



Tabernacle Presbyterian Church
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

February 22, 2026 | First Sunday in Lent

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.

As The Prelude begins, we invite you to use this time to quiet your heart, reflect on God's presence in your life, and remember Christ's promise of redemption. Thanks be to God on this Lord's Day.

PRELUDE | Joshua Ridenour, Organist

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

MINUTE FOR MISSION | Spiritual Growth at Tab | Bart Ost

† **GREETING ONE ANOTHER** | "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" Rathbun

*In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.*

Gathering In God's Name

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Leader: You who live in the shelter of the Most High, say to the Lord:

People: My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.

Leader: For God will protect us from evil and commands angels to guard us in all our ways.

People: God rescues those who love God and is present with us in trouble.

Leader: God answers when we cry out and reveals our salvation to us.

All: *Let us worship God!*

† **HYMN #41** | "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above" Lyons

CALL TO CONFESSION | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The journey of life inevitably leads to wilderness, times marked by guilt, frustration, and the sense that we are not in the right place. Even in the wilderness, God is with us. Even in the wilderness, God's mercy is sure. As this season of Lent unfolds before us, great God, we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem. The road is long, our sins are many, and our burdens are heavy. We can't imagine new life, Easter life, because our current lives are filled with bad choices and failed efforts. Meet us in our weakness. Take up our sins. Ease our burdens. Carry us on the way. Bring us to Jerusalem, at last. Show us a love that is stronger than death, a love no tomb can hold. This we pray in the Name of the One who takes away our sin and guilt.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER & CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** | *The Apostles' Creed* | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

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.

† **HYMN #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.*

Cover Art:

*Christ in the Storm on
the Sea of Galilee*

by Jan Brueghel,
the Elder

Proclaiming God's Word

MESSAGE | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

“The Man Who Won’t Go Away”

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 8:22–25 | Pew Bible Page 841

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

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.

Responding to God's Word

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden & Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

“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

Departing to Serve

† **HYMN #649 | “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”** *Amazing Grace*

† **BENEDICTION | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden**

† **POSTLUDE**

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

10 o'clock Worship

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PRELUDE | "Be Okay"

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

MINUTE FOR MISSION | Spiritual Growth at Tab | Bart Ost

† **GREETING ONE ANOTHER | "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" Rathbun**

*In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.*

Gathering In God's Name

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Leader: You who live in the shelter of the Most High, say to the Lord:

People: My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.

Leader: For God will protect us from evil and commands angels to guard us in all our ways.

People: God rescues those who love God and is present with us in trouble.

Leader: God answers when we cry out and reveals our salvation to us.

All: Let us worship God!

† **OPENING SONGS | "Here I Am to Worship" & "What a Beautiful Name"**

CALL TO CONFESSION | Stephanie DeTrude

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER & CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

OFFERTORY | "More Than Wonderful"

Proclaiming God's Word

MESSAGE | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

"The Man Who Won't Go Away"

SCRIPTURE READING

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Responding to God's Word

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

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 | "Holy Forever"

† BENEDICTION | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

† POSTLUDE

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

Today's Worship Leaders

Ivonne Blanco & Leah Crane, Vocalists

Eric Guion, Bass

Matt Gall, Percussion

Pavel Polanco-Safadit, Piano



Welcome to Tab!

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

If you are an in-person guest this morning, we invite you to take a red Guest Bag from the table outside the Sanctuary. We want to get connected! Fill out the pew pad with your contact information so we can reach out. 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 our Children's program in Lower Level B. Nurseries are available for infants along with programming for preschoolers.

Welcome, New Members!

Join us in welcoming these new members to Tab.



ANDREW & DENISE LARSON

Andrew and Denise Larson both grew up in military families and have attended a number of different denominations throughout the years. They are parents to two daughters and a son, all married with children. They enjoy spending time with their 6 precious grandchildren ages 8 months to 15 years old. They both enjoy spending as much time as possible with their family.



