



TAB

*Moyers*

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Tabernacle Presbyterian Church  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

December 3, 2023 | First Sunday of Advent

# Welcome

May you truly sense God's Spirit at work in this place and in your life.

## Greetings to everyone!

We extend a warm welcome to those joining us in-person or for our livestream worship service this morning. As we celebrate together, we hope you will sense God's presence as we gather.

If you are a guest this morning, please fill out one of the Connection Cards located in the pew racks so that we can get to know each other better. Simply hand your completed card to an usher or place it in the offering box. If you need assistance at any time, please feel free to ask someone seated next to you or one of the ushers.

Nurseries are available for infants along with programming for preschoolers.

## Discipleship Classes

### Current Discipleship Opportunities

#### SPIRITUAL GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT | Sundays, 9a-10a, Parlor

##### ADVENT WORKSHOP | December 3

The SG&D Education Class will move down to the Children's Ministry area to participate in this year's Advent Workshop. Come join the Tab family as we gather to create crafts and keepsakes for our homes in the festive season of Advent. Bring your good cheer for the good news we share with one another during this special time of youthful celebration. For more information on the Advent Workshop, look in the Announcement section of the bulletin.

##### ADVENT SERIES | December 10

Part of Tab's Advent worship tradition includes the lighting of the Advent wreath featuring candles associated with words of faith-filled promises: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. These words from Scripture, in Hebrew or Greek (Yakhal, Shalom, Chara, and Agape), have rich and deep meanings around the advent of our Lord and Savior. Come join us as we consider and discuss these themes through the Bible Project's online video titled "Advent Series."

##### THE FIRST SILENT NIGHT | December 17

Come join us as we watch the 45-minute PBS special, 'The First Silent Night—The Christmas Carol that United the World,' featuring actor, Simon Callow, "as he uncovers the origins of Silent Night, from the Austrian village of Oberndorf to the city of Salzburg, birthplace of the world's favorite carol. This story will introduce us to two, impoverished children, Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber, who grew up in Austria's cobbled streets and wooded villages. The hard years that shaped them would also destine them to meet one day in a poor country church to unite Gruber's music and Mohr's text into this classic carol about the birth of the Messiah one quiet night in Bethlehem."

#### WOMEN ALIVE | TUESDAYS 10a-11:30a | PARLOR

This is a group for women of all ages who desire to move through life together while learning to know themselves and God better. *Questions?* Email Sally John at [sallybjohn@gmail.com](mailto:sallybjohn@gmail.com).

#### PASTORS' BIBLE STUDY | WEDNESDAYS 9:30a-10:30a | PARLOR

Our Pastor leads a Bible study covering the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday worship.

#### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY | SATURDAYS 8a-9a | PARLOR

The Men of Tab are continuing their study on the books of I & II Peter. *Questions?* Email [dlconrads@yahoo.com](mailto:dlconrads@yahoo.com).

#### OUR MISSION

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church is called by God, led by faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to demonstrate the Kingdom of God through worship, discipleship and outreach.

Honoring our heritage at 34th and Central, we will faithfully serve our community, city and world in the present and prepare expectantly for the future.

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COVER ART CREDIT:  
"The Annunciation"  
©Mike Moyers

# 8 o'clock Worship

We hope you will sense our vision for Greater Faith, Deeper Relationships, and Stronger Community as you worship with us.

**PRELUDE** | “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” —*J. S. Bach*  
“Savior of the Nations, Come”

*The prelude music is a time of worship offering praise to God as well as giving each of us an opportunity to prepare our hearts for worship. Please use this time to pray, meditate and reflect on how God might speak to you during the service this morning.*

## WELCOME

Minute for Mission — Gracious Gifts

“Blest Be the God of Israel” —*Merle’s Tune*

*Blest be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free;  
Who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty,  
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;  
God shall fulfill that promise and bring the people peace.*

✠ **CALL TO WORSHIP** | Rev. Terri Thorn

Pastor: Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel.

**People:** Restore us, O God of hosts; show us your light, and we shall be saved.

Pastor: Let your hand be upon us, O Lord, and make us strong for your service.

**People:** Give us strength, that we may never turn from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

**All:** O God of Israel, as we worship together in this season of Advent may we be reminded of your continuing blessings and the ultimate gift of your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Come, let us bow down and worship!

