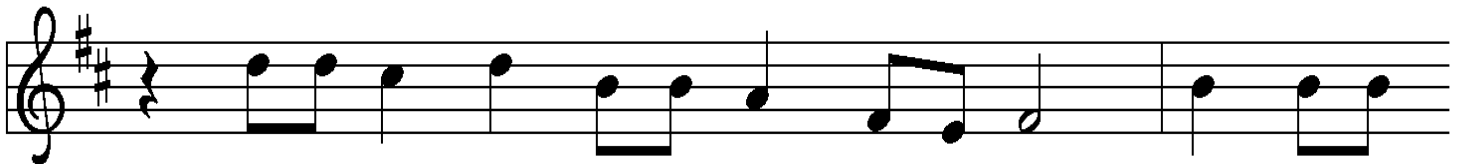
SECOND READING: Phillipians 1:3-11

The word of the Lord.

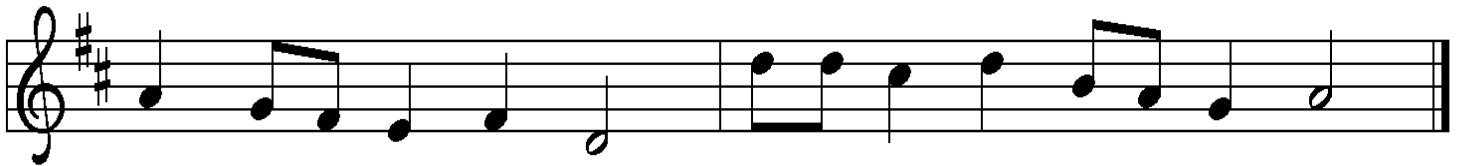
Thanks be to God!

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

The Holy gospel according to Luke, the 3rd Chapter.

Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

A brief silence for reflection.

Pastor Karen Matuska

Please stand if you are able

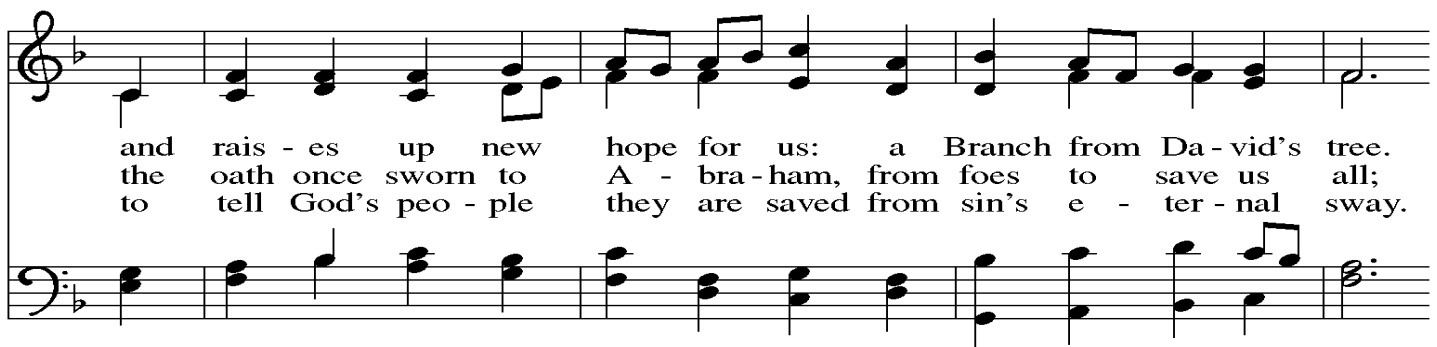
HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 250

