The Virginia Lutheran

We Are Church Together

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From a Community of Faith, a Song of Peace

Shared by Rick Sizemore, Mt. Tabor, Staunton

Mt. Tabor musicians release “Jesus Light the Way to Peace"



Sometimes a song begins with a melody. Sometimes it begins with a phrase scribbled on a piece of paper. And sometimes it grows quietly from years of worship, friendship, prayer, and making music together.

For members of Safe Harbor, a group of musicians connected through the community of faith at Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church near Staunton, Virginia, “Jesus Light the Way to Peace” is one of those songs.

The new recording is being released through Sizemore Music Group and distributed to streaming services worldwide. It is part of a growing collection of original music inspired by faith and by the experience of worshiping and making music together at Mt. Tabor.

Safe Harbor brings together Mike McCray, Sheila Hanger, Teresa Hanger, Breonna Shalawylo and Rick Sizemore. Their music is grounded not simply in performance, but in community—the experience of singing together, accompanying worship, listening to one another, and discovering how music can express something that ordinary conversation sometimes cannot.



Pictured left to right:

Rick Sizemore, Breonna Shalawylo, Teresa Hanger, Mike McCray and Sheila Hanger

“Jesus Light the Way to Peace” grew from a simple Christian conviction: peace is not necessarily found by escaping the difficulties of life. It is found by following Christ through them.

The song reflects on Jesus as a light that continues to shine when the road ahead is uncertain. Its message is less about having all the answers than knowing where to turn when answers are difficult to find. In a world that can feel increasingly divided and noisy, the lyric returns again and again to something wonderfully uncomplicated: Christ calls us toward peace.

For Sizemore, who wrote the song, songwriting has increasingly become another expression of faith.

Pictured: *Rick Sizemore*



The songs emerging from this season of life draw from many places—Scripture, worship, personal reflection, conversations and the people who gather week after week as a community of believers. Mt. Tabor has provided fertile ground for that creativity.

The recording also represents the changing ways independent musicians can create and share their work. New production technologies, including artificial intelligence used as part of the musical production process, were combined with original songwriting, human vocals, musicianship, and production to bring the recording to life. For Sizemore, those tools are not the story themselves. They are simply new instruments available to help carry an old message.

And the message remains decidedly human. It is about hope. It is about community. It is about the peace found in Jesus Christ.

“Jesus Light the Way to Peace” is among several original faith-inspired songs planned for release through Sizemore Music Group. For the members of Safe Harbor, each recording carries a little of the place where these songs were nurtured—a small Lutheran congregation, a community of friends and believers, and the conviction that music remains one more way of sharing the light.

Listen and connect: *Jesus Light the Way to Peace* is available on major streaming platforms. Listen through **the official HyperFollow page** and follow **Sizemore Music Group on Facebook @SizemoreMusicGroup** for new music, videos and upcoming releases. Contact Rick Sizemore at sizemoremusicgroup@gmail.com.