



TAB

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

December 8, 2024 | Second 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.

Children are welcome to sit with their families during worship or attend Junior Church in Lower Level B following the Children's Message. Nurseries are available for infants along with programming for preschoolers.

## Discipleship Classes

2024 Spiritual Growth & Development Opportunities

### Spiritual Growth & Development | SUNDAY 9a PARLOR

Join us on December 8 to assist with the Advent Workshop. There is no meeting on December 15. On December 22, there will be fellowship and prayers for holiday gatherings, and on December 29, the group will welcome the New Year with stories of gratitude and prayers.

### Women's Bible Study | MONDAY 6:30p PARLOR

Join Women's Bible Study as we explore the Gospel of John and Jesus' "I Am" statements using *Believe I Am* by Megan Marshman.

### Pastor's Bible Study | WEDNESDAY 9:30a-10:30a PARLOR

A pastor-led Bible study covering the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday worship service.

### Men's Bible Study | SATURDAY 8a-9a PARLOR

Join the Men's Ministry at Tab on Saturday mornings for a study of the book of Hebrews, continuing through February 2025. Questions? Please contact Doug Conrads at [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.

Cover Art:

*Christmas star shining over Bethlehem*

by Adobestock

# 8 o'clock Worship

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

† Please stand in body or spirit.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

“In the Bleak Midwinter” *arr. David Cherwien*

**The Prelude** 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.

## Gathering In God's Name

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of the future,

**People: We watch for your coming;**

Leader: Anticipating an unknown future,

**People: Uncertain of the unnamed reality,**

Leader: Not sure of what form it will take,

**People: Yet, excited for the newness you will bring.**

Leader: God of waiting,

**All: Wait with us!**

### † HYMN #88

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *Veni Emmanuel*  
(Stanzas 1-4 only)

## LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

### UNISON PRAYER

**In your gift of light, O God, our advent path becomes clearer, and we are grateful. In the growing light of your son, help us rediscover peace. Amen!**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Lord Jesus, born in Bethlehem, give us grace to live the generosity of your humility – in our words, in our actions, in our relationships. Lord Jesus, through whom all creation came to be, give us grace to live the compassion of your justice – for our neighbors in every corner of the world, and in our lives. Lord Jesus, whose Spirit is active in your Church and everywhere, give us grace to live the calling to be your body – with loaf and cup, and with respect and trust for each other. It is with great joy that we wait for your coming, celebrate your birth, and with our lives proclaim your presence. We pray as you invite us to, and in gratitude for the new possibilities of your grace...*

### MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

#### † 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.*

#### † PASSING OF THE PEACE

## *Proclaiming God's Word*

### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10 | Pew Bible Page 558

### GOSPEL READING

Romans 15:7-13 | Pew Bible Page 924

### POETRY READING

"Nativity" *Kenneth Steven*

*When the miracle happened it was not  
with bright light or fire—  
but a farm door with the thick smell of sheep  
and a wind tugging at the shutters.*

*There was no sign the world had changed for ever  
or that God had taken place;  
just a child crying softly in a corner,  
and the door open, for those who came to find.*

### MESSAGE

Those Who Come to Find

# Responding to God's Word

## † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(in unison)*

Leader: Let us join together proclaiming some of that which we believe.

*We are an Advent people, a people of hope. For us, Advent is a time of waiting, and so we wait. We wait for the coming of the One who is the fulfillment of God's promise, the fulfillment of hope, the declaration that we have been redeemed. Even so, we are not a naïve people. We know that the world in which we live will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow. We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist. We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives. But because we are an Advent people, we know that none of these things will win in the end. The Holy One is coming, to make holy once again all that was, is, and ever will be. And in our waiting and our hoping, we work and worship, pray and play, in all things hoping that peace, love, and joy will reign in our lives and in our world, now and forever. Amen!*

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

“Let Us Break Bread Together” *Let Us Break Bread*

*(Please join in singing during the serving of the Sacrament of Communion.)*

*Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.*

*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; let us drink wine together on our knees.*

*(Refrain)*

*Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees.*

*(Refrain)*

## PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.*

# Departing to Serve

## † HYMN #102

“Savior of the Nations, Come” *Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland*

