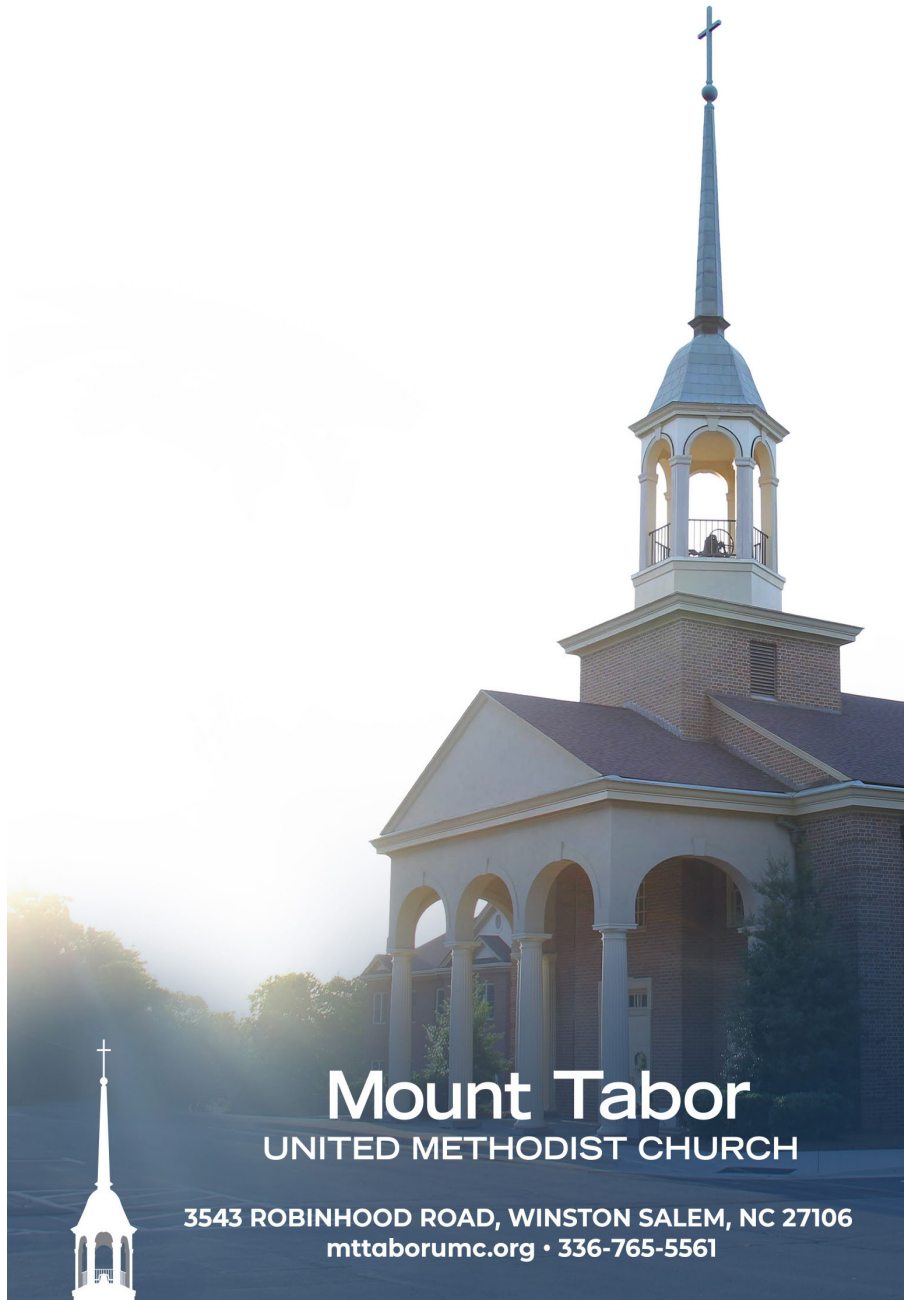


December 1, 2024

*Near-Sighted*



**Mount Tabor**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3543 ROBINHOOD ROAD, WINSTON SALEM, NC 27106  
mttaborumc.org • 336-765-5561

# Traditional Order of Worship

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 1, 2024 — 11:00am

Hearing enhancement devices and large print bulletins are available in the Narthex.