✠ **HYMN #82** | “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” —*Hyfrydol*

**CALL TO CONFESSION** | Kaye Diener

In this season of Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ, full of grace and truth. Trusting in God’s unfailing grace, let us confess that we have fallen short of God’s call to be his children. Let us join together in our prayer of confession.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Lord God,  
We praise you for sending light into this world.  
We confess that we live as though  
the light had never defeated darkness.  
We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent  
to be among us and to live in us.  
We have kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season  
and do not yearn for his coming each moment in our waiting hearts.  
Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus.  
Prepare us for His return.  
Help us rejoice in the light  
so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts.  
Together, and in the silence of our hearts, we pray in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus.*

**SILENT CONFESSION**

## Today’s Worship Participants

Rev. Terri Thorn  
Associate Pastor

Matt Kauffman  
Hayden Glasgow  
Organists

Kaye Diener  
8a Liturgist

Drew Childs  
10a Liturgist

Sanctuary Choir



**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: God is good! God is faithful! God is merciful! God comes to us, in vulnerability, again and again, to show us how much we are loved. We are forgiven; we are freed, we are beloved, we are blessed. Thanks be to God!

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

✚ **RESPONSE #581 | "Gloria Patri" —Gretorex**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen, Amen.

✚ **THE APOSTLES' CREED** *(in unison)*

Leader: Let us join together proclaiming our common faith.

**All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING | Isaiah 64:1-9** *(pew Bible page 606)*

**GOSPEL READING | Mark 13:24-37** *(pew Bible page 826)*

**MESSAGE | Rev. Terri Thorn**

**EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED**

*"When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect." —Isaiah 64:3*

**A TIME OF SILENT PRAYER & REFLECTION**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

*"Let us Break Bread Together" (please join in singing)*

Let us break bread together on our knees; (2x)

*Refrain:*

*When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

Let us drink wine together on our knees; (2x)

*(Refrain)*

Let us praise God together on our knees; (2x)

*(Refrain)*

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(please join in singing)*

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

✚ **HYMN #93 | "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" —Truro**

✚ **BENEDICTION**

✚ **POSTLUDE | "Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes-Sohn" —J.S. Bach**  
*"Lord Christ, the Only Son of God"*

**MESSAGE NOTES**

Horizontal lines for message notes.

# 10 o'clock Worship

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**PRELUDE** | “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” —J. S. Bach  
“Savior of the Nations, Come”

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We confess that we live as though the light had never defeated darkness.  
We confess that we ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and to live in us.  
We have kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his coming each moment in our waiting hearts.  
Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for His return. Help us rejoice in the light so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts. Together, and in the silence of our hearts, we pray in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus.*

### SILENT CONFESSION

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## STAY CONNECTED!

Digital Bulletin  
[tabpres.org/worship/](http://tabpres.org/worship/)

Facebook Page  
[facebook.com/tabpres](https://facebook.com/tabpres)

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Facebook Group  
—look for—  
“The Tab Family”

On YouTube,  
subscribe to Tab’s  
YouTube page,  
[tabindy](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtabindy).

### Did you miss a sermon?

Or do you want to  
hear it again?

Or read it?

All of the sermons our  
pastors have delivered  
are available at  
[tabpres.org](http://tabpres.org)  
under sermons.  
Check it out!

✝ **RESPONSE #581** | “Gloria Patri” —*Greatorex*

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✝ **HYMN #102** | “Savior of the Nations, Come” —*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

**ANTHEM** | “Once in a Royal David’s City” —*arr. Matthew Culloton*

Once in Royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed;  
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all.  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

For he is our pattern, day by day like us he grew.  
He was weak and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew.  
And he feelth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above,  
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

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“Lord Christ, the Only Son of God”

**OFFERING INFORMATION**

If you would like to bring your offering to church on Sunday mornings, we have offering boxes available in both the 34th Street Narthex and Bell Tower Entrance to the Sanctuary. Extra envelopes are also available. Feel free to drop off your offering either before or after worship. Thanks for your continued support of the ministry and mission of Tab!

**GET IN TOUCH, STAY IN TOUCH**

The easiest and most effective way to receive news about our church and church family is to subscribe to our email. The office sends out a digest every Thursday, with updates as needed at other times. To subscribe, go to [tabpres.org](http://tabpres.org), then scroll to the bottom of the homepage and tap “Sign up for email updates.”

**TAB’S BENEVOLENCE & COMMUNITY CARE FUNDS**

Did you know that Tab has two distinct funds set up to support individuals and families during difficult times? Tab’s Deacon Benevolence & Community Care Funds allow us as a church family to come alongside people with immediate, significant needs inside and outside the church. Please reach out to the church if you or someone you know is in need.

If you are a member or friend of Tab in need, please email Finance Director, Kristine Green at [kristine.green@tabpres.org](mailto:kristine.green@tabpres.org) for more information and confidential application procedures.