## † BENEDICTION

## † POSTLUDE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” *arr. David Cherwien*

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

## Today's Worship Participants

*Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, Interim Senior Pastor*

*Matt Kauffman, Organist*

*Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession adapted from Candles & Conifers, Ruth Burgess, Editor;  
Affirmation of Faith by Rebecca F. Harrison*

# 10 o'clock Worship

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

† Please stand in body or spirit.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

“Now Behold the Lamb”

*The Prelude 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.*

## Gathering In God's Name

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People: We watch for your coming;

Leader: Anticipating an unknown future,

People: Uncertain of the unnamed reality,

Leader: Not sure of what form it will take,

People: Yet, excited for the newness you will bring.

Leader: God of waiting,

All: *Wait with us!*

### † OPENING SONG

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Lord Jesus, born in Bethlehem, give us grace to live the generosity of your humility – in our words, in our actions, in our relationships. Lord Jesus, through whom all creation came to be, give us grace to live the compassion of your justice – for our neighbors in every corner of the world, and in our lives. Lord Jesus, whose Spirit is active in your Church and everywhere, give us grace to live the calling to be your body – with loaf and cup, and with respect and trust for each other. It is with great joy that we wait for your coming, celebrate your birth, and with our lives proclaim your presence. We pray as you invite us to, and in gratitude for the new possibilities of your grace...*

## MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

### † PASSING OF THE PEACE

### † SONG

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

## Proclaiming God's Word

### SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10 | Pew Bible Page 558

### GOSPEL READING

Romans 15:7-13 | Pew Bible Page 924

### POETRY READING

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### RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

“Mary, Did You Know?”



## PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.*

## Departing to Serve

### † CLOSING SONG

“Joy to the World”

### † BENEDICTION

### † POSTLUDE

Please join us in the Parlor immediately following worship for Coffee & Fellowship.

### Today's Worship Participants

*Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, Interim Senior Pastor*

*Matt Kauffman, Piano*

*Leah Crane, Staci McCrackin, Val Phelps, Vocals*

*Rob Dixon, Saxophone*

*Steve Dokken, Bass*

*Carrington Clinton, Drums*

*Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession adapted from Candles & Conifers, Ruth Burgess, Editor;  
Affirmation of Faith by Rebecca F. Harrison*

# Announcements

Week of December 8– December 14, 2024

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS

Today is the last day to order Christmas poinsettias “In Memory” or “In Honor” of a loved one. Order online at [tabpres.org/Poinsettias](http://tabpres.org/Poinsettias) or return the form to the Front Office. Poinsettias can be taken home after the Christmas Eve services.

## GRACIOUS GIFTS

Stop by the Gracious Gifts table in McKee Hallway after worship in December to learn how you can honor a friend or loved one this holiday season with a gift to a local or global mission. Visit [tabpres.org/GraciousGifts](http://tabpres.org/GraciousGifts) to discover the organizations we are supporting this year.

## 2025 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARDS

Thank you to those who have responded to the 2025 Stewardship Campaign. If you haven't submitted your pledge card yet, please do so soon to help with planning for the upcoming year. Pledge envelopes are available for pickup in McKee Hallway.

## WOMEN ALIVE

This Tuesday, Women Alive begins a new study of *When Faith Becomes Sight* by local authors David and Beth Booram. The Boorams will be present to kick off the study. Please read the Preface beforehand and meet us in the Parlor at 10am. Also, if you are interested in yoga, we practice together at 9:15am before the meeting. For more info or a Zoom link, contact [SallyBJohn@gmail.com](mailto:SallyBJohn@gmail.com).

## PRETEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

Calling all 5th and 6th graders! Join us next Sunday after worship at Half Liter BBQ in Broad Ripple for food, fun, and holiday festivities! Please RSVP to [Jennifer.Wirt@tabpres.org](mailto:Jennifer.Wirt@tabpres.org) by this Thursday, December 12.

## CHRISTMAS WITH TAB & CHRISTMAS TEA

Join us next Sunday, December 15 at 10am in the Sanctuary for our annual "Christmas with Tab" service. Enjoy favorite carols and a performance of Vivaldi's "Gloria" by our Sanctuary Choir, soloists, and instrumentalists. Afterward, continue the celebration at our Annual Christmas Tea in the Dining Room. Bring homemade holiday cookies to share, either that morning or in advance at the Front Desk. Come for treats, festive conversation, and the joy of the season as we celebrate the morning together!

## CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and our future leaders of the church through the Christmas Joy Offering. This offering, to be collected on December 22, provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and supports leadership development at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Learn more at [tabpres.org/ChristmasJoy](http://tabpres.org/ChristmasJoy).

## SERVICE OF THE LONGEST NIGHT

Join us for the Service of the Longest Night on Sunday, December 22, immediately following worship in the Sanctuary. This reflective service offers comfort to those struggling with grief, loss, or loneliness during the holiday season. Through prayer, music, and scripture, we will find hope and solace as we look toward the light of Christmas. This intimate service will be recorded and made available online for those who wish to join us in spirit, lighting a candle and offering a prayer from home.

# Calendar

December 8 – December 14, 2024

## THIS WEEK AT TAB

### Sunday, December 8

- 8a Communion Service *McKee Chapel*
- 8:45a Coffee & Conversation  
*McKee Hallway*
- 9a Youth Education *Youth Room*
- 9a Advent Workshop *Lower Level B*
- 10a Worship Service *Sanctuary*
- 11a Coffee & Conversation *Parlor*
- 11a IMPACT Youth Group *Youth Room*
- 11a Home Communion *Session Room*

### Monday, December 9

- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*
- 5:30p Facilities Committee Meeting  
*Session Room*
- 6:30p Cub Scout Pack 72 *Lower Level*
- 6:30p Boy Scout Troop 72/721  
*Youth Room*

### Tuesday, December 10

- 8a Tab Rec Committee Mtg  
*Tabitha Room*
- 10a Women Alive *Parlor*
- 5p Budget & Finance Mtg  
*Session Room*
- 6:30p Prayer Meeting *McKee Chapel*
- 6:30p Bible Study Fellowship  
*Dining Room*
- 7p Children's Ministries Committee  
*Offsite*

### Wednesday, December 11

- 9:30a Pastors' Bible Study *Parlor*
- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*

### Thursday, December 12

- 2:30p Tab Tutoring *Gym & Lower Level*
- 6p Circles *Dining Room*
- 7p Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal *Parlor*

### Friday, December 13

- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*
- 3:30p Circle of Hope *Parlor*

### Saturday, December 14

- 8a Men's Bible Study *Parlor*
- 10a Purls of Wisdom *Session Room*
- 10a Christmas with Tab Rehearsal  
*Sanctuary*

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

**5 PM** Family Christmas Eve Worship

**8 PM** Candlelight Service  
of Lessons and Carols



## 2024 YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

Tuesday, December 31, is the final day to submit contributions to the Finance Office for credit to your 2024 giving statement. Checks postmarked by December 31 will count for 2024, even if received in 2025. Online gifts must be processed by December 31. Donations of securities should be arranged with Kristine Green at ext. 111 before year-end, in accordance with IRS regulations.



Spiritual Growth & Development  
Nurturing the Heart Within:  
Discovering Self-Compassion  
through God's Love

**Dr. Shannon Woller**

Sundays @ 9 AM  
JANUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 23  
Parlor

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT: UPCOMING SPEAKER SERIES

Mark your calendars and join us on January 5 for *Nurturing the Heart Within: Discovering Self-Compassion through God's Love*. This 8-week series will be led by Dr. Shannon Woller, incoming President of the Indiana Psychological Association and newly elected Elder at Tab. Details coming soon!

## THANK YOU FOR GIVING

Your support helps Tab spread the love of Christ through worship, music, outreach, and more. Your contributions make a real difference. Scan the QR code or text TABPRES to 73256.



# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

PLEASE JOIN US

Sunday, December 22 | 9:00 AM  
Sanctuary

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Special Meeting of the Congregation is called for Sunday, December 22, 2024, for the only purpose of electing two Deacons to the Class of 2027 and five members of the Congregation to the All Church Nominating Committee. The Meeting will be at 9am in the Sanctuary and all members are encouraged to attend.

**Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz**, *Moderator*

**Sharon Marshall**, *Clerk of Session*