

# **TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Service time: 9:30am**

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

# TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 3, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion Setting 4 - ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship Year A)

## INTRODUCTION

*As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.*

## PRELUDE

Announcements are on page 21-22.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*Please stand if you are able.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **GATHERING**

**GATHERING SONG**

*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

ELW 645

# Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and  
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of  
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from  
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
 hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,  
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er  
 to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
 hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est  
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter  
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.  
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.  
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

## 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.*

## HYMN OF PRAISE

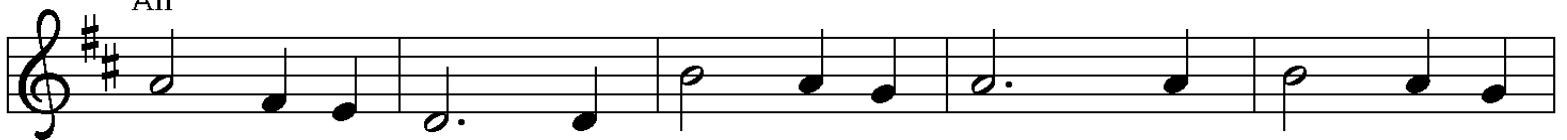
*Refrain*

Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

*Refrain*



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

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the  
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and  
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### **FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60**

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**

*Read responsively*

- <sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- <sup>2</sup> **Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**
- <sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my  
stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.
- <sup>4</sup> **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**
- <sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.
- <sup>15</sup> **My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute  
me.**
- <sup>16</sup> Let your face shine up on your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.”

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10**

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.

The Holy gospel according to John, the 14th Chapter.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

# GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

The gospel of the Lord  
Praise to you O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

Pastor Karen Matuska

*A brief silence for reflection.*

*Please stand if you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 810

### O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;  
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.  
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still  
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.  
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.  
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,  
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.  
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.  
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.  
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

## **HOLY BAPTISM**

We welcome Connor Antony Kessinger, son of Ryan and Christopher Kessinger, born July 24, 2025, to the Body of Christ. Connor Antony is sponsored by his godmothers, Caitlin Ortega and Brittney Persico.

## **PRESENTATION**

*Candidate for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font.*

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Who presents this child to be baptized?

*Sponsors for the candidate, in turn, present the candidate:*

**We present Connor Antony for baptism.**

*The presiding minister addresses the parents:*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Connor Antony baptized into Christ?

**I do.**

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,  
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
place in his hands the holy scriptures,  
and nurture him in faith and prayer,  
so that your child may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

*Response:*

**I do.**

*The presiding minister addresses sponsors:*

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Connor Antony in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

*Response:*

**I do.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly:*

People of God, do you promise to support Connor Antony and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

**We do.**

*Please stand if you are able.*

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*The presiding minister addresses the parents and sponsors. The assembly may join in the responses.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT**

*The assembly turns to face the font. The presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **BAPTISM**

*The presiding minister baptizes the child.*

Connor Antony Kessinger, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Connor Antony with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized.*  
Connor Antony Kessinger, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**Amen.**

# WELCOME

*A lighted candle is given to the sponsors.*

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:  
join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and  
redeeming word to all the world.**

*The assembly may applaud. The baptismal group returns to their seats.*

## BAPTISMAL HYMN

ELW 732

### Borning Cry



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;  
3 "In the mid-dle a-ges of your life, not too old, no lon-ger young,



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold.  
you were raised to praise the liv-ing Lord, to whom you now be-long.  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be-gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."  
I'll be there to make your vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun."  
I'll be there as I have al-ways been, with just one more sur-prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold."

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence*

*Each petition ends:*

Merciful God,

**Receive our prayer.**

*Prayers conclude with:*

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**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.***

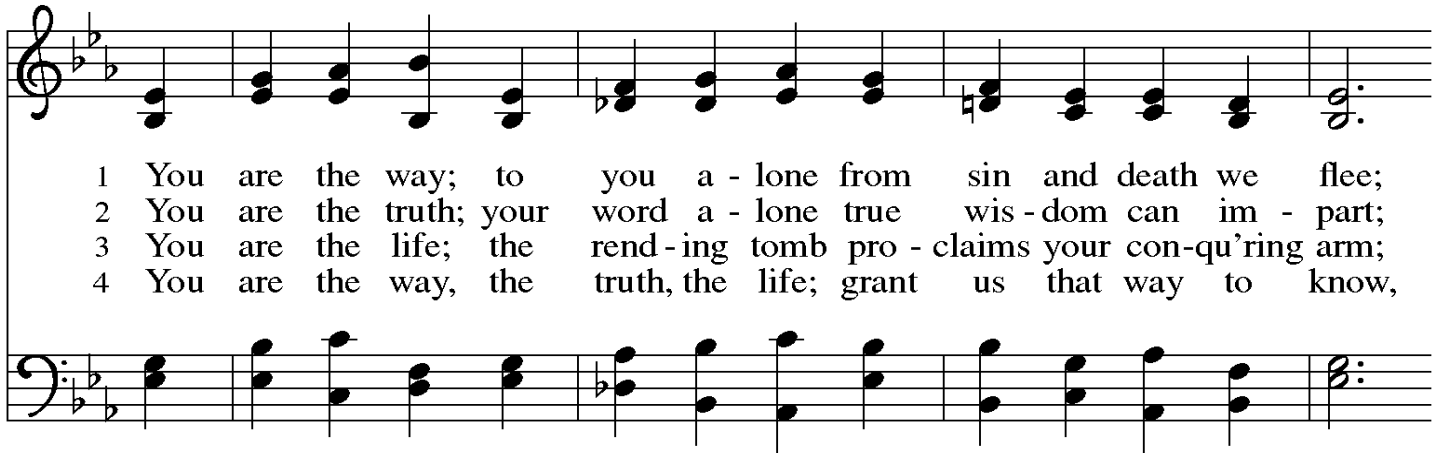
*Please be seated.*

## **MEAL**

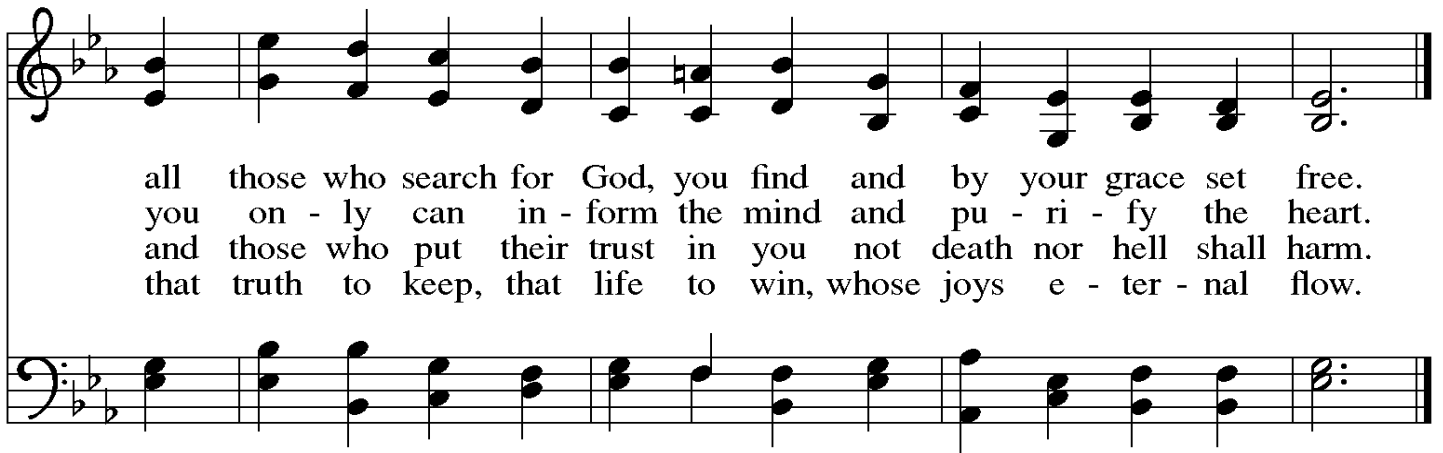
## **OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND MUSIC**

*Please stand if you are able.*

## You Are the Way



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
 2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
 3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;  
 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
 you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
 and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
 that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
 Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
 when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
 that goodness and mercy may follow us  
 and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus,

**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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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**

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.

## **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**

Come to the table of new life.  
Receive the risen Lord.  
**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, grant us peace.

# COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 491

*Please repeat until Communion is complete*

## Come, Let Us Eat

Leader or All



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt.

Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1–3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 4*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*Please stand if you are able.*

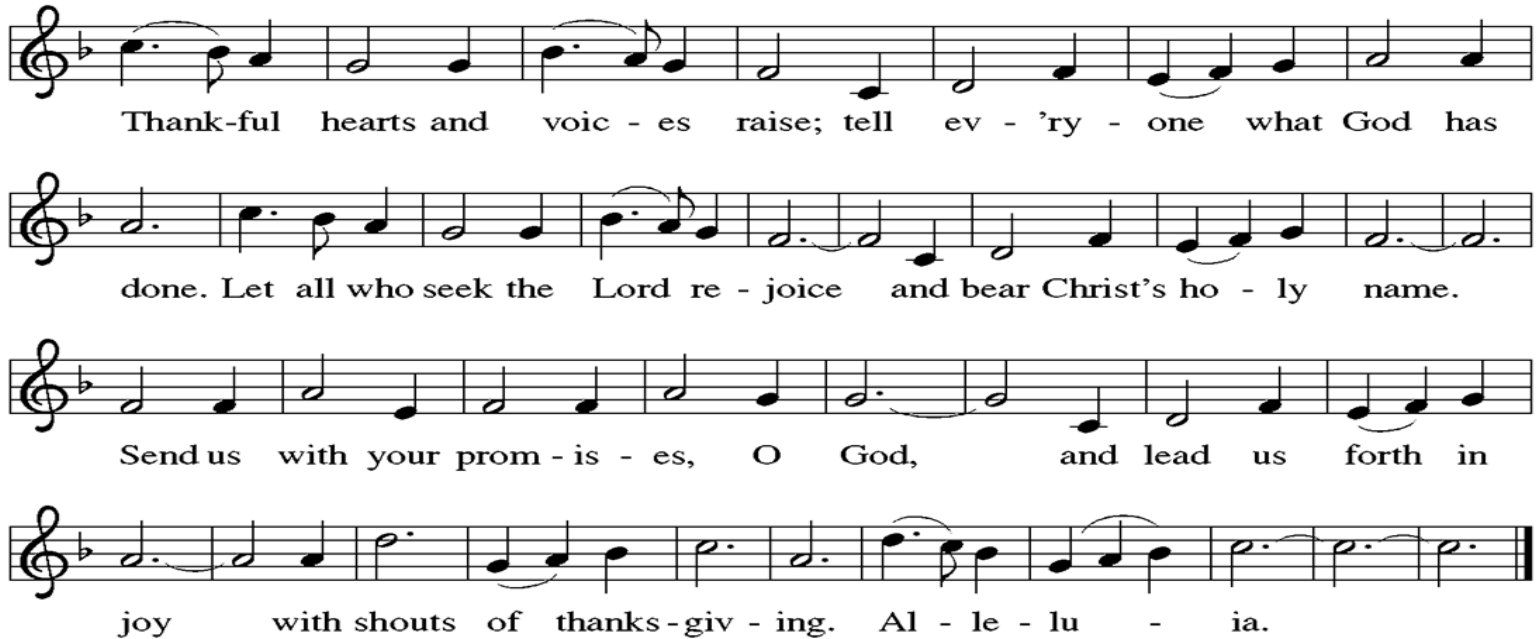
## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 206

### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has  
done. Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in  
joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,  
through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.  
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.  
In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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<u>Disciples Serving:</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Presider/Supply	Pastor Karen Matuska	Cyrisse Cooley
Assisting Minister:	Riley Dunton	Ryan Kessinger
Pianist:	Dr. J. Michael Beck	Dr. J. Michael Beck
Altar Guild:	Cassie Walgren	Cassie Walgren
Ushers/Greeters:	Tony Martinet	Tony Martinet
Counters/Posters:	Deb Huisman/Leanne Neu	Kathy Lambert/Cassie Walgren
JAM:	Derek Truxell/	Children's Sermon

## BIRTHDAYS

May 4     Merlin Leking  
May 7     Shirley Regan

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † *Slopper Sunday* will be on May 17 after worship in the Fellowship Hall. This is a fundraiser for our kids to go to camp. Slopers or Hamburgers will be available.
- † Exciting News! Tabor has a new and easier way to tithe. Just scan the PayPal QR code below to donate directly to **Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church of Pueblo** (full PayPal account name). Or use the email: [ltreasurerpueblo@gmail.com](mailto:ltreasurerpueblo@gmail.com) (Venmo coming soon!)



## PRAYERS

### 6Members, Friends and Relatives

### Added by Members

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Doris Ask	People of Tabor
Shirley Bass	People of Tabor
Michael Beck	People of Tabor
Robert Bogusch	Nephew of Kathy Lambert
Family of Emily Briggs	People of Tabor
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
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
Kathy Lambert	People of Tabor
Kathy Laney & Family	Connie Wisthoff
DJ Nichols	Truxell Family
Will Nichols	Truxell & Vargues Families
Evelyn Omev	Twin sister of Shirley Bass
Andrea Pitre	Friend of Emily Briggs
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
Marvin Truxell	Truxell & Vargues Families
Charlotte Vargues	People of Tabor
Family of Marvin Wisthoff	People of Tabor
Sandra Zupan	Sister of Ruth Valencia