TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

102 East Orman Avenue Email: taborinpuebloco@live.com

Phone: 719-544-1683

Service time: 9:30am

Pueblo, CO 81004

Fax: 719-543-4937

Website: taborlutheranchurchpueblo.org Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:00pm CA

Tabor Lutheran Church **NEW BEGINNINGS**

December 7, 2025

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 7, 2025

Called, Equipped, and Sent

9:30 a.m.

A Service for the Installation of Lay Pastors

Prelude (Instrumental music as people gather.)

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. shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly He lead them home-ward. your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King Lift of glo - ry. com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights shin - ing! He be

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Call to Worship

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Today is a day of new beginnings — a day to celebrate God's call, His equipping Spirit, and the sending of His people for service in the world.

We gather to install and bless six new lay pastors who have heard Christ's call to serve among us. Together we remember that each of us is called, equipped, and sent in Christ's mission.

We come with grateful hearts, ready to follow where the Spirit leads!



Confession and Forgiveness

Let us come before God, confessing our need for renewal and grace.

Merciful God,

You call us into service and community,

but we confess that we often hold back.

We cling to what is comfortable and familiar.

We forget that You equip us with everything we need.

Forgive us, renew us, and send us again —

that we may serve joyfully, love boldly, and follow faithfully.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ came not to condemn the world, but to save it. In His mercy, your sins are forgiven.

You are called, equipped, and sent as beloved children of God.

Amen!

Rite of Installation for Lay Pastors

(lay pastors come forward and stand before the altar)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, these six have been called to serve as lay pastors in this congregation. Today we recognize their calling and ask God's blessing upon their ministry.

You have been called to serve God's people through Word, prayer, compassion, and leadership. Will you promise to serve faithfully, relying on God's grace and the prayers of this congregation?

Lay Pastors: I will, and I ask God to help me.

People of God, will you support these lay pastors with your prayers, encouragement, and partnership in the Gospel?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

(Congregation comes forward for the laying on of hands)

For this reason, I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy)

Prayer of Blessing:

Almighty God, through the power of Your Holy Spirit, bless these servants. Equip them with wisdom, patience, and compassion. Strengthen them in times of challenge and fill them with joy in their calling. May their ministry be fruitful and faithful to the glory of Your name. Amen.

(Congregation goes to their seats as Lay Pastors are presented their Albs.)

Symbolic Gifts: Presentation of Albs & Crosses by council members

Receive the Albs and Crosses as a sign of your work and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus, serving his people and remembering his promise: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. (Matthew 11:28-30)

Go forth in the name of Christ - called by God, equipped by the Spirit, and sent to serve in love. **Amen!**

Take My Life, That I May Be Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad



- 2 Que mis pies tan sólo_en pos de lo santo puedan ir, y que_a ti, Señor, mi voz, se complazca_en bendecir. Estribillo
- 3 Que mis labios al hablar hablen sólo de tu amor; que mis bienes dedicar yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo
- 4 Que mi tiempo todo_esté consagrado_a tu loor; que mi mente_y su poder sean usados en tu_honor. Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955 Music: Toma MI Voluntad, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

This is what the Lord says he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: ¹⁸ "Forget the former things;

do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

²⁰ The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls,

because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland,

to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 100

Read responsively

¹Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

² Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his [a]; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please stand if you are able.

The Holy gospel according to Luke, the 10th Chapter.

Glory to you O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 10:1-9

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Reflection: Called, Equipped, and Sent

Lay Pastors

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

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation. *A brief silence*

Each petition ends:

God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Prayers conclude with:

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

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.

Offertory ELW 253

He Came Down



1 He came down that we may have love;

2 He came down that we may have light;

3 He came down that we may have peace;

4 He came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;

he came down that we may have light;

he came down that we may have peace;

he came down that we may have joy;





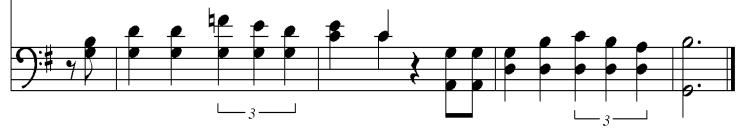
he came down that we may have love;

he came down that we may have light;

he came down that we may have peace;

he came down that we may have joy;

hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.



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. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Offering Prayer

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

Amen.

(Lay Pastors will gather at the altar with Pastor Karen.)

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.