Blessed Be the God of Israel



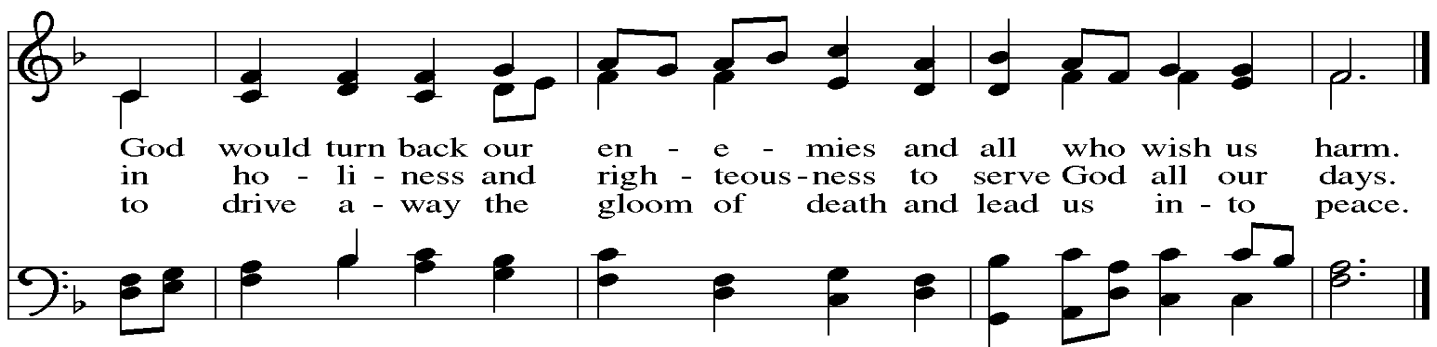
1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph - ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
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NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come.
Amen**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence

Each petition ends:

Lord, in your mercy,

Receive our prayer.

Prayers conclude with:

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say:

Peace be with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND MUSIC

Special Piano Music

Please stand if you are able.

He Came Down

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional
 Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory...

...we await his coming in glory.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

God feeds us with tender mercy.

Come to the table.

Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

The Lord's table is open to all worshipers from all denominations who wish to share in God's blessing of the sacrament of Holy Communion. The real presence of Christ is in the bread and wine. Please follow the directions of the ushers. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available if you prefer.

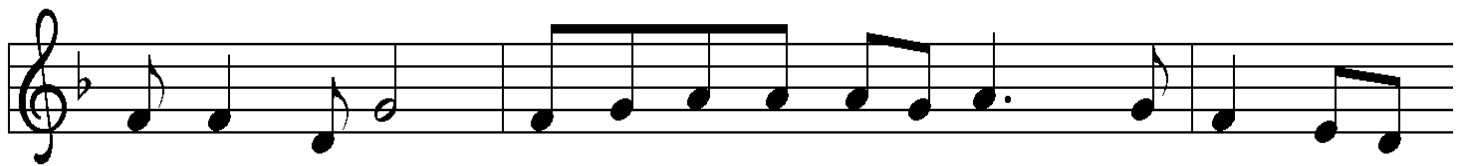
Please let the usher know if you need assistance.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION SONG



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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Wait for the Lord

ELW 262

Please repeat until Communion is complete

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with dotted rhythms and rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second system of music continues the melody from the first system. It also consists of two staves in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Please stand if you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,
we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.
We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
+ bless and keep you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God!

Disciples Serving:	Today	Next Sunday
Presider/Supply	Pastor Karen Matuska	Cyrisse Cooley
Assisting Minister:	Riley Dunton	Ryan Kessinger
Pianist:	Dr. J. Michael Beck	Dr. J. Michael Beck
Altar Guild:	Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren	Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren
Ushers/Greeters:	Jerry Vargues	Jerry Vargues
Counters:	Kathy & Steve M/Leanne Neu	Stacie Bowens/Charlotte Vargues
JAM:	Christmas Program Practice	Christmas Program

PRAYERS

Members, Friends and Relatives	Added by Members
Doris Ask	People of Tabor
Shirley Bass	People of Tabor
Robert Bogusch	Nephew of Kathy Lambert
Nicole Buttram	People of Tabor
Pam Cardinal	Sister of Clay Kashner
John Centa	Bowens Family
Shirley DeRungs	People of Tabor
Virgie Giannetto	Lynn Truxell
Nina Jesmain	People of Tabor
Sue Kastelic	People of Tabor
Will Nichols	Truxell & Vargues Families
Arlis Petersen	Mother of Leanne Neu
Audrey and Andrea Pitre	Friends of Emily Briggs
Pam Salas	People of Tabor
Jeremy Skaggs	Friend of the Wisthoff Family
Starcher Family	Friends of Emily Briggs
Caitlan Thorne & Family	Granddaughter of Kathy Lambert
Marvin Truxell	Truxell & Vargues Families
Charlotte Vargues	People of Tabor
Linda Wagner	Lynn Truxell

