



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

AN INTRODUCTORY WALK THROUGH THE LENTEN SEASON | February 11

In preparation for our All-Church Lenten Read, we will meet to learn about and share our experiences of the origin and meaning of the Lenten Season, including Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, The Seven Last Words Tenebrae Service, and The Three Days (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and The Great Vigil of Easter) all leading to the Easter morning celebration: He is Risen! We will also watch and discuss a heart warming video from a portion of a Great Easter Vigil Service featuring the Sacrament of Baptism. You are invited to come and participate, whether Lent is a relatively new part of your faith journey or as a refresher for those who have rich memories of this time of personal and communal introspection on the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior. All are welcome. Come join us.

LENTEN ALL-CHURCH READ | February 14-March 24

There are two Lenten series devotionals to choose from: **"Good Enough—40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection,"** and **"Because of This I Rejoice — Reading Philippians During Lent."** As an add-on, everyone is encouraged to consider adding **"The Art of Lent: A Painting A Day from Ash Wednesday to Easter"** in combination with either of the first two books. Books are available at a table in McKee Hallway each Sunday where you can also sign up to join one of the Fellowship Gatherings.

PARISHIONERS WITHOUT PARTNERS (Women's Covenant Group) | 4th SUNDAY, 11a | McWRC/Parlor

This group focuses on support, encouragement and fellowship and is open to all single, widowed or divorced Tab women, regardless of age. *Questions?* Email Janie at mparr@iupui.edu.

WOMEN'S MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY | MONDAYS 7p-8:30p | PARLOR or ONLINE (ZOOM)

Now through March 25 | **Bad Girls of the Bible: And What We Can Learn From Them**
Questions? Email Ruth Miller at mrs.ruth.h.miller@gmail.com.

WOMEN ALIVE | THIS TUESDAY 9:30a-11:30a (Will resume 10a start time 2/13) | 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.

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

Our Pastors lead 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 1 Corinthians. *Questions?* Email diconrads@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:

"Unity"

©Dr. Stephen Achugwo

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 | “Wer nur den lieben Gott last walten” (Op. 67 No. 45) —*Max Reger*
“Houston” —*setting by Wayne Wold*

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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✝ PASSING OF THE PEACE

“Love Has Come” —*Bring a Torch*

*Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!*

✝ CALL TO WORSHIP | Dr. Bill Smutz

Leader: Praise God, all you people of the earth.

People: Blessed be God forever!

Leader: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: Blessed be God forever!

Leader: As high as a tree soaring above the forest;

People: As beautiful as the river flowing through many lands;

Leader: As rich as the ecosystems of an abundant earth;

People: As close as the smallest creature on the ground;

Leader: So good is the God of all creation.

All: Blessed be God forever!

✝ HYMN #761 | “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” —*Beecher*

CALL TO CONFESSION | Rev. Terri Thorn

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sometimes, O God, your word is too much for us. You ask us to love our enemies, when we can scarcely love our families as we should. You ask us to give when we want to take, and to forgive when we want to nurse bitterness. We thank you that you accept us as we are, and that in Jesus, you show us what we can be. Help us to believe that we can be loving, just, and holy like you...

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✝ 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.

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz
Interim Senior Pastor

Rev. Terri Thorn
Associate Pastor

Emily Ballentine Erb
Organist

Sanctuary Choir

✝ THE APOSTLES' CREED

Leader: Let us together state some of what we believe.

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.*

PSALM READING | Psalm 133 (*pew Bible page 501*)

NEW TESTAMENT READING | Acts 11:1-18 (*pew Bible page 895*)

MESSAGE | Dr. Bill Smutz

“Playing in the Sandbox”

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 #308** | “O God in Whom All Life Begins” —*Noel*

✝ **BENEDICTION**

✝ **POSTLUDE** | “Wer nur den lieben Gott last walten” (BWV 642) —*J. S. Bach*

*Call To Worship adapted from Living Faithfully In The Time Of Creation, Kathy Galloway & Katharine M. Preston, Editors
Prayer of Confession adapted from Flames Of The Spirit, Ruth Duck, Editor
Affirmation Of Faith adapted from Bishop Susan Morris*

