

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

## Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

9:00am



203.488.2541

taborlutheranchurch@gmail.com

www.taborchurch.net

**It is the Mission of Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church to be:  
A blessed community in Christ, that warmly welcomes people across their lifespans,  
to worship and serve in varied and diverse ways,  
enthusiastically responding to God's call.**

The Rev. Bryan L. Myers.....Pastor, 203-214-2551  
Charles Stack .....Organist, Choir Director  
Heather Loehmann .....Administrative Assistant  
Peter Harding .....President  
Theresa Ferguson .....Vice President  
Christie Day .....Council Secretary  
Gerard Graminski .....Treasurer  
Robert Sparks .....Financial Secretary  
Joan Collins ..... Prayer Chain Coordinator, 203-481-1846  
Heather Loehmann .....SCS Superintendent, 203-415-9067  
Diane Swartz ..... Director, Tabor Christian Community Preschool 203-483-9420  
Colin Sheehan ..... Director, Tabor Arts Branford 203-488-2541

## A WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

**PRAY & PLAY PACKS** are available in the Narthex. Children are welcome to take a pack as they enter the Sanctuary and return it on the way out.

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ...**

**The Sick:** Ruth Carbone, Joan Collins, Donielle Didiano, Doris Gargone, Ina Montelius, Lynne Palomaki, Bill Peterson, Betty Polverari, Bob Puckett, Annabelle Spaulding and Bryan Tuccillo.

**Homebound Members:** Chet Blomquist, Patricia Kendrick and Barbara Lane.

**The Grieving,** especially the family and friends of Knud “Ken” Sondergaard.

**Military:** For all those serving, and all those who have served in the Middle East and around the world, and the chaplains of our churches who serve them, especially Cody Cox, Alexander Hassen, Ben Hassen and Patrick Tuccillo.

*(Time will be allowed in the Prayers of the Church for you to name anyone else in need of prayers.)*

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** today are given in celebration of Ken Bjork’s birthday. Happy birthday, Dad!  
Love from Kiersten, Christian and Christine.

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**LAST WEEK’S MEMBER GIVING:    \$2,255.00**

We now offer the option to make your offering payment online at:



<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>

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### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

<b><u>ASSISTING MINISTER:</u></b>	Heather Loehmann
<b><u>PIANIST/ORGANIST:</u></b>	Charles Stack
<b><u>VOCALIST/SOLOIST:</u></b>	Lane Shoemaker
<b><u>VIDEOGRAPHER:</u></b>	Kathy Benedict



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# WE GATHER TOGETHER

**PRELUDE**

“In Thee Is Gladness”

Paul Manz

**BELLS**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**OPENING SONG**

“Every Move I Make”

David Ruis

Na Na Na Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na.  
Na Na Na Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na.

Ev’ry move I make, I make in You. You make me move, Jesus;  
Ev’ry breath I take, I breathe in You.

Every step I take, I take in You. You are my way, Jesus;  
ev’ry breath I take, I breathe in You.

Waves of mercy, waves of grace, ev’rywhere I look, I see Your face;  
your love has captured me. Oh, my God, this love, How can it be?

Na Na Na Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na.  
Na Na Na Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na.

Ev’ry move I make, I make in You. You make me move, Jesus;  
Ev’ry breath I take, I breathe in You.

Every step I take, I take in You. You are my way, Jesus;  
ev’ry breath I take, I breathe in You.

Waves of mercy, waves of grace, ev’rywhere I look, I see Your face;  
your love has captured me. Oh, my God, this love, How can it be?

Na Na Na Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na.

*Words and music by David Ruis. Copyright 1996 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (Admin by Vinyard Music, USA) CCLI#2791081*

**GREETING**

ELW p.98

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Pastor:* Let us pray. *(a brief silence)*

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son  
you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy.

By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord.