BIRTHDAYS

December 11	Jacob Wisthoff
December 12	Sue Kastelic

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † The next Lay Minister meeting will be on Monday, December 9 at 6:00pm
- † Epiphany Tree: In the Narthex is a Christmas Tree set up for Rainbow Trail, as Tabor is a partner church with the camp. On the tree are tags labeled with items from Rainbow Trail's 'Wish List' that aren't budgeted. We are calling the tree "The Epiphany Tree" because the wise men brought gifts to baby Jesus when they came to see Him. The tree will be set up until Epiphany Sunday. Please take a tag if you 'wish' and bring the item back unwrapped and place it under the tree by January 5th.
- † The Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 15th during worship. This is a family program and all ages are welcome to participate! Please contact Cyrisse if you are interested

Practice Schedule:

Sunday, December 1 st	during JAM
Sunday, December 8 th	during JAM
Saturday, December 14 th :	10:00am in Sanctuary (get costumes)

- † Help decorate our sanctuary during the Christmas Season by purchasing a Poinsettia plant. The cost will be \$12 for each plant. Please fill out an order form (available in the Narthex) for **each** plant ordered and place in the Poinsettia envelope and turn in with your offering, welcome slip or the church office.
Orders must be turned in by today, December 8th. Plants may be taken home after Christmas Eve service.
- † Christmas Eve Choir practice will be held following worship on December 1, December 8, December 15 and December 22 (if need be).
- † Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be at 5:00pm on Tuesday, December 24th. Please bring your family and friends and join us for worship. No services will be held on Christmas Day.
- † The ladies Quilting Group will not meet on Thursday, December 26th.
- † There are leftover Burritos and Green Chili available for donation. Each have been packaged, vacuumed sealed and frozen. Packages are label and are in the freezer in the parlor. Please contact Denise or Michelle.



THE GOOD NEWS

TABOR TIDBITS WEEKLY UPDATE

December 5, 2024

Epiphany Tree



On the Newberry is a Christmas Tree set up for Rainbow Trail. Tabor is a partner church with the camp. On the tree are tags labeled with items from Rainbow Trail's "Wish List" that aren't budgeted. We are calling the tree "The Epiphany Tree" because the wise men brought gifts to baby Jesus when they came to see Him. The tree will be set up on the Epiphany Sunday. Please take a tag if you "wish" and bring the item back unwrapped and place it under the tree by January 5th.



The Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 15th during worship. **All ages are welcome to participate!**

Practice Schedule:
Sunday, December 1st during JAM
Sunday, December 8th during JAM
Saturday, December 14th. 10:00am



Help decorate our sanctuary during the Christmas Season by purchasing a Poinsettia plant. The cost will be \$12 each plant. Please fill out an order form (available in the Narthex) for each plant ordered and place in the Poinsettia envelope and turn in with your offering, welcome slip or to the church office. **Orders must be turned in by Sunday, December 8th.** Plants may be taken home after Christmas Eve service.



Christmas Eve Choir practice will be held on December 8, December 15 & December 22 (if need be) following worship.



The ladies Quilting Group will not meet on Thursday, December 26th.

Disciples Serving: Sunday December 8

Presider/Supply Pastor Karen Matuska
Assisting Minister: Riley Dunton
Pianist: Dr. J. Michael Beck
Altar Guild: Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren
Ushers/Greeters: Jerry Vargues
Counters: Kathy & Steve M/Leanne Neu
JAM: Christmas Program Practice

Disciples Serving: Sunday December 15

Cyrisse Cooley
Ryan Kessinger
Dr. J. Michael Beck
Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren
Jerry Vargues
Stacie BOWENS/Charlotte Vargues
Christmas Program



Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service is December 24th at 5:00pm with Pastor Karen Matuska. Please bring your families and friends and join us for worship. No services will be held on Christmas day.



138 items were donated this week to the PCC Food Pantry, for a total of 1227 items this year.



There are leftover Burritos and Green Chili available for donation. Each have been packaged, vacuumed sealed and frozen. Contents of packages are labeled and are in the freezer in the parlor. Please contact Denise or Michelle.

Annual Congregational Election Meeting November 17, 2024

Council President Derek Truxell called the meeting to order. There was a quorum present to hold the election meeting. Cyrisse Cooley and Connie Wisthoff have completed their Council terms. The following members for candidates for a two-year term for the 2025 Church Council are Denise Tristano and Tony Martinet. The candidates for a one-year term for the 2025 Nominating Committee are Jackie Cooley, Jerry Vargues and Cassie Walgren.

It was moved and seconded to accept the names on the ballot with a show of hands. This was approved, and the candidates on the ballot were accepted for the 2025 Council and Nominating Committee vacancies.

The meeting was adjourned.

Connie Wisthoff
Secretary



SECOND SUNDAY

OF

Advent