**Prelude** *Veni, Emmanuel* arr. Richard Ellsasser

**Welcome** Rev. Beth Orrell

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** Amy Holmes

**Congregation: While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace already at work in our midst.**

**Introit** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

## \* Call to Worship

Come to worship, all who seek and search for truth.

**The light will guide your way to wisdom.**

Come to worship, all who wonder and wait for Jesus.

**The light will show you the way.**

Come to worship, to find comfort, rest, and peace.

**God is in the shadows, find peace under God's wings.**

Come to worship, all who seek safety from fear.

**God is in the hiding places, and the darkness is safe.**

We gather to worship in light and in darkness.

**God is here among us. Let us worship!**

\* **Hymn # 213** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* TRURO

\* **Affirmation of Faith # 881** *The Apostles' Creed*

## \* Prayer of Confession

**Light of the World and Shadow of Safety, we humble ourselves to pray. You created us to be reflections of your love, but we often reflect our own fears and prejudices instead. Forgive us, God. If we are mirrors of your great brilliance, help us to shine with the light of your love even when everything around us seems dim.**

\* **Gloria Patri # 71** *Glory Be to The Father* GREATOREX

\* **Assurance and Time of Greeting** Pastor David Beam

## \* Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

## Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory Anthem** *We Have Seen the Light* Heather Sorenson

\* **Doxology # 94** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\* **Hymn # 718** *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* HELMSLEY

**Scripture** Luke 21:25-36 (NRSV)

**Message** "Near-Sighted"

**Sacrament of Holy Communion** Pastor David Beam and Rev. Beth Orrell

## \* Post Communion Prayer

Light of the World, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of blessing. You have made our humanity whole by the sacrifice of Jesus. When we doubt our worth, we remember your holy work, completed on our behalf, by the light and the shadow of heaven. Help us to live by the power of your love from this moment onward. Amen.

\* **Hymn # 196** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

\* **Benediction** Pastor David Beam

\* **Benediction Response** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

## \* Chiming of the Trinity

**Postlude** *In Bethlehem 'Neath Star-lit Skies* Grace Stutsman

*\*Please stand in body or in spirit*

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## WORSHIP LEADERS

Senior Pastor: Rev. David Beam

Liturgist: Rev. Beth Orrell

Traditional Worship Arts Director:

Lauren Harris

Organist: Mike Hendrix

Acolytes: Hallie & Lilly Long

# Modern Worship

Sunday, December 1, 2024  
9:00am

—Gathering Song—

*Song of Hope (Heaven Come Down)*  
(Robbie Seay)

— Welcome, Announcements, and Call to Worship —

— Lighting of the Advent Wreath—

Brad & Lindsay Kiger

— Praise Song—

*All Creatures of Our God and King*  
(David Crowder Band)

— Tabor KIDS Dismissal—

— Congregational & Offertory Prayer —

— Offertory —

*O Come All Ye Faithful*  
(Hillsong)

—Scripture—

**Luke 21:25-36**

— Message —

**“Near-Sighted”**

—Holy Communion —

*Light Of The World*  
(We the Kingdom)

— Sending Forth —

**Worship Leaders**

Senior Pastor: Rev. David Beam  
Modern Worship Coordinator: Jim Annas  
Worship Host: Chad Marion  
Prayer Leader: Deborah Daniels

## WELCOME TO MOUNT TABOR UMC

Welcome to Mount Tabor and please feel at home! If you are a first-time guest, **text the word "Hello" to 336-777-7990**. Also stop by the Trinity Welcome Center Desk or a Welcome Kiosk on your way out to receive a welcome gift. The mission of Mount Tabor UMC is to "Gather Joyfully, Grow Spiritually, Go Faithfully to spread the love of Christ." **If you would like to explore ways to Gather, Grow, Go, text "Connect" to 336-777-7990**. Prayer requests can be submitted at [www.mttaborumc.org/prayer](http://www.mttaborumc.org/prayer) or by contacting Director of Congregational Care & Spiritual Formation Kim Harvey (336-765-5561 or [kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org](mailto:kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org)).

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Nursery care and Mother's Room are available for all services. Children interested in participating in TaborKIDS worship may leave the service at the appropriate time. Wheelchairs are available for use while on church property and the church offices are open Mon.-Fri., 9am-NOON and Mon.-Thurs., 1-5pm. See the church website at [www.mttaborumc.org](http://www.mttaborumc.org) for more info.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Submit announcement info at least two weeks in advance to [charity.goff@mttaborumc.org](mailto:charity.goff@mttaborumc.org).

### GATHER JOYFULLY

- \* **You can worship at MTUMC** on Sundays at: Modern Worship at 9:00am in the Alspaugh Worship Center or Traditional Worship at 11:00am in the Sanctuary. Both services are also available via Facebook Live and <https://www.YouTube.com/MountTaborUMCVideoStreaming>.
- \* **Please remember that this is a meaningful and important moment of worship. In the spirit of this special time with our Lord, we ask that you silence and put away all electronic devices during our worship services.**

### GROW SPIRITUALLY & GO FAITHFULLY

- \* **The Christmas Eve Offering will be split between Backpack Program, Crisis Control Ministry, and Second Harvest Food Bank.** Gifts to these organizations must be put in the special offering envelopes or have "Christmas Offering" in the memo line. All undesignated gifts on Christmas Eve will go to the church budget.
- \* **All women are invited to attend, "The Weary World Rejoices"** an Advent Study based on the study by Kate Bowler, on the following Wednesdays Dec. 4 and Dec. 11, at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall and also via zoom. There is nothing to purchase, just bring a Bible and feel free to invite friends. For questions or the zoom link, please contact Kim Harvey at [kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org](mailto:kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org) or 336-765-5561.
- \* **This year's Advent Devotional, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"** with inspiration from Henri J.M. Nouwen will be available beginning Nov. 24 at the desk in the Trinity Welcome Center, the Sanctuary Narthex, and the Church Office. (Advent begins Dec. 1) Questions? Contact Kim Harvey at [kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org](mailto:kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org) or 336-765-5561.
- \* **Moms Fellowship meets the first Thursday of each month** (December 5) 9:15 - 10:30am in Fellowship Hall. This is a time for mothers of young children to meet for a heartfelt prayer, a short devotion with discussion, and fellowship. Childcare will be provided with registration done by 5 PM the night before the meeting. Register here: [bit.ly/mtmomfellowship](http://bit.ly/mtmomfellowship) Questions? Contact Sandy Hauser [SandyLHauser@gmail.com](mailto:SandyLHauser@gmail.com)
- \* **All families are invited to Breakfast in Bethlehem on December 7** at 10:00am. This annual advent experience for young families is open for registration now! [bit.ly/mtbfast2024](http://bit.ly/mtbfast2024)