If you know of one of our neighbors in need, let them know they can call the **Community Care line at 317-805-1281** for an appointment.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO:

Our deepest sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of **Wayne Weber** who passed away, **SUN, NOV 26**. Please keep his family and his wife, **Carolyn Dodd**, in your thoughts and prayers.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to:  
**Carolyn Dodd, 171 West 73rd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46260.**

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS

**TODAY** is the last day to turn in your orders for poinsettia's. Stop by the Front Desk to order one "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" a special loved one. Cost is \$25 and they may be taken home after the Christmas Eve services.

## ADVENT WORKSHOP

**Today is the Advent Workshop, from 9a-11a in LLB.** There will be eight crafts for older children and adults, and a separate room with several crafts for children ages five and younger. We will also have a group craft to prepare Christmas cards for Tab's homebound members.

## GRACIOUS GIFTS

We have already heard much about Christmas gift giving this season and the backlog of delivery in time for the holidays. Consider a timely alternative as the Gracious Gifts table returns to McKee Hallway for the 15th year, **DEC 3, 10 and 17**. You can select a thoughtful monetary gift(s) for the following ministries chosen by the committee: *Katy's Kids, Mid North Food Pantry, Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, Indy Grace Place, The Oaks Academy, Open Door/Community Closet, and Raphael Health Center.* The three Global Ministries are: *Colombia Sports Ministry (Wittig), Kellers and Missio Link.* If you have any questions, feel free to contact **Libby Pike** ([elizabethmpike@icloud.com](mailto:elizabethmpike@icloud.com)) or **Wendy Wilkerson** ([lobsterlady2@gmail.com](mailto:lobsterlady2@gmail.com)).

## PRETEEN SERVICE PROJECT

**TUE, DEC 5, 7-8p,** Tab's 5th & 6th grade students are invited to a fun event combining a service project and some great fellowship. They will assemble holiday bags for the guests of Tab's Open Door Café, play the ever-popular "hide and seek in the dark;" refreshments provided. No RSVP needed; friends welcome!

## ADVENT PRAYER & PIE SERVICE

As we enter the Advent season, the Mission Committee will offer a reflective prayer service during which we will remember and lift Tab's mission and ministry partners up in prayer on **WED, DEC 6, at 6p** in the Sanctuary. Afterwards, we will gather for a time of fellowship and PIE in the Parlor. We hope you will join us for this special service.

## INTERIM TRANSITION TEAM REPORT

On November 21, Session unanimously approved a candidate for our **Interim Senior Pastor** here at Tab. We will be moving forward with developing a contract for this position, and are meeting with Whitewater Valley Presbytery on December 6. The Team has sincerely appreciated your prayerful support during these God-guided steps.

**If you have further questions or comments, you may contact Sharon Marshall, Clerk of Session, at [bscpmarsh@yahoo.com](mailto:bscpmarsh@yahoo.com) or 317-331-8148.**

## PRETEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

**SUN, DEC 10,** immediately following the 10a worship service at Buca di Beppo. Please RSVP to Mrs. Wirt by **SUN, DEC 3,** if your student plans to attend.

## CHRISTMAS WITH TAB & CHRISTMAS TEA

Join us on **SUN, DEC 10,** for our annual "**Christmas With Tab**" Service at 10a. This year's program will feature Tab's Sanctuary Choir with special guest musicians. The service will be filled with some of your favorite Christmas carols as well as some new and exciting Christmas selections presented by the Sanctuary Choir, orchestra and returning Tab soloist, Patrick Lord-Remmert. Bring a friend and join us for a special morning of celebrating the Christmas season followed by the Annual Christmas Tea. As we have done in the past, we are looking for your special holiday, home-baked goodies to share during this special time of celebration. **Please bring these "goodies" to church on DEC 10,** or drop them by the Front Desk the week before. Thanks for your help in making this special Tab tradition a great time of fellowship!

## 2024 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARDS

Thanks to all who have responded to our 2024 Stewardship Campaign. If you have not yet returned your pledge card for 2024, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. Your pledged gifts of support assist the Session in planning for the coming year. We thank you for your continued support of the ministries of Tab. If you have indicated that you would like pledge envelopes for 2024, they will be available in McKee Hallway for pickup on **SUN, DEC 10.**

## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

The Annual Christmas Joy Offering will be taken at Tab's Worship Service on **SUN, DEC 17,** or you may give online at **[tabpres.org/giving](http://tabpres.org/giving)**. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering you will be helping families of active and retired church workers. The offering is shared equally by the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges for education. Special envelopes will be available that Sunday morning for your convenience. Please give generously.