NICKEY, CAROLYN & BRIAN MORRIS

Nickey, Carolyn and their son, Brian Morris, have been attending Tab regularly for several years. Nickey and Carolyn will be married 60 years this coming December. During their time they have been involved in several different ministry areas including Bible Study classes, Spiritual Growth Classes and Carolyn sings with Tab's Sanctuary Choir. Nickey and Carolyn have 3 adult children, 2 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. Nickey and Carolyn were featured in the April 2021 edition of Tab's "Can I Get a Witness" video presentation.



FESTUS MBINYUI AND CHRISTELLE NDANJONG

Festus Mbinyui and Christelle Ndanjong join Tab along with their 3 children ages 1 year, 3 years and 5 years old. Festus is passionate about choir and choral music and was music director of his church choir, President of Presbyterian English Choirs Associate (PBCA) in Cameroon. He is also a composer (strictly gospel music) and was drawn to Tab through their music ministry.



JOHN AND SIU-PING SANDBERG

John and Siu-Ping relocated from Long Island New York in 2024 to be close to their daughter, son-in-law and 3 grandchildren. They also have a son attending IU Bloomington. Siu-Ping loves reading, gardening, learning about natural remedies and an interest in interior design. John works full-time in the commercial insurance industry. He likes tinkering with house projects and has the aspirational goal of becoming a Monon Trail biker.

Announcements

Week of February 22 – February 28, 2026



Due to the Annual Meeting today, there will be no Spiritual Growth Classes at 9a.

MISSIONS UNIT WEEKLY UPDATE

This week, Tab's elementary students will be visiting Alaska where we'll learn how to speak several words and phrases in Inuit, learn about Alaskan totem poles and what they represent and play a children's game called Ajaqaq at Hidden secrets, play a traditional game called Muk at the Table Game center, learn about the Iditarod and name our imaginary sled dogs at the International Challenge, create Inuit animal carvings and cardboard totem poles at the craft tables, hold the Eskimo Olympics in the Gym, and salmon sliders, sourdough bread with wild blueberry preserves, and elk jerky at the Food Center. Fun fact about Alaska: Alaska has 33,904 miles of shoreline (including its islands), which is more than all other 49 states combined. Bonus fun fact: The Alaskan population has more males (54%) than females, leading to the local saying, "The odds are good, but the goods are odd."

BLESSINGS TABLE

We can help our friends at the Open Door to stay warm & dry with fresh socks. Please donate men's or women's socks this month for the Blessing Table. You can leave your donations in the bin in the mailroom (under the mailboxes).

A MESSAGE FROM THE PNC

The Pastoral Nominating Committee welcomes your prayers and your help in sharing our search. Please watch for our upcoming promotional brochure, which you can distribute or forward electronically to those you know who work regularly with ordained clergy.

We are looking forward to connecting with pastors from across the country at the Fellowship Community gathering in April at Zionsville Presbyterian Church. We will also be networking in the coming weeks with leaders and participants at Presbyterians for the Kingdom and Theology Matters.

Additionally, we are creating and collecting questions from great pastors who have gone through the process. Please share your ideal questions on the email address below and we would be happy to review it for our interviews. We are seeking a pastor marked by integrity, deep personal faith, being spiritually grounded, faithful, outstanding in pulpit, a good one-to-one counsellor, wholistic leadership, open to listening and collaboratively creating a vision. Please pray we can find those qualities in a candidate.

Message us: The PNC email is tabpnc2026@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 22 | 9:00 AM
Sanctuary

Today!

In accordance with the bylaws, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Tabernacle Presbyterian Church is hereby called for Sunday, February 22, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing the Annual Report; electing five at-large members of the 2026 church nominating committee; hearing a financial report and receiving the approved Operating Budget for 2026; receiving a report from the Endowment Fund; hearing a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee; 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. Clark Cowden, Moderator
Bruce McDonald, Clerk of Session

Copies of the Annual Report will be available online, printed copies available upon request.



