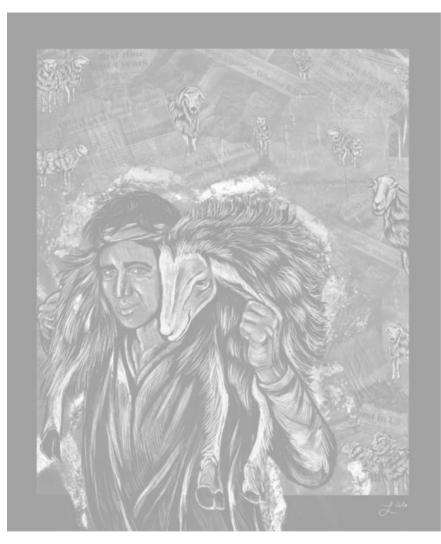
## Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 30, 2025 Everything [in] between Lost & Found



## **Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church**



Welcome to our Service

**Our mission at Mount Tabor** is to be "an inclusive, compassionate faith community living God's love in the world." Mount Tabor is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation of the ELCA. This means that all are welcome and affirmed, especially our LGBTQ+ siblings, and that we are connected to the world. We all have a place here at God's round table just as we are!

**If this is your first time here, a special welcome to you!** We are mask optional and mask friendly. Please sign the guest register in the narthex (along with your e-mail and cell) so we can be in touch, put on a name tag and join us for refreshments after the service.

**Holy Communion is open to all**. Children of all ages are invited to receive communion with their parents' or guardians' permission. Come when you are ready. Gluten-free bread is available. If you would like a blessing, come to the altar with your arms folded.

**Children are welcome** at all times in the sanctuary. We are blessed to be part of their faith formation through worship!

Please turn off cell phones in the sanctuary before worship begins.

You may add names to the prayer list by sending a request to Brenda Wardle (office@mttaborslc.org), or Pastor Christine (pastor@mttaborslc.org). Names added to the prayer list will remain there for one month. You may request that they stay on longer or come off sooner by contacting the same people.

Visit our web site at www.mttaborslc.org

#### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT - MARCH 30, 2025 ELW Setting Four \*Please stand as you are able

#### **Greeting & Preparation for Worship**

#### GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as the People of God.

#### \*Call to Worship

Our God is a shepherding God. Our God knows us by name. Our God will never stop searching for us. So if you feel lost, then know that God is seeking you. If you feel found, then know that God will never leave. This is the promise of scripture. This is the promise of God's love. Let us worship our with-us God. Please be seated.

#### Prelude

Bob Brown

#### \*Call to Confession

Friends, in the Christian tradition many have used "lost" and "found" labels to describe people "out there" versus people "in here." Many have used "lost" and "found" language to create a damaging dichotomy that Christians are found and non-Christians are lost. But the truth is, each and every one of us is a little bit lost and a little bit found from time to time. Each and every one of us needs the love of the Good Shepherd. So, join me in the prayer of confession, as people who know both ends of that spectrum. Join me as we go to God in prayer:

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Let us pray: If God is a painter. let us be the brush. If God is a musician. let us be the song. If God is an architect. let us be the tools. Let us be the hands. Let us be the builders. But if God is a shepherd. who never stops seeking, let us be willing to be found, no matter how lost we feel. Our God is never far away. Forgive us for forgetting this good news. Amen.

#### Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith, we are all a little bit lost and a little bit found.
We grumble. We push back. We doubt God. We doubt ourselves.
We leave the flock and lose our way.
But fortunately for us, our God is a shepherding God who is always by our side.
So, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
No matter how far we wander,
we can never wander from the bounds of God's grace.
We are loved. We are forgiven. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God!
Amen.

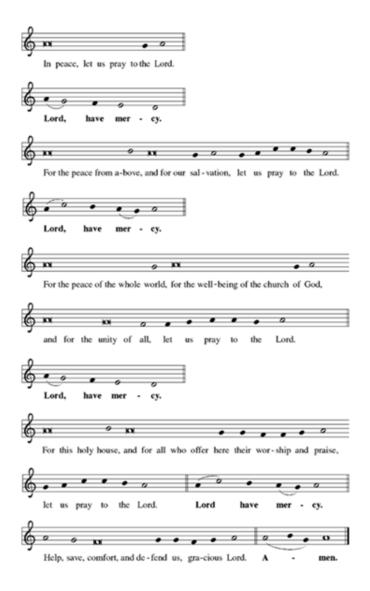
Gathering Song	Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing	#807
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#### Greeting

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.

#### Kyrie





#### Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### THE WORD

God Speaks to Us in Scripture Reading, Preaching and Song

#### **First Reading**

Exodus 32:7-14

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" <sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation." <sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever." <sup>14</sup>And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 

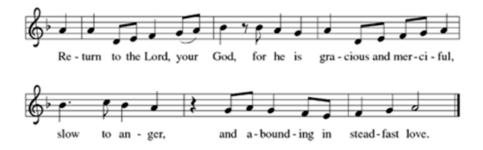
**Special Music** 

#### Psalm 51:1-10

To be read responsively

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. <sup>4</sup>Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. <sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. <sup>6</sup>You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. <sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. <sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. <sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. <sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

#### \*Gospel Acclamation



#### The Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Luke 15:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

# The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### Message Pastor Christine Higueria-Street A time of silence follows the sermon for reflection on the message.

