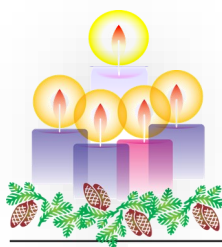


Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXI

December 25, 2016

No. 52



Jesus is Born!

Isaiah proclaimed, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!” Jesus is born! Come, let us walk in the Way of God!

GATHERING AND PRAISING

PRELUDE Marcene Entz

LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP Pastor Katherine Goerzen

*WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

*GATHERING HYMN “O come, all ye faithful” No. 212

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE “Nun ist sie erschienen” No. 52 CS

*LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE Erica Stoltzfus

*PRAYER

*PASSING THE PEACE *The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.*

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING

WORSHIP MUSIC “Gesu Bambino” Peter Goerzen

CHILDREN’S STORY Kim Funk

SCRIPTURE READINGS *Isaiah 9: 2-7* Eric Litwiller

Matthew 1: 18-25 Kristin Unruh

The Word of God for the people of God ~ *Thanks be to God!*

PROCLAMATION Gabriel

RESPONDING

*HYMN OF RESPONSE “Hear the choirs of angels sing” Tune: No. 197 words on screen

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

HYMN OF ASSURANCE “On this day earth shall ring” No. 192

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER Pastor Rosie Jantz

SENDING

*SENDING HYMN

“Joy to the world”

No. 318

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Today

We are so glad you are here with us to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Lester and Lois Voth and Pastor Katherine and Peter Goerzen and family. *A special welcome is extended to all visitors.*

At the back of the sanctuary there is a quiet room for infants and mothers, as well as a toddler nursery for those age three and under, staffