

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:4-15

⁴ And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, 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 this day. ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?" ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.

¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴ And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." ¹⁵ And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Psalm 119:97-104

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your law! all the day long it is in my mind.

⁹⁸ Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, and it is always with me.

⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my study.

¹⁰⁰ I am wiser than the elders, because I observe your commandments.

¹⁰¹ I restrain my feet from every evil way, that I may keep your word.

¹⁰² I do not shrink from your judgments, because you yourself have taught me.

¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste! they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

¹⁰⁴ Through your commandments I gain understanding; therefore I hate every lying way.

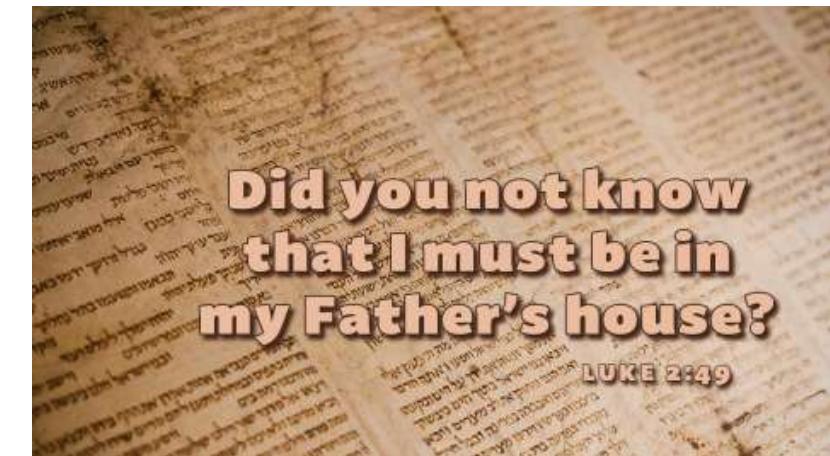
Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Gospel: Luke 2:40-52

⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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MT. TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Little Mountain, South Carolina

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son (✚), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Hymn: #283

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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The Greeting

The Kyrie

The Hymn of Praise (*This is the feast...*)

The Prayer of the Day:

P: Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son, we might be made to abound in good works. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson
Psalm 119:97-104
The Second Lesson
The Gospel Acclamation (*Alleluia...*)
The Holy Gospel
The Children's Time
The Sermon
Hymn of the Day: #276
The Nicene Creed

1 Kings 3:4-15
Ephesians 1:3-14
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Luke 2:40-52

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

The Prayers of Intercession
(Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy,
We respond "Hear our prayer.")

The Peace
The Anthem
The Offertory: #884
The Offertory Prayer
The Great Thanksgiving
The Proper Preface
The Sanctus
The Eucharistic Prayer
The Lord's Prayer
The Agnus Dei
Holy Communion

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Love Came Down at Christmas
The Doxology

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The Post-Communion Blessing
The Post-Communion Prayer
The Benediction
P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor (✚) and give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Hymn: #288
The Dismissal

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

SERVING OUR LORD TODAY

Seminarian – Kyle Page

Organist – Karen Davis

Choir Director – Kayleigh Eargle

Lector – Alana Stockman

Acolyte – Maddy Stribble

Ushers – James Torrence, Janice Shealy, Ashley Lindler

Communion Assistants – Leonard Shealy, Murray Shealy, Steve Willis

Communion Usher – Warren Davis

Altar Care – Alicia Stroud, Cathy Lindler, Kristin Shealy

Offering Tabulators – Amanda Long, Richard Player, Johnny Riddle, James Torrence

Candle Care – Amanda Long, Jennifer Lindler

We welcome Seminarian Kyle Page today as our guest preacher and worship leader.

We welcome visitors who are worshiping with us today. We invite you to sign one of the Visitor cards in the pew rack and place it in the plate in the narthex as you leave or give it to an usher. We welcome to Communion all who are baptized members of all churches who receive communion in their own churches. Please complete a communion card found in the pew racks and give to the communion usher.

Our Attendance last Sunday was 101 (100 inside and 1 outside). Offering was \$1,940.00. Sunday School attendance was 55. The Christmas Eve offering was \$1,144.00. The Christmas Eve attendance was 139. The December Sunday School offering was \$469.

The **Altar Flowers** are given in Honor of Ms. Carolyn Torrence and to the Glory of God by Lee and Tracy Werts. Next Sunday's flowers will be given by Garrett and Molly Lominack.

Remember in your prayers:

Mt. Tabor Members: Scott Frick, Melvin Bowers, Ann Bowers, Troy Shealy, Jane Speight, Dick Shealy, Shane Stroud, Micheal Torrence, Linda Dowd, Todd Frick, Carter Dominick, Debbie Rister, Derek Bowers, Henry Childs, and Roger Long.

Family and Friends: Celeste Bowers, Will Nobles, Dean Stribble, Beckham Waters, Alston Slater, Larry Danford, Andy Wessinger, Susan Wicker, Cindy Mace, Catherine Elaine Hamm, and Jack Owens.

Hospital List Known: Roger Long, Prisma Health Richland

The **loose offering** for the month of January will go to Nick and Amanda Childs to help with medical bills for Henry.

If you have end of year reports or information for the **Church Yearbook**, please email them to mttaborlutheran@gmail.com.

If you have not already done so, please pick up your **2026 Offering Envelopes**. They are available on the table in the cry room.

REMINDER: There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for members who wish to serve as **lectors and/or communion assistants** in 2026. Please sign up.

If you haven't already picked up your **poinsettia**, please do so after the service today or come by Tuesday thru Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Mary Alice Frick would like to thank everyone who sent her cards, brought her food and gifts, or just visited during this Christmas season. It was all very much appreciated.

Choir Practice will be Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Many, many thanks to all of you who helped make Christmas brighter for the residents at **Palmetto Gardens**. Whether you provided a toiletry bag, a personal gift, or monetary donation, all was appreciated. Thanks to Marlene McCormack and Daniel Werts for letting us use one of their Thrivent cards. Also, thanks for all those who went on Tuesday afternoon to sing and deliver the gifts. The residents expressed many times how much they enjoyed it.