✝ *Please stand in body or spirit.*

MESSAGE NOTES

Rules for the neighborhood sandbox & for reading scripture together:

- 1) Sand is fun
- 2) Sand is messy
- 3) Shovels are for digging, not hitting
- 4) Don't be bossy. Let others build in their own way
- 5) You can knock over what you build, but not what someone else has built
- 6) Be kind to babies and toddlers, who haven't learned the rules yet
- 7) If you need help, ask a grown up
- 8) Keep the neighborhood cats out of the sandbox
- 9) What we build in sand doesn't last forever
- 10) Come back tomorrow and build again

*Anna Carter Florence,
“Rehearsing Scripture: Discovering God's Word In Community”*

Please join us in McKee Hallway immediately following worship for Coffee & Fellowship time.

10 o'clock Worship

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Love is life everlasting and free.
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SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GET IN TOUCH, STAY IN TOUCH

Digital Bulletin
tabpres.org/worship/

Sermons
tabpres.org/sermons/

Facebook Page
facebook.com/tabpres

Instagram
[@tabpres](https://instagram.com/tabpres)

Facebook Group
—look for—
“The Tab Family”

YouTube
Subscribe to [tabindy](https://youtube.com/tabindy)

SUBSCRIBE TO EMAILS

The easiest and most effective way to receive news about our church and church family is to subscribe to our emails.

We send out a digest every Friday, with as-needed at other times.

To subscribe, go to tabpres.org, then scroll to the bottom of the homepage and tap “Sign up for email updates.”

✚ **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**

Leader: Let us together state some of what we believe.

All: *We believe in God
Who loves us as a parent,
Searching for us when we are lost,
Embracing us in our hurt,
Always looking for any reason to throw a party.*

*We believe in the risen Christ,
Who gathers all the lost and forgotten
Into a new community
And tells them and us
We are forgiven, blessed and loved.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit,
Who empowered the new community of followers
To share bread,
Tell stories of God's love
And turn the world upside down.*

*We are a faith-filled
Spirit-empowered
Blessed community. Amen!*

ANTHEM | "Deep River" —arr. Alexander Lloyd Blake

*Deep river, my home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.*

*Oh don't you want to go, to that gospel feast,
That promised land where all is peace?*

Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

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MESSAGE | Dr. Bill Smutz

"Playing in the Sandbox"

A TIME OF SILENT PRAYER REFLECTION

✚ **HYMN #510 | "We Gather Here in Jesus' Name" —Come, Share the Lord**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM | "Ave Verum" —W. A. Mozart

*Ave verum corpus natum ex Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine,
cujus latus perforatum vero fluxit et sanguine,
esto nobis prægustatum mortis in examine.*

Jesu, Word of God Incarnate, of the virgin Mary born,
On the cross thy sacred body for us men with nails was torn.
Cleanse us, by thy blood and water streaming from thy pierced side;
Feed us with thy body broken, now in death's agony!

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WAYS TO GIVE AT TAB

God provides for the ministry of Tab through your generosity. We honor all 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!

•Join us on a Sunday morning and place your gift in the offering boxes available at the 34th Street Narthex and Bell Tower Entrances 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.



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. If you or someone you know is in need, please reach out to Finance Director, Kristine Green, at

kristine.green@tabpres.org for more information and confidential application procedures. If you know of one of our neighbors in need, please call the **Community Care line at 317-805-1281** for an appointment.

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.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL MEETING TODAY

In accordance with the By-laws, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Tabernacle Presbyterian Church is hereby called for **SUN, FEB 4, 2024 at 9a** for the purpose of: reviewing the Annual Report, receiving the approved Operating Budget for 2024, acting on the Associate Pastor Terms of Call, and any other business that may be properly discussed. The Meeting will be held in the Sanctuary and all members are encouraged to attend.

Rev. Dr. William Smutz, *Moderator*
Sharon Marshall, *Clerk of Session*

Copies of the Annual Report are available online at tabpres.org; printed copies are available at the meeting.

