



Tabernacle Presbyterian Church
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

August 31, 2025 | 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

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

Greetings! We warmly welcome those joining us in-person or via livestream today. As we celebrate, we pray you'll sense God's presence among us.

If you're a guest, please fill out a Connection Card in the pew racks to help us get to know you better. You can hand it to an usher or place it in the offering plate. 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 stay with their families during worship. Nurseries are available for infants along with programming for preschoolers.

Discipleship Classes

2025 Spiritual Growth & Development Opportunities

Spiritual Growth & Development | SUNDAYS 9-10a PARLOR

NOTHING "MINOR" ABOUT THE MINOR PROPHETS!

Come join us this Sunday at 9am in the Parlor as we continue our study of the Minor Prophets, focusing this week on the book of Micah. All are welcome!

Women's Tuesday Walkers | TUESDAYS 7:30a BLUE BRIDGE

Start your Tuesdays with a refreshing walk, good company, and coffee! Meet us at the Blue Bridge (56th & Illinois) and enjoy nature, conversation, and friendship. All women welcome! Contact Ellen Moeller at ellensmoeller@gmail.com with any questions.

Pastor's Bible Study | WEDNESDAYS 9:30a PARLOR

Join us in September as Dr. Tim Ayers leads our time of exploring God's Word. Come prepared for lively discussion as we delve into spiritual truths contained in scripture.

Men's Bible Study | SATURDAYS 8a-9a PARLOR

Looking to build lasting connections with other men at Tab? Dive into Scripture and prayer in a supportive small group setting that values authenticity and spiritual growth.

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:

Parable of the Wedding Feast
by Jan Luyken

See the full weekly schedule of Spiritual Growth programming at tabpres.org/Adults.



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.

PRELUDE

Your Favorite Hymns

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

† GREETING ONE ANOTHER

“Come, Thou Almighty King” *Italian Hymn*

*Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise:
Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.*

Gathering In God's Name

† CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 112) | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Leader: Blessed are those who fear the Lord!

People: Happy are those who delight in God's commands!

Leader: These are the ones who reflect God's light in the darkest of times.

People: These are the ones who are generous in every way.

Leader: So may we be established in the ways of God ourselves...

All: *That the character and reputation of God may be honored in our midst!*

† OPENING HYMN #625

“O Lord My God” *How Great Thou Art*

CALL TO CONFESSION (Romans 3:10) | Elder Carol Lukemeyer

Leader: In confessing our sin, we are not alone.

People: For the Scripture affirms that “there is no one who is righteous, not even one.”

Leader: So, seeking our salvation together,
we join in our unison prayer of confession. Let us pray.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great God, we come to you today humbled by the knowledge that we consistently fall short of your call. For you would have us be holy, you would have us be pure – but even in our finest moments our motives are so often less than pure. For when we seek you in your word, what we're often looking for is not so much you yourself, but a formula for dealing with the stresses in our lives. When we open ourselves to you in prayer, what we are really hoping is that you will change your mind about the circumstances unfolding in our lives.

Yet we would learn to praise you, even for the challenges in our lives, that in them we might grow. We aspire to treasure your word, for it reveals the truth of who you are, and your righteousness in all things. Please teach us to seek you unreservedly, and to adore you wholeheartedly - that we may be shaped and formed according to your own character, and find our peace in embracing your design; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 3:22-25)

Leader: The truth we are told is that “there is no distinction.

People: Since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Leader: They are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

People: In Jesus, God put himself forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood.

All: *It is effective through faith!” In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Praise God! Alleluia!*

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles' Creed) | Elder Carol Lukemeyer

*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 READING | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Psalm 112 | Pew Bible Page 490

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith SPECIAL MUSIC

“Simple Song” Leonard Bernstein

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laudē.

Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laudē.

Sing like you like to sing.

God loves all simple things,

For God is the simplest of all,

For God is the si-mplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song

To praise him, to bless him, to bless the Lord.

I will sing his praises while I live

All of my days.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,

Blessed is the man who praises him.

Lauda, Lauda, Laudē,

And walks in His ways.

I will lift up my eyes

To the hills from whence comes my help.

I will lift up my voice to the Lord

Singing Lauda, Laudē.

For the Lord is my shade,

Is the shade upon my right hand,

And the sun shall not smite me by day

Nor the moon by night.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,

Lauda, Lauda, Laudē,

And walks in His ways.

Lauda, Lauda, Laudē,

Lauda, Lauda di da di day. All of my days.