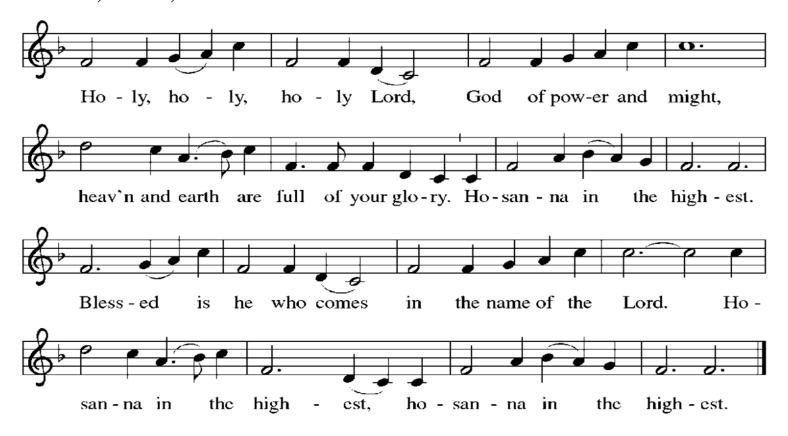
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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



Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy spirit, all honor and glory is yours almighty Father, 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

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised. 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.

Communion Hymn

ELW 492

Please repeat until Communion is complete

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love,

we re-joice in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up on the Lord, be ra diant, nev er turn a way.
- 3 An gels fold their wings a round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor ship, bless the ho ly name.



in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice! God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray. Those who seek the Lord will lack noth-ing; taste, and have your fill. Rise to tell God's great-ness for - ev - er, won-drous deeds pro - claim!

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; With One Voice, stanzas, based on Ps. 34

Music: STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young Text and music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Communion Blessing

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

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Blessing

May the Father who calls you, the Spirit who equips you, and the Son who sends you, grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

Amen.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906

Dismissal

Go now in peace - You are called by the Father, equipped by the Spirit, and sent by Christ into the world. Serve the Lord with gladness!

Thanks be to God.

Disciples Serving: Today Next Sunday Pastor Karen Matuska/Lay Pastors Cyrisse Cooley Presider/Supply **Assisting Minister:** Riley Dunton Pianist: Dr. J. Michael Beck Dr. J. Michael Beck Kathy Lambert/Linda Johnson Altar Guild: Kathy Lambert/Linda Johnson Ushers/Greeters: Jerry Vargues Jerry Vargues Deb Huismann/Sue Kastelic Karen Dunton/Leanne Neu Counters/Posters: Christmas Program JAM:

PRAYERS

<u> PRATERS</u>	
Members, Friends and Relatives	Added by Members
Doris Ask	People of Tabor
Shirley Bass	People of Tabor
Michael Beck	People of Tabor
Robert Bogusch	Nephew of Kathy Lambert
Pam Cardinal	Sister of Clay Kashner
Devin Caveza	Grandson of Tony Martinet
John Centa	Bowens Family
Sandy, Tyler and Tori English	Friends of Emily Briggs
Virgie Giannetto	Lynn Truxell
Vicki Granato	Michelle Vargues
Larry Hall	Bowens Family
Brian & Geri Helm	Bowens Family
Nina Jesmain	People of Tabor
Etta Kay Johnson	Sister-in-law of Linda Johnson
Linda Johnson	People of Tabor
Clay Kashner	People of Tabor
Sue Kastelic	People of Tabor
Kathy Lambert	People of Tabor
Kathy Laney & Family	Connie Wisthoff
DJ Nichols	Truxell Family
Will Nichols	Truxell & Vargues Families
Evelyn Omey	Twin sister of Shirley Bass
Andrea Pitre	Friend of Emily Briggs
Kenzie Roberts	Granddaughter of Gwen Hedding
Kimberly Roberts	Daughter of Gwen Hedding
Pam Salas	People of Tabor
Family of Cheryl Salay	People of Tabor
Starcher Family	Friends of Emily Briggs
Caitlan Thorne & Family	Granddaughter of Kathy Lambert
Justin, Harper & Hazel Tolan	Grandson/Great-granddaughters of
•	Denise Tristano
Marvin Truxell	Truxell & Vargues Families
Charlotte Vargues	People of Tabor
Linda Wagner	Lynn Truxell
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Sister of Ruth Valencia

Sandra Zupan

BIRTHDAYS

December 2 Derek Truxell
December 11 Jacob Wisthoff
December 12 Sue Kastelic

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † We will have a Potluck today after our New Beginnings service.
- † The second Christmas program practice will be held in the sanctuary on Saturday, December 13th at 10:00am.
- † The Christmas Program will be on December 14th during worship.
- † Kids Christmas Choir will have rehearsal right after church on December 14th and December 21. Adult Christmas Choir will practice right after the kids practice (after coffee fellowship)
- 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 14th. Plants may be taken home after Christmas Eve service.
- † Christmas Eve service will be at 6:00pm on Wednesday, December 24th.



Second Sunday of Advent