MISSIONS UNIT WEEKLY UPDATE

This week, Tab's elementary students will visit **South Africa** where they will learn a few words and phrases in Afrikaans, learn the art of "Clock Dancing" at the International Challenge center, take a geography quiz game at Brain Busters, and play "Mbuba Mbuba" and "Poison" in the Gym. At the Game Center, students will try their hands at a traditional South African game called "Dithwai," create clothespin crocodiles and will make Kalimbas (thumb pianos) at the craft tables. Next they will learn how to count to ten in Zulu, and will create "Crunchies" and the national dish of South Africa, *Bobotie*, in the Food Center. **FUN FACT:** South Africa has eleven official languages: English, Afrikaans, Xhosa, Swati, Sesotho, Zitsonga, Sepedi, Ndebele, Setswana, Tshivenda, and Zulu (the most widely spoken language in South Africa).

CONFIRMATION CLASS INFORMATIONAL MTG TODAY

SUN, FEB 4 | 11a in McKee Chapel.

Confirmation classes will be offered for 9-12 graders beginning in February. The class will consist of approximately twelve meetings between February and

May 2024. Most meetings will occur after youth group on Sunday afternoons. Dan Rexroth will host a short informational meeting today. All interested youth and their parents are welcome.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

WED, FEB 14 | 7p in McKee Chapel. Join us as we begin the Lenten Season at our Ash Wednesday service, and as is our tradition, we will celebrate the sacrament of communion and receive the imposition of ashes. We look forward to seeing you as we begin our Lenten journey to the cross.

PRETEEN LUNCH & A MOVIE

MON, FEB 20 | NOON—2p. All Tab elementary students are invited to participate in our annual "lunch and a movie" get-together. We will meet at NOON in Lower Level B to have lunch and then we will play some games and watch a family-friendly movie (with popcorn, of course!). *Questions?* Contact Mrs. Wirt at ext. 140 or jennifer.wirt@tabpres.org.

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for parents to sign their children up for summer camps at Pyoca, our presbytery's camp and conference center. If your child would like to go, Children's Ministries will pay half of the cost for one week of camp for each "Tab kid" who registers. Spots in the various camps are filling up quickly, especially for the elementary programs, so sign up today! The link for Pyoca summer camp information and registration is https://pyoca.org/summer_camp/. Please contact Jennifer Wirt if you have any questions.

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to help fill our Sanctuary and McKee Chapel with beautiful flowers for Easter in honor or in memory of someone, **please return your order form no later than SUN, March 24.** Forms are available at the Front Desk.

This week at Tab

for the week of February 4—10

For a list of all activities, please visit:
tabpres.org/calendar/

SUN, FEB 4

Communion Service | 8a, McKee Chapel
Coffee & Fellowship | 8:45a, McKee Hallway
Annual Meeting | 9a, Sanctuary
Youth Education | 9a, Youth RM
Missions Unit | 9a, LLB
Worship Service | 10a, Sanctuary
Coffee & Conversation | 11a, Parlor
Youth Confirmation Info MTG | 11a, McKee Chapel
IMPACT Youth Group | 11a, Youth RM

MON, FEB 5

Open Door Café | 11a, Dining RM
Endowment Investment CMTE MTG | 4:30p, Parlor
HR Committee MTG | 5p, Online
Cub Scout Pack 72 Den MTG | 6:30p, DR, LLA, LLB, G
Scout Troop 72/721 MTG | 6:45p, Youth RM
Women's Bible Study | 7p, Parlor, ZOOM

TUE, FEB 6

Women Alive | 9:30a, Parlor
Prayer Meeting | 6:30p, McKee Chapel
Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) | 6:30p, DR, G
Spiritual Growth & Development MTG | 7p, Parlor

WED, FEB 7

Pastors' Bible Study | 9:30a, Parlor
Open Door Café | 11a, Dining RM
Missions CMTE MTG | 5:30p, Parlor
NCLC Educational Workshop | 6p, Dining RM

THU, FEB 8

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

FRI, FEB 9

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

SAT, FEB 10

Men's Bible Study | 8a, Parlor
Purls of Wisdom | 10a, Session RM
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | 10a, Parlor, Sanctuary