Proclaiming God's Word

SCRIPTURE READING | Elder Carol Lukemeyer

Luke 14:1, 7-14 | Pew Bible Page 849

RESPONSE

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Divinely Driven

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Responding to God's Word

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS | Elder Carol Lukemeyer

OFFERTORY

“A Clare Benediction” John Rutter

*May the Lord show his mercy upon you;
May the light of his presence be your guide:
May he guard you and uphold you;
May his spirit be ever by your side.*

*When you sleep may his angels watch over you;
When you wake may he fill you with his grace:
May you love him and serve him all your days
Then in heaven may you see his face.*

*May the Lord's loving kindness surround you;
Keep you safe as you journey on your way:
May he lead you and inspire you
As he grants you the gift of each new day.*

*May he bless all your loved ones and cherish them;
Ev'ry friend, ev'ry stranger at your door:
In the name of his Son our Saviour Christ
May God bless you now and evermore.*

*For those not using the
offering plate, you can give
by texting **TABPRES** to 73256
or using the QR code.*



PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

***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

“In Christ Alone” *Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend*

*In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease;
My Comforter, my All in All;
Here in the love of Christ I stand.*

*In Christ alone who took on flesh;
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save;
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.*

*There in the ground His body lay;
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ!*

*No guilt in life, no fear in death;
This is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
'Til He returns or calls me home,
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!*

† BENEDICTION | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

† POSTLUDE

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

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Steven Smith, Interim Associate Pastor
Elder Carol Lukemeyer (Human Resources), Liturgist
Matt Kauffman, Minister of Music
Regina Walker, Vocalist

Announcements

Week of August 31 – September 6, 2025

LABOR DAY OFFICES CLOSED

In observance of the Labor Day holiday, the church offices will be closed **tomorrow, Monday, September 1.**

PRE-TEEN KICK-OFF BREAKFAST

All 5th- and 6th-graders are invited to breakfast on **Saturday, September 6, at 9am** at Lincoln Square Pancake House (86th & Ditch). Enjoy food, ice-breakers, and an overview of Preteen programming. No cost—just bring your appetite! RSVP to Mrs. Wirt at Jennifer.Wirt@tabpres.org for table reservations.

FUN FACT ABOUT THE TAB GOLF CLASSIC!

Did you know? You don't have to be a golfer to be part of the Tab Golf Classic? While we'd love for you to join the fun on the course, there are plenty of other ways to participate—sponsor a hole, join us for lunch after the tournament, or make a donation to support the event. Your involvement helps continue this special tradition and makes a positive impact in our community. Make a donations or learn more at the registration table in McKee Hall on Sundays or online at TabPres.org/Golf. Don't miss out on the fun—we'll see you **Saturday, September 20!**

TASTE OF TAB

Looking for ways to get connected at Tab? Join us for Taste of Tab on **Sunday, September 28**, following the 10am worship service in the Gym. Hosted by the Congregational Life Committee, this one-hour event is a welcoming opportunity to explore Tab's various ministries, meet new people, and discover how you can get more involved in the life of our church. Donuts and coffee will be served in place of our usual Coffee & Conversation, so come hungry for both food and connection! Questions? Contact Jenny Sturgis at frontdesk@tabpres.org.

SAVE THE DATE! TAB FAMILY FEST 2025

Join us **November 7–9** for a weekend of fun, faith, and fellowship at beautiful Brown County State Park! Enjoy hikes, crafts, worship, shared meals, and a special *Drawn to the Word* experience with artist and pastor Paul Oman. **Registration opens September 14.** Learn more at tabpres.org/TabFest.

BLESSING TABLE GIFTS: SOCKS & GLOVES

Help us share warmth and comfort with our neighbors this fall! **Through September 28**, we're collecting men's and women's socks and gloves for the Open Door Blessing Table. Donations can be dropped off in the bin under the mailboxes in the workroom. Thank you for helping us show God's love in a simple, tangible way!

Calendar

Week of August 31 –
September 6, 2025

THIS WEEK AT TAB

Sunday, August 31

10a Worship Service *Sanctuary*
11a Coffee & Conversation *Parlor*

Monday, September 1

All Day Offices Closed *Labor Day*

Tuesday, September 2

7:30a Women's Tuesday Walkers
Offsite
5:30p Spiritual Growth Meeting
Session Room
6:30p Communications Cmte Mtg
Parlor
6:30p Tuesdays in Prayer
McWhirter Resource Center

Wednesday, September 3

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

Thursday, September 4

6p Circles *Dining Room, LLB*
7p Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Parlor

Friday, September 5

11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*

Saturday, September 6

8a Men's Bible Study *Parlor*

UPCOMING PULPIT SCHEDULE

- **September 7**
Rev. Dr. John Person
- **September 14**
Pastor Jerry Van Auken
- **September 21**
Rev. Eric Lange
- **September 28**
Rev. Dr. Steven Smith