



TAB



Moyses

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Sunday, December 24, 2023
8p Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

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

"Sinfonia" (from "Christmas Cantata") —J.S. Bach

"I Wonder As I Wander" —arr. Michele Robeson-Howard

"Silent Night" —Samuel Barber

"Comfort Ye, My People" (from "Messiah") —G.F. Handel

"Every Valley" (from "Messiah") —G.F. Handel

"Variations on 'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing'" —Janet Linker

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.

OPENING | "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" —Piccardy

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

Pastor: The people who once lived in darkness have been given a great light!

People: Praise be to God who has heard our cries.

Pastor: Our souls sing out God's praise!

People: God has brought us a light of Hope and Peace.

Pastor: Tonight, in this place, the Light of God's Love is given to us!

People: And we shall see that light and let it shine through our lives.

ALL: Come let us worship the God made known to us through the Child of Bethlehem, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

✝ **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" —Veni Emmanuel

***O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here***

✝ *Please stand if able.*

*until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

*O come, Desire of nations,
bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

✝ **A READING FROM GOD'S WORD** | Jack Booker

Leader: Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned.

ALL: The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness; prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

✝ **CAROL #133** | "O Come, All Ye Faithful" —*Adeste Fideles*

CALL TO CONFESSION | Jack Booker

Even in the midst of great joy and celebration, we know that our lives don't always reflect God's intentions. So please join me as we confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of Light and Hope, our minutes and hours have been swallowed up in preparation for this night and for the coming day. We have been so caught up in the preparations for gatherings and gifting that we have pushed aside the wonder of what you have done for all creation. Forgive us when we so easily get entangled in our own plans and forget to pay attention to the true event. Help us to relax and listen, instead of rush and shout. May the songs of the angels, the surprise of the shepherds,

✝ *Please stand if able.*

and the joy of the Holy Family become part of our preparations and our lives. Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts and our spirits to again hear the old, old story, spoken by new voices in new ways. Remind us again of your never-changing love for us. Prepare us to serve you by serving others. This night we offer this prayer of our hearts to you, gracious God.

A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Good news! Great joy! In Jesus Christ the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all! Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen!

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

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.

✝ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | I Do Believe**

*I believe in God whose light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness can never smother it.*

*I believe that on a night like this night in Bethlehem
there was born a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.*

*I believe in the Word who has become incarnate, our very flesh
and blood, yet full of grace and truth.*

*I believe in the blessed appearing of the salvation of our God,
that is for the happiness of all people.*

*I believe in his name as Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace;*

*Of the increase of his rule and of his unique peace,
there will be no end.*

The zeal of the God of hosts will do this.

This I surely believe!

—Bruce Prewer

ANTHEM | “Love Came Down at Christmas” —arr. Michael Myrick

*Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine.
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.*

✝ *Please stand if able.*

*Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine.
Worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?*

*Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;
Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.*

Love came down at Christmas.

- Christina G. Rossetti

CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who 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.

✝ **CAROL #113 | “Angels We Have Heard on High” —Gloria**

ANTHEM | “In the Bleak Midwinter” —Gustave Holst

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*Our God heav'n cannot hold him, nor earth sustain,
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty Jesus, Jesus Christ.*

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wiseman, I would do my part;
What I can I give him, give him my heart.*

- Christina G. Rossetti

SCRIPTURE LESSON | Luke 2:1-14 (pew Bible page 832)

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE | Rev. Terri Thorn

RESPONSE | “O Holy Night” —Adolphe-Charles Adam

SENDING OF CHRIST'S LIGHT TO THE WORLD

*[During the singing of “Silent Night” the ushers will receive the light of the Christ Candle from the pastor and pass it to those sitting nearest the center aisle. **Please tip the unlit candle to the lit candle** as the light is passed down your row. Please assist your children as they participate in this very special tradition of Tabernacle Church.]*

✝ *Please stand if able.*

✝ CAROL | “Silent Night” —*Stille Nacht*

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,
‘Round yon virgin mother and Child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

*Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.*

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love’s pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

*Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
“Alleluia” to our King:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born.*

✝ BENEDICTION

✝ BENEDICTION RESPONSE | “Joy to the World” —*Antioch*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
Let every heart, prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven,
And heaven and nature sing.

*Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns;
let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains repeat the sounding joy,*

✝ *Please stand if able.*

*Repeat the sounding joy, repeat,
repeat the sounding joy.*

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessing flow
far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found far as,
far as the curse is found.**

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.*

✝ **POSTLUDE** | “Festive Fanfare on ‘Angels We Have Heard on High’”

—David Lasky

✝ *Please stand if able.*

TONIGHT’S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Terri Thorn
Associate Pastor

Jack Booker
Liturgist

Matt Kauffman
Hayden Glasgow
Organists

Sanctuary Choir

Dorothy Benz-Buchanan
Zachary Sigafos
Soloist

Mark Murray
Brian Hoover
Trumpets

Brad Koser
Trombone

Bill Schmidt
Tuba

Eric Guion
Guitar

Claire Guion
Flute



Thank you for joining us tonight!

CHRISTMAS WITH TAB

“Christmas With Tab,” featuring the Sanctuary Choir, airs again on Christmas Day at 3p on your local WHMB 40.1. (Check your cable or satellite guide for your specific channel number.)

2023 YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

SUN, DEC 31, is the final day to 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 DEC 31 will be credited as 2023 giving even if received in 2024. Online giving must have a DEC 31 processing date for credit in 2023.

SUN, DEC 31—NEW YEAR’S EVE

10a | Worship in the Sanctuary

(No Education Hour; early childcare available in the Preschool RM)

JOIN US AGAIN EACH SUNDAY, 8a or 10a
EDUCATION HOUR (for all ages-adult), 9a

WAYS TO GIVE AT TAB

God provides for the ministry of Tab through your generosity. We honor your gifts with faithful stewardship, ethical business practices, and full accountability so that the financial integrity of our mission remains above reproach. Your gift(s) to support this ministry financially enables us to reach the local community and the world for Jesus!

There are a few ways to give...

- Join us on a Sunday morning and place your gift in the offering boxes available in both the 34th Street Narthex and Bell Tower Entrance to the Sanctuary.

- Mail in your gift to the church at 418 E. 34th St., Indianapolis, IN 46205 (ATTN: Finance Director).

- Text TABPRES to 73256.

- Scan the QR Code. →