## OPEN DOOR CAFÉ'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

**WED, DEC 20, 11a, Dining Room.** You are all invited to the annual Christmas Lunch with Open Door Café volunteers and Tab's neighbors. Hang out, listen to some jazzy Christmas music and get into the festive spirit while having a delicious lunch made by Chef Andre. We look forward to celebrating the Christmas season with you!

## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT TAB

**Christmas Eve Services:** 10a Worship, 5p Children & Family Service, and 8p Candlelight Service.

**New Year's Eve Service:** 10a Worship.

## 2023 YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

**SUN, DEC 31**, is the final day that Tab is able to physically receive contributions in the Finance Office for credit to your 2023 giving statement. Checks dated, postmarked and sent via the US Mail on or before December 31 will be credited as 2023 giving even if received in 2024. Online giving must have a December 31 processing date for credit in 2023. All of the above is in accordance with IRS rules and regulations. Those interested in donating securities should contact Kristine Green at ext. 111 in the Finance Office, well in advance of year end.

## 2024 MISSIONS' UNIT

The annual Missions Unit will begin **SUN, JAN 7**, with visits to Brazil, Lebanon, Puerto Rico, Scotland, South Africa, Thailand, and the Netherlands. We will need many adult and teen volunteers to join the team as we help Tab's children learn about the people, customs, religious practices, art, food, games, and history of our featured countries, and most importantly, about the men and wom-

en spreading the good news about Jesus Christ around world. **Sign-up sheets are located in McKee Hallway.** If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Wirt.

## PRETEEN LUNCH & A MOVIE

**MON, JAN 15, 11:30a.** 5th & 6th graders are invited to the annual MLK Day "Lunch & A Movie" outing. We'll have lunch at Culvers and then see a movie at either the Glendale Landmark theater or AMC Castleton theater.

## 2024 MEETING & EVENT REQUESTS

There's always something happening at Tab—and it is that time of year that, for planning and promotion purposes, we take a look ahead at the coming year. In order to make sure we have a clear picture of all events and meetings — we respectfully request that you email your ministry events and meeting schedules to [frontdesk@tabpres.org](mailto:frontdesk@tabpres.org) (please include your event name, date, time, contact person/info, and room request).

## QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS (QCD)

When planning your IRA withdrawal strategy, you may want to consider making charitable donations through a QCD. A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity. QCDs can be counted toward satisfying your required minimum distributions (RMDs) for the year, as long as certain rules are met. In addition to the benefits of giving to a charity, a QCD excludes the amount donated from taxable income, which is unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA. Keeping your taxable income lower may reduce the impact to certain tax credits and deductions, including Social Security and Medicare. See your tax professional for full details.

# This week at Tab

for the week of December 3-9

Tab's Online Calendar: [tabpres.org/calendar/](http://tabpres.org/calendar/)

## SUN, DECEMBER 3

— **POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE!** —

**Communion Service** | 8a, McKee Chapel  
**Coffee & Fellowship** | 8:45a, McKee Hallway

**ADVENT WORKSHOP** | 9a, LLB  
**Worship Service** | 10a, Sanctuary  
**Coffee & Conversation** | 11a, Parlor  
**IMPACT Youth Group** | 11a, YR  
**Home Communion** | 11:30a, Session RM

## MON, DECEMBER 4

**Open Door Café** | 11a, Dining RM  
**HR Committee MTG** | 5p, Online  
**Scout Troop 72/721** | 6:45p, Youth RM

## TUE, DECEMBER 5

**Women Alive** | 10a, Parlor  
**Bible Study Fellowship** | 6:30p, Dining RM, Gallery  
**Prayer Meeting** | 6:30p, McKee Chapel  
**Spiritual Growth & Development MTG** | 7p, Parlor  
**PreTeen Service Project** | 7p, LLB

## WED, DECEMBER 6

**Pastors' Bible Study** | 9:30a, Parlor  
**Open Door Café** | 11a, Dining RM  
**Mission's Committee MTG** | 5:30p, Parlor  
**Advent Prayer Service** | 6p, Sanctuary  
—Pie in the Parlor immediately following

## THU, DECEMBER 7

**Tab Tutoring** | 3:45p, DR, G, LLA, LLB, McWRC  
**Circles** | 6p, Dining RM, LLB  
**Getting Ahead** | 6p, McWRC  
**Handbell Choir Rehearsal** | 6p, Sanctuary  
**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** | 7p, Parlor

## FRI, DECEMBER 8

**Open Door Café** | 11a, Dining RM  
**Circle of Hope** | 3:30p, Parlor

## SAT, DECEMBER 9

**Men's Bible Study** | 9a, Parlor  
**CHRISTMAS WITH TAB (Rehearsal)** | 9a, Sanctuary  
**Purls of Wisdom** | 10a, Session RM