

3rd Sunday in Lent – March 8, 2026



the good news is...

**together, the impossible
is possible**



Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church



Welcome to God's Service of Praise, Prayer, Meal and Song

Our Mission

Mount Tabor is a welcoming, compassionate community, living God's love through faithful worship and active service in the world.

Our Values

Grace: *We seek to proclaim God's promises of love, grace, and salvation for all humankind.*

Welcome: *We seek to welcome all to walk with us in Christ's love, hope, and joy; we strive to include others, especially those who have felt excluded or rejected in the past.*

Music and Worship: *We seek to gather in worship and song—to celebrate with those who rejoice, to mourn with those who sorrow, and to share together in God's love.*

Service: *We seek to serve our community and the world, offering up our time, talents, and treasures to bring about God's healing and justice 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.

The twelve parking slots on the north side of the parking lot have been leased to students living in Unite Student Living for their use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **The slots are numbered 1 to 12. Do not park in these slots as your vehicle may be towed. All other spots** – aside from handicap spaces – **are also rented between 9pm-9am.** Please plan accordingly.

Holy Communion is open to all. Children of all ages are always welcome in the sanctuary. We are blessed to be part of their faith formation through worship! With parents' or guardians' permission, children are invited to receive communion. Gluten-free bread & grape juice are available options. If you would like a blessing, come to the altar with your arms folded. Come when you are ready.

Prayer slips are available from the ushers. Write your prayers and then leave them in the offering plates to be added to the prayer chain around the altar.

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

Visit our web site at www.mttaborslc.org

2ND SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 1, 2026

ACS Setting 12

***Please stand as you are able until you are directed to be seated.**

Greeting & Preparation for Worship

GATHERING

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

***Call to Worship**

If you need good news,

settle into this space.

We have good news to share.

If you need a word of hope,

then trust us when we say,

together there is hope enough to go around.

If you need a glimmer of joy,

then you're in luck!

We have resilient joy abounding.

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

then know that this is God's house.

This is the good news of the gospel.

God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.

Let us worship our with-us God!

Please be seated.

Prelude

Bob Brown

***Call to Confession**

Friends, we are like the disciples.

The day that Jesus fed 5,000,

his disciples could not imagine a solution to the crowd's hunger.

They told Jesus to send the crowds away.

We often do the same. Like the disciples,

we try to follow Jesus around,

but when we run into issues,

we often cannot imagine how we could play a part.

That is why we need the Prayer of Confession.

For in this prayer, we remember that we can make a difference.

So, friends, join me in this moment of truth telling. Join me in prayer:

Prayer of confession

Holy God, with you the impossible is possible.

5,000 can be fed. The blind can see. The hopeless can find hope.

With you the impossible is possible, but we are quick to forget that.

We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.

We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd.

We forget that you are always with us.

Forgive our small-minded ways.

Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come.

But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.

With hope for a better tomorrow we pray,

Amen.

Words of forgiveness

Family of faith,
no matter how many mistakes the disciples made,
Jesus still washed their feet.
Jesus still fed them.
Jesus still called them beloved.
The same is true for you and me,
so hear and believe this good news:

Today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God.

We are forgiven.

We are called.

We are not alone.

What good, good news.

Amen!

Gathering Song By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469

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



Musical notation for the first line of the Kyrie. The staff is in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.



Musical notation for the second line of the Kyrie. The staff is in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.