\*Hymn of the Day

#### Affirmation of Faith

Please join me in professing our Christian faith.

the God who walked the streets of Jerusalem, shook hands with lepers, patted children on the head, and told stories of love is always close at hand. So on the good days and the hard days, on the mountains and in the valleys, we believe that we are always being found. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen. Please be seated.

The Prayers of the People

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

After each petition God in your mercy, receive our prayer.

We remember in prayer
Vicki Lange
Tonya Ashton
Jan Burke
Paul Robinson
Dannie Gavros
Rosemary Stelz
Scott Larrabee
John and Ann Ribera

Stephanie Wilson Ben Roundy Toby Goldsmith Travis and Nathan Jelsma-Beery Hannah Comb Leonard Nancy Poe Alan Astin Ellen Deborah Judy White

We pray for all those suffering the effects of traumatic events, natural disasters and climate change. We pray for the recovery efforts, the first responders and volunteers who are serving in these areas.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.** 

#### **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

#### **MEAL** God Feeds Us with the Presence of Jesus Christ.

#### Sharing our Gifts and Gratitude

We provide several ways of sharing your financial blessings with our congregation. Offering plates are located at the doors of the sanctuary and envelopes can be found in the pews. **Simply Giving is** an automatic direct-donation method of supporting our life and ministry together. If you would like to enroll in **Simply Giving** or if you are interested in updating your giving amount, frequency, etc., please contact <u>office@mttaborslc.org</u> with your request. We are grateful and thankful for your support and wonderful generosity. *Alternately, feel free to use this QR code to contribute electronically.* 



#### **Prayer of Gratitude**

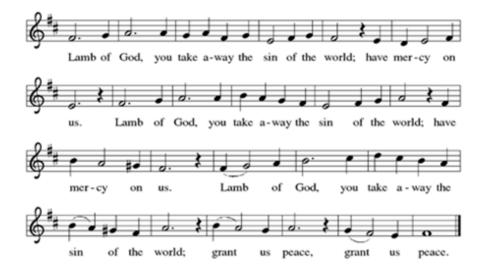
Let us pray,

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

#### **Great Thanksgiving**

The table is prepared as the assembly sings:

#### Lamb of God



#### \*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.

## **Table Prayer**

Holy God . . . with our song we join the heavenly hosts to praise your holy name.

## Holy, Holy, Holy



#### The Words of Institution

In the night.... in your holy Church, both now and forever.

#### Amen.

#### Lord's Prayer

We pray together as the body of Christ: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### Invitation to Communion

The Distribution	Come when you are ready, children are always welcome!	
Communion Song	Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound	#779
	Rock of Ages, Clef for Me	#623

\*Post Communion Blessing

#### **Prayer After Communion**

Let us pray.

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### SENDING

God Blesses Us and Sends Us in Mission to the World.

## Our Life Together (pg. 18)

## \*Blessing & Benediction

As you leave this place, may you find God in every messy middle. May you know that the world is bigger than two sides. May you trust that you are made in the image of God, and therefore, you contain multitudes. So may you move through this world with an open heart, with a curious mind, and with confidence that you do not go alone. God is with you in the mountains, in the valleys, and everywhere in between. Believe that good news and go in peace.

Sending Song	Oh, That the Lord would Guide My Ways	#772
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### Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. Thanks be to God!

### Postlude

Bob Brown

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FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT:	March 30, 2025
Assisting Minister:	Jenny Jensen
Lector:	Casey White
Usher:	Duane Lee
Altar Ministry:	Lanea Brown
Remote Office Assistant:	Brenda Wardle
AV Technicians:	Duane Lee, Lee Kreutzer
Presiding Minister:	Rev. Christine Higueria-Street

## Our Life Together Announcements

Please join us as we continue our Lenten journey, please join us for fellowship and food at 6 pm before the Wednesday 7 pm service. We are asking volunteers to provide soups (2 +1 vegetarian), bread, and beverages. Please sign up on the sheet in the kitchen for one of these dates:, April 2, and April 9.

We will be sorting food at the Utah Food Bank on **Saturday, April 5th 10am to Noon.** 

**Maundy Thursday Service** will be at 7:00 pm in the Narthex on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

Good Friday Service will be at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary on Friday, April 18th.

**Easter Service** will be at 10:30 am on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> followed by a special breakfast with a free will offering to support the Food Assistance and Emergency Assistance Ministry. Please plan on attending and inviting friends and family to join us.

**OAKS (Older Adults Knowing Strength**) bible study and luncheon. On Tuesday, April 15th at noon. Subsequent OAKS will be on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, all are welcome.

**Pastor Christine is available** by text. Her contact information is 801-215-9208 or 619-459-8879. Emails can be sent to pastor@mttaborslc.org.