**All:** Amen

## WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

*Welcome to all who worship today!*

*May our singing, our fellowship with Christ and with one another,  
our prayers, our hearing and our studying of the Word all be blessed by God.*

# WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

**The FIRST READING is from the First Book of Kings:**

*1 Kings 3:5–12*

*Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well. In verse 13 God gives him additional honor and riches beyond compare.*

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you."  
<sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" <sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

**Lector:** Word of God! Word of Life!

**People:** Thanks be to God!

**The SECOND READING is from Paul's letter to the Romans:**

*Romans 8:26–39*

*These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.*

<sup>26</sup>The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. <sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. <sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Lector:** Word of God! Word of Life!

**People:** Thanks be to God!

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

Many will come from | east and west \* and will eat in the king- | dom of heaven.

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 13: 13:31-33, 44-52*

*Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.*

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Matthew!

**People:** **Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;<sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." <sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." <sup>44</sup>"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. <sup>45</sup>"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. <sup>47</sup>"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of very kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>51</sup>"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

**Pastor:** The Gospel of our Lord!

**People:** **Praise to you, O Christ!**

## SERMON

Pastor Myers

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“Mighty to Save”  
Lane Shoemaker, *vocalist*

Rueben Morgan and Ben Fielding

Verse 1: Everyone needs compassion;  
A love that's never failing;  
Let mercy fall on me  
Everyone needs forgiveness;  
The kindness of a savior;  
The hope of nations

Chorus: Saviour he can move the mountains;  
My God is mighty to save.  
He is mighty to save;  
Forever author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave;  
Jesus conquered the grave

Verse 2: So take me as you find me;  
All my fears and failures;  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow;  
Everything I believe in;  
Now I surrender

CHORUS x 2

Bridge: Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen king. Jesus.  
Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

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## APOSTLES' CREED

ELW p.105

**All: 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

*(The petitions marked "Worshipper" may be read by anyone who feels so moved by the Spirit.)*

**Leader:** Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit,  
we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

**Worshipper:** Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a woman baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways you encounter us in daily life. We pray for our mission partners, especially the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land..

*(silence)* Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Worshipper:** When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers. Treasuring the earth, may we live as grateful and healing caretakers of our home.

*(silence)* Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Worshipper:** As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees,  
gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign.  
Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of peace.

*(silence)* Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Your Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for the saints according to your will.  
Help us when we do not know how to pray. Give comfort to the dying, refuge to the weary,  
justice to those who are oppressed, and healing to the sick.

We pray for the sick, especially....

We pray for the homebound, especially....

We pray for the grieving, especially the family and friends of Ken Sondergaard.

We pray for our troops in the Middle East and around the world,  
and the chaplains who serve them, especially....

And we pray for those we name now in our hearts and on our lips, especially....

*(silence)* Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Worshipper:** You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need.  
Help this congregation ask boldly for what is most needed.  
Refresh us with new dreams of being your people in this place and time.

*(silence)* Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Worshipper:** In you our lives are never lost.  
Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places.  
Embolden our witness now and one day gather us with all your saints in light.

*(silence)* Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**Pastor:** In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love,  
we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen**

## OFFERING PRAYER

*Leader:* Let us pray. (*a brief silence*)

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.  
Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace.  
Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love  
in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

*All:* Amen

## DEDICATION OF COMMITMENTS

*Received: 37 pledges for \$77,357*



*Leader:* Blessed are the poor.

**All: Almighty One, let these gifts and pledges of ours remind us of your concern for the poor and of our responsibility to shoulder some of their burden.**

*Leader:* Blessed are those who mourn.

**All: Help us, O God, to use these pledges and gifts for the proclamation of the amazing news that death does not have the last word.**

*Leader:* Blessed are the humble.

**All: Gracious One, teach us to be humble as these gifts and pledges are indeed humble in the light of your wondrous grace.**

*Leader:* Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice.

**All: Let these pledges and gifts of ours, O God, assist many, both near and far, in their struggle for justice.**

*Leader:* Blessed are the merciful.

**All: Show us, Merciful One, the depth of your mercy in this very act of giving -- by reminding us of the gift of your beloved Son, the Lord of Mercy.**

*Leader:* Blessed are the pure in heart.

**All: Let this offering of our hands, O God, purify our hearts of selfishness.**

*Leader:* Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.