Musical notation for the third line of the Kyrie. The staff is in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Song of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God,
we could press our ear to the page,
hoping to hear you more clearly.
We could silence all the alarms and notifications,

hoping to catch a murmur of your voice.
We could still our beating hearts,
and still we might miss your voice.
So today we pray, open up space in our hearts,
in our spirits, in our minds,
to feel your presence among us.
With you, anything is possible.
We believe. Help our unbelief.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

God Speaks to Us in Scripture Reading, Preaching and Song

1st Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ² Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. ⁵ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Mark 6:32-44

The Gospel according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

³² And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴ As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things. ³⁵ When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; ³⁶ send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." ³⁷ But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" ³⁸ And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." ³⁹ Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. ⁴¹ Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴² And all ate and were filled, ⁴³ and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. ⁴⁴ Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Pastor Christine Higuera-Street

A time of silence follows the sermon for reflection on the message

***Hymn of the Day**

Human Minds Just Can't Imagine

ELW 678

Tune: God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Words by Anna Strickland (2025), Tune by Joseph Haydn (1797)



Hu - man minds just can't i - ma - gine all that God can bring
God, ex - pand our dreams and vi - sion when we think our gifts
Like the grains of wheat are ga - thered from the vast and roll -



to bear Through our small and sep - arate be - ings, e - ven
too small Help us trust your great pro - vis - ion and to
-ing fields Like the grapes from vi - ny bran - ches whose small



when we join to share Still we fol - low where Christ leads us,
an - swer when you call You who gave us time and ta - lents
fruit the wine will yield We re - mem - ber as one bo - dy,



ma - ny pie - ces of one whole That we might al - low
will up - hold and see us through As we join to - geth -
each of us a cru - cial part In the glo - bal church



our dream - ing to trans - form our bro - ken world
-er in the work you've gi - ven us to do
pro - fess - ing: we be - long to God's own heart

Affirmation of Faith

Please join me in professing our Christian faith.

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

It sounds like welcome and feels like home.

It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.

It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,

so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.

I have seen it alive in the world.

And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,

even when mercy feels out of reach,

I remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence.

I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired

those around him.

I remember that the good news really is good news,

for I have seen it alive in the world.

Thanks be to God!

Amen.

Please be seated.

The Prayers of the People

Calling and equipping God,

many years ago, on a hillside in Galilee,

you looked at your disciples and said,

“You give them something to eat.”

We read these ancient words again and are struck with the realization that

from the very beginning, you have seen good in us.

From the very beginning, you have known that we are capable of great love.

From the very beginning, you have believed that we could make a difference.

Calling God, help us to see that truth in ourselves.

Help us to see your fingerprints in our lives.

Help us to see the ways you have equipped us to serve.

Help us to see the ways that we are capable,

instead of only seeing the ways we stumble and get in our own way.

God, we long to see ourselves as you do because we know that like that day in the Galilee, there is still work to do.

Like that day on the hillside, this world is full of people who are hungry.

We are hungry for justice, hungry for companionship, hungry for reasons to hope.

Like that day on the hillside, this world is full of people who need healing. We need healing for our bodies, healing for our minds, healing for broken relationships.

We pray now for our friends and family who we name aloud or within the silence of our hearts and minds.

Silence is kept.

We lift our prayers for

Travis and Nathan Jelsma-Beery

Sheri Clark

Charlie Clapp

Coni Hampton

Heather, Mike, & Declan Redondo

William Simpson and his parents, David & Angela

Presley Vann

Janis Knight

Brenda Wardle

Linda Poe

Dennis Pasborg

Camille Cochran

Prayer movement – the congregation is invited to fill out prayer slips, bring food for Crossroads, and provide alms for ELCA World Hunger as part of our Lenten practice of prayer, fasting and alms.

Grace filled God, and like that day on the hillside, there is surely enough to go around, but we doubt and deny that truth.

So call us again, loving God.

Say our names.

Hand us the baskets of bread and fish.

Tell us it's our turn.

**Help us see ourselves the way you see us,
for we know that together the impossible is possible.**

Until your promised day when all are fed,
all are healed, and hunger is no more,
we will continue to pray.

**In hope, we will weave our voices together to pray that your kingdom
comes.**

Amen.

MEAL

God Feeds Us with the Presence of Jesus Christ.