We'd love for you to join us for a warm, inviting adventure with our special "Taking Hold of Lent" series! Think of it as a little midweek spiritual recharge on Wednesday.

We will start with a relaxed, shared meal--nothing fancy, just good food and fellowship! Then, a short and heartfelt devotion, after which we will break into small groups for easygoing conversation and connection.

This is not homework! It's a wonderful opportunity to slow down, deepen your faith, connect with fellow Tab members, and really reflect on what Lent is all about. Come as you are! Childcare for children under five will be available for the devotional portions of the evening.

"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful."

—HEBREWS 10:23



We want to have plenty of food for everyone so please let us know if you plan to attend on Realm via this QR Code or email Bart Ost at bart.ost@tabpres.org

Have you invited
your friends and
religious leaders?

Everyone is welcome!



**RYAN
BURGE**
Author & Professor

COMING TO TAB!

MARCH 1, 2026



4 PM - 5:30 PM | TABERNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
*NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

SERMON SERIES: LEARNING FROM THE MASTER

REV. DR. CLARK COWDEN

In this sermon series, we are looking at the stories in the Gospel of Luke about the greatest person who ever lived. Jesus is our Master, our model and our mentor. He is our pattern, our paragon, and our precedent. He is our paradigm, our prototype, and our principal. He has the words of life we need. He teaches us pearls of wisdom we do not find from anyone else. He opens up our minds and our hearts to truths and realities we have not seen or understood before. He gives us a glimpse into the eternal and helps us see what is important and what is not. We invite you to join with us as we look at some of the stories of what Jesus said and did in the Gospel of Luke that lead us to Easter—the greatest day in history.

Upcoming Messages:

- March 1 A Revolution in Humanity
Luke 14:1–14
- March 8 Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Luke 14:15–24
- March 15 Jesus and Our Disenchantment
Luke 18:18–30
- March 22 Jesus and the Cost to Save
the Lost
Luke 18:35-19:10



THANK YOU FOR GIVING

Your generous support enables Tab to spread the love and joy of Christ to thousands each year. Whether through worship, music, community outreach, pastoral care, ministry programs and events, your faithful commitment and contributions truly make a difference.

Ways to Give:

- Scan the QR code
- Text **TABPRES** to 73256

Calendar

Week of February 22 – 28, 2026

Sunday, February 22

- 8a Communion Service
McKee Chapel
- 8:45a Coffee & Conversation
McKee Hallway
- 9a Annual Meeting *Sanctuary*
- 9a Children's Missions Unit
Lower Level A & B
- 10a Worship Service *Sanctuary*
- 11a Coffee & Conversation *Parlor*
- 11a IMPACT Youth Group *Youth Room*
- 11:15a Deacons' Chili Cook-Off
Dining Room

Monday, February 23

- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*
- 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Mtg
Youth Room
- 6:30p Cub Scout Pack Mtg
Dining Room
- 7p Women's Bible Study *Parlor*

Tuesday, February 24

- 8a Women's Tuesday Walkers
Offsite
- 9:15a Women Alive Yoga *Gym*
- 10a Women Alive Study *Parlor*
- 5p Congregational Life Meeting
Small Meeting Nook
- 6:30p Bible Study Fellowship
Dining Room & Gallery
- 6:30p Prayer Meeting
McWhirter Center Library
- 7p Deacons' Meeting
Parlor

Wednesday, February 25

- 9:30a Pastor's Bible Study *Parlor*
- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*
- 6p Simple Dinners Lenten Meal
Dining Room

Thursday, February 26

- 2:30p Tab Tutoring *Lower Levels, Dining Room & Gallery*
- 6p Circles *Lower Levels, Dining Room & Gallery*
- 6p Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Sanctuary
- 7p Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Parlor

Friday, February 27

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

Saturday, February 28

- 8a Men's Bible Study *Parlor*
- 10a Cub Scout Pinewood Derby
Dining Room