**All: Father, empower these gifts and pledges of ours to reach out, in redemptive love, to the persecuted, the oppressed, the neglected, the forgotten.**

*Leader:* Blessed are you when people shall revile you... on my account....

**All: Accept, Sovereign Lord, our pledges and our gifts, and teach us to love the world you love, neither fearing hostility nor expecting any reward. For the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus. Amen.**

# WE RECEIVE GOD'S GRACE

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### PREFACE DIALOG

*Pastor:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Pastor:* Lift up your hearts.

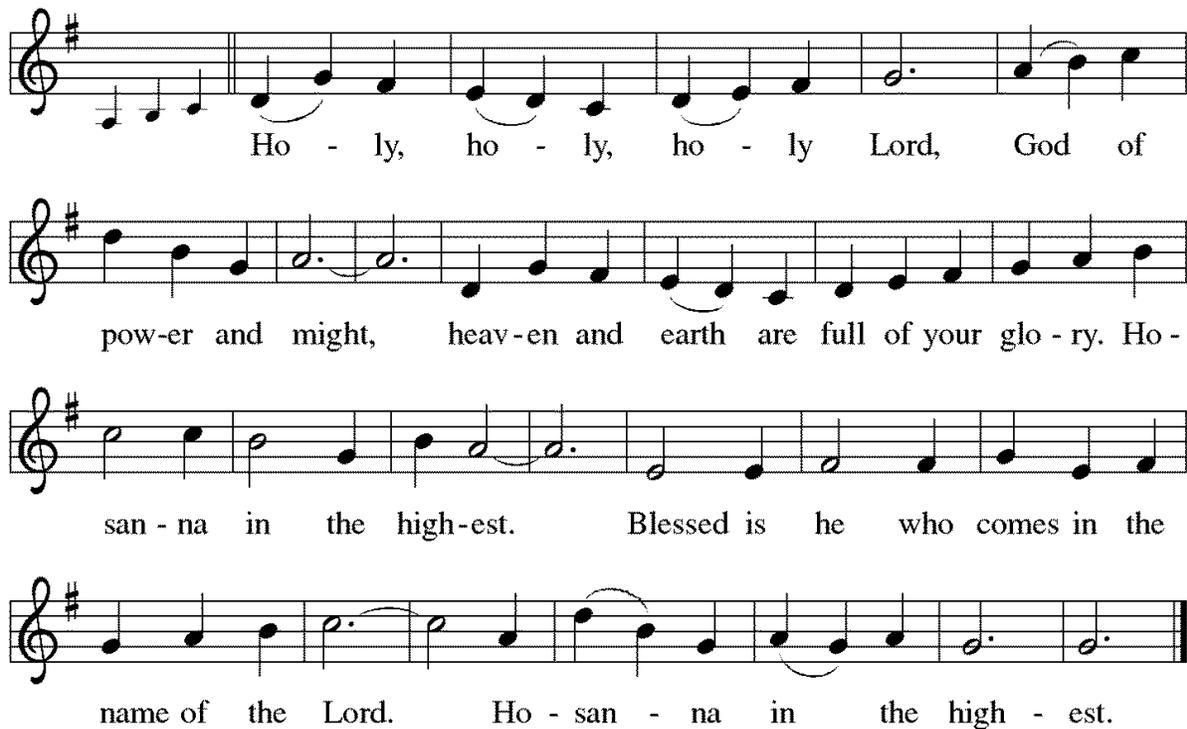
*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Pastor:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE

#### SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

#### LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 112

**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.**

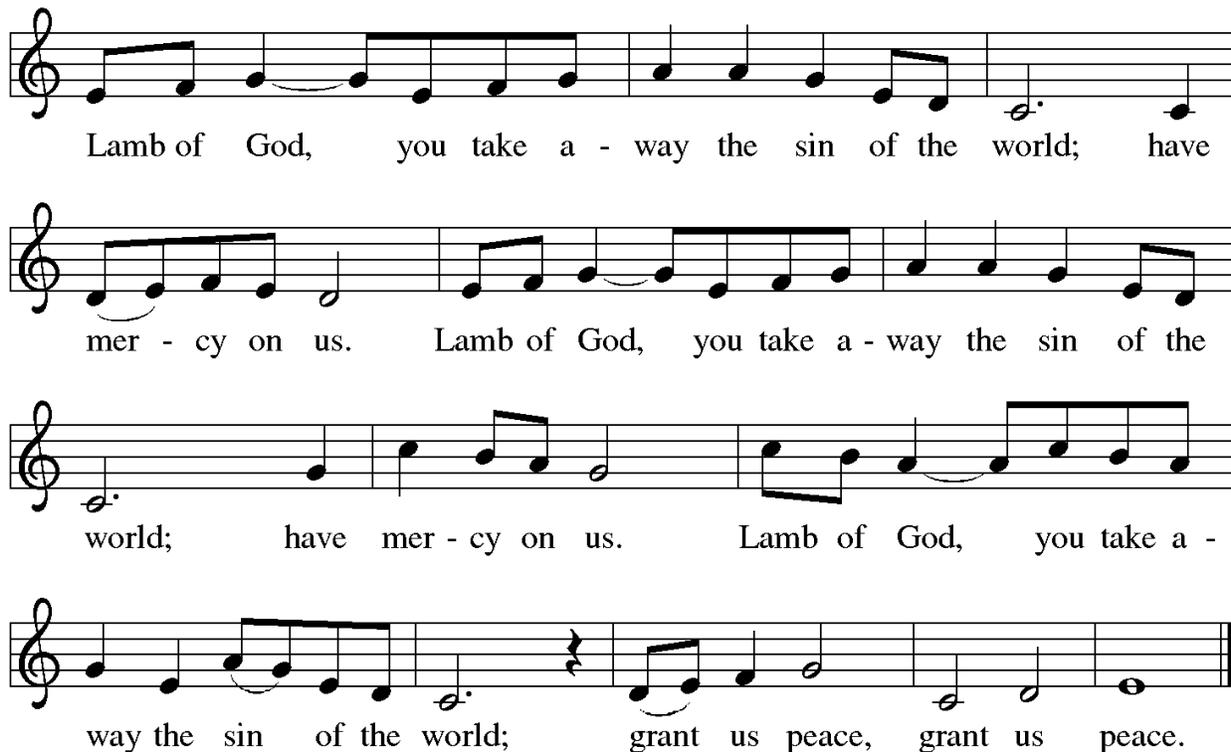
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Pastor:* Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed.

*All:* **Blessed be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen**

## AGNUS DEI

ELW pp.112-113



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, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