Gratitude plants the seed for Abundance

God is abundantly able to do more than we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. *Ephesians 3:20*

“This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We are prophets of a future not our own." *Excerpt from The Romero Prayer*

Mount Tabor is grateful for your generosity. We provide several ways of sharing your financial blessings:

- Offering plates located at the doors of the sanctuary
- eGiving online using a credit card or ACH.

Visit: <https://mttaborslc.org/give> or contact office@mttaborslc.org



Prayer of Gratitude

Table-setting God,

this Lent we do not want to miss your invitation. We do not want to be so caught up in our own business that we miss the holiness right in front of us. So settle our hearts, and open our spirits to hear your word anew. Help us hear your good news today. With hope we pray, Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The table is prepared as the assembly sings:

Lamb of God



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.

*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, our living Water... his life for the world.

The Words of Institution

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

Amen.

Lord's Prayer



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

Invitation to Communion

The Distribution *Come when you are ready, children are always welcome!*

Communion Songs

Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW 515

Eat this Bread, Drink this Cup

ELW 492

***Post Communion Blessing**

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

God of our salvation,
**we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Please be seated.

SENDING

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

Our Life Together (pg. 21)

***Blessing & Benediction**

As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love.
When you meet fear, speak with hope.
When you meet pain, speak with gentleness.
But no matter what, speak this good news.
For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all.
It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms.
The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking.
For if you won't, then who will?
Thanks be to God for this good, good news.
Amen.

Sending Song Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Bob Brown

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2nd Sunday in Lent:	March 8, 2026
Assisting Minister:	Steven Baker
Lector:	Dan Wall
Usher:	Leslie Carey
Counters:	Dave Warren / Chris Jensen
Greeter:	Casey White
Altar Ministry:	Becki Kaiser
AV Technicians:	Duane Lee, Lee Kreutzer
Presiding Minister:	Rev. Christine Higuera-Street
Music Minister:	Bob Brown
Administrative Assistant:	Kristin Jensen

Our Life Together Announcements

A Lenten Devotion and discussion on the artwork used for the season will be led by Kylie Jones-Greenwood **before Worship at 10AM on Sundays during Lent** and on Passion/Palm Sunday.

"Dinner At Vinnies" service opportunity is Tuesday, March 10th from 4:30-6:30pm at the St Vincent DePaul Dining Hall at the Weigand Center downtown. Come and share Tabor's gracious and loving hospitality with our hungry neighbors living on the streets. We always have room for more volunteers! Please see Casey White if you have any questions.

Senior Food Box Distribution Our distribution of USDA food boxes to seniors in our neighborhood continues with our next distribution set for **Wednesday, March 18th**. These boxes are available for those who meet eligibility guidelines and have signed up through the Utah Food Bank.

In February and March, the **entry door codes and office door codes will be updated**. The plan is to install new codes in February, but to keep the old codes still functional. Then, in March, the old codes will be removed. Further, we will be reconsidering who has physical keys to the building. As part of this effort, it is requested that **any member needing access to the building or the office send an email to Kristin (office@mttaborslc.org)** requesting a **key to the building** (frequent need to access the building), the **code for Mt Tabor members** (occasional need to access the building), and/or a **unique code to enter the office** (frequent need to access the office). The council will consider the requests and instruct Kristin to provide keys and codes as they see fit. At the same time, new entry codes will be provided to all user groups.

Family Promise dinner dates for 2026: Mount Tabor will be providing dinners on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday and brunch on Saturday for the

following weeks at **Christ United Methodist Church** (2375 E 3300S):

April 26 - May 2; September 13 - 19

This is a great opportunity to show God's love to **unhoused Families**. If you have any questions about being a volunteer, please let me know. ~Chris Jensen
Family Promise Coordinator

You may add names to the prayer list by sending a request to Kristin Jensen (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.

Pastor Christine is available by text and is the best way to communicate with her. Her contact information is 801-215-9208 or 619-459-8879 which you may text, call and leave voicemails. Emails can be sent to pastor@mttaborslc.org.