- \* **TaborTWEENS will go to dinner and take a hayride through the Tanglewood Lights** on December 19 from 5:00-9:00pm. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://bit.ly/tweenhayride>.
- \* **It's time to register for the Nativity!** The Nativity is a re-telling of the birth of Jesus by TaborKIDS during the 2:00pm Christmas Eve service. For more information & to register, please visit: <https://bit.ly/mtumcnativity2024>
- \* **Dreading wrapping those Christmas gifts?** That's ok! Circle #2 has you covered. We will be having our annual Gift wrapping fundraiser to raise money for local organizations including Crossnore and Spark. We will be wrapping during Tabor Table on December 11 from 5:00-7:00pm, Saturday December 14 from 10-3, and after church on December 15 from 12-4. Let us help you so we can help others! Any questions contact Jessica Campbell- [jescampbell5@gmail.com](mailto:jescampbell5@gmail.com).
- \* **DIVORCECARE** is a biblical and Christ-centered support group where people find healing, hope, and encouragement after separation or divorce. For you, or someone you know, no matter what the cause of separation or divorce, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. You will learn how to recognize the symptoms of being stuck and learn valuable information about facing your "new normal" and renewing your hope for the future. Our DivorceCare group will gather on Wednesday nights, from January 9-April 26 in The Parlor (Rm. 108) from 6:30-8:00pm. For more information, please contact David Rigby at [divorcecare@mttaborumc.org](mailto:divorcecare@mttaborumc.org). Registration is easy at [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org).
- \* **GRIEFSHARE** is a biblical and Christ-centered group that gathers to help each other heal and find encouragement following the death of a loved one. No matter what the cause of your loved one's death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. You will learn how to recognize the symptoms of being stuck in grief and learn valuable information about facing your new normal in life and renewing your hope for the future. Our Fall GriefShare series will begin on Wednesdays, January 15-April 9 in room 101 from 3:30-5:00pm. For more information, please contact Beverly Burton at [griefshare@mttaborumc.org](mailto:griefshare@mttaborumc.org) or to register go to [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) and search for Find A Group. Mt. Tabor is listed to begin on September 11.
- \* **Crisis Control Ministry Holiday Honor Cards** are available for purchase in the Workroom until Sunday December 22. 100% of your \$5 donation per card goes to CCM. 2 designs to choose from. More designs available online and at CCM. [www.crisiscontrol.org](http://www.crisiscontrol.org). Give the Gift of LOVE and HOPE this Holiday! For more information text or email Denise Peterson 336-922-1717 [mamapete3@gmail.com](mailto:mamapete3@gmail.com)
- \* **2024 End of Year Contributions** – When making plans for a financial gift at the end of the year please remember the following: Cash and checks must be postmarked or delivered to the church office by December 31; Online gifts must be submitted by December 31; and Stock gifts must be sent by December 24 and you must notify Holly Smith of the stock name and number of shares by email at [holly.smith@mttaborumc.org](mailto:holly.smith@mttaborumc.org).
- \* **BEGINNING HANDBELLS COMING SOON!** In January 2025, Lauren Harris is planning to start a handbell ensemble for BEGINNERS. Youth and adults welcome! If you are interested, please sign-up TODAY. No obligation, and no experience required. If you have questions, please contact Lauren at [Lauren.Harris@mttaborumc.org](mailto:Lauren.Harris@mttaborumc.org) or 336-779-1049.
- \* **RECYCLERS NEEDED** - On Your Own Schedule - You would be assigned a two-week period during which you would collect from your assigned area one or twice a week as needed, collected material can be taken home to include with your own recycling, or taken to one of the recycling stations around town. If interested, please contact Judy Miller, [cnjinwsnc@gmail.com](mailto:cnjinwsnc@gmail.com) or 336 725-5973.



*Christmas*  
AT MOUNT TABOR UMC

**Tuesday, December 24**


**2 PM Family Service & Nativity**  
*a retelling of the birth of Jesus by TaborKIDS  
in the Alspaugh Worship Center*

**4 PM Lessons & Carols**  
*with Candlelight Communion  
in the Sanctuary*

**6 PM Modern Worship**  
*with Candlelight Communion  
in the Alspaugh Worship Center*

**8 PM Traditional Worship**  
*with Candlelight Communion  
in the Sanctuary*

OUT OF DARKNESS... *Light!*



with the Mount Tabor  
United Methodist Church  
Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Sunday, December 15 at 4 PM



**Breakfast in Bethlehem**  
*an Advent experience for young families*

**December 7  
10 AM**

Register now:  
[bit.ly/mtbfast2024](http://bit.ly/mtbfast2024)




**Advent  
Devotionals**  
NOW AVAILABLE

Options for Both Children and Adults

In the Trinity Welcome Center,  
Sanctuary Narthex and Church Office

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Elise Eslinger

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.

Heav - en 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.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, who you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away. Your own Son came among us as a servant, to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.



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## Our Response to God's Grace...

<p><b>BUDGET PLEDGES FOR 2025 as of Nov 11, 2024</b></p> <p><b># Pledges: 231 for Pledge Total of \$1,262,583.</b></p>	<b>November 24, 2024 ATTENDANCE</b>	
	Online Worship	183
	In-person Worship	452
	<b>November 24, 2024 GIVING</b>	
	<b>Budget Needs Each Week</b>	<b>\$31,382.00</b>
	<b>Budget Gifts</b>	<b>\$57,006.72</b>
	Angel Tree	\$400.00
	Honorarium/Memorial	\$200.00
	Other	\$1,180.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$58,786.72</b>