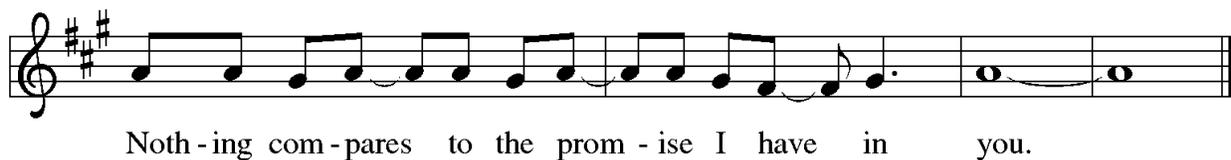
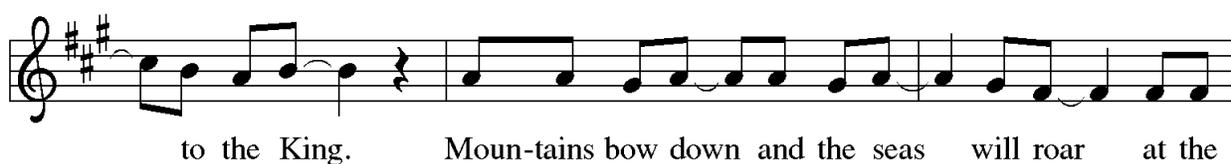
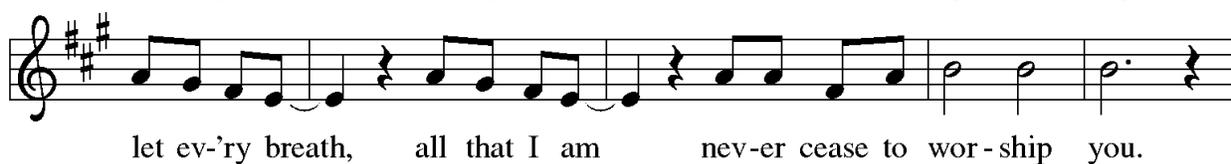
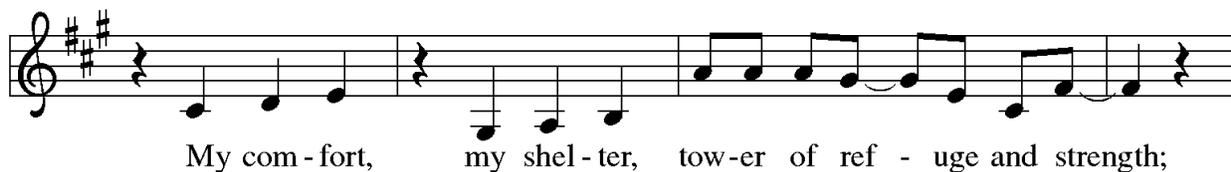
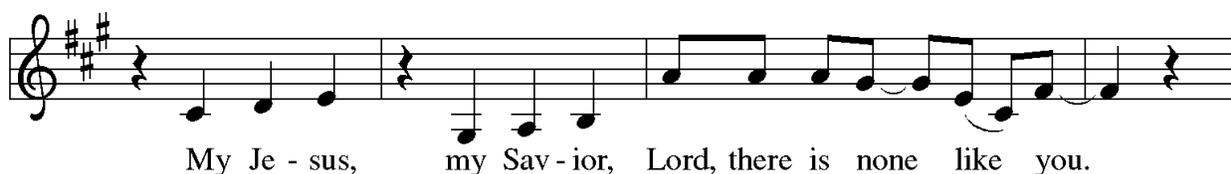
*Leader:* Let us pray. (*a brief silence*)

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness  
and have been united by your presence among us.

Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share  
your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

*All:* **Amen**

## BENEDICTION



Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP),  
c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

## DISMISSAL

*Leader:* Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

*People:* Thanks be to God!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **FLOWER CHART FOR 2020 SIGN-UP LIST IS POSTED**

**Sign Up online Today!!**

You may take the flowers following the 10:30 Service. The cost of two bouquets is \$30.

*Your gift is an opportunity to honor and/or remember loved ones, a special occasion or event!*

*If you are interested in ordering flowers for the altar,  
you can sign up on our sign up genius website at:*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4AA5AB2EAAF58-altar>

*Or you can contact me in the church office.*

**DEVOTIONALS** for July, August and September are available for a small fee. Pick up your copy when you come for communion. Take and use these materials to enhance your prayer life. *Please let me know if you'd like one mailed to you.*

**PLEDGE CARDS ARE AVAILABLE** and have been mailed, if you have not returned it to the church office yet, please do so this week. We are going to dedicate the pledges next Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. ! *Please let me know if you'd like one mailed to you.*

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## **CHURCH CALENDAR** **July 26, 2020 – August 2, 2020**

**Sunday, July 26, 2020**

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**9:00am – 9:45am**

**Worship – LIVE Stream on FB**

Sanctuary

*Dedication of Pledges included in this Service*

10:00am – 11:00am

Communion Distribution

Parking Lot

10:15am – 11:15am

Bible Study

Tabor Grounds

**Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31, 2020**

*Office Hours will vary each day*

*Please leave a message or email and I'll get back to you as soon as I can.*

*You can also call Pastor Myers at 203-214-2551*

**Saturday, August 1, 2020**

**Sunday, August 2, 2020**

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**9:00am – 10:00am**

**Worship – LIVE Stream**

from Synod

*Tabor will not offer a service today, however*

*We will be offering a service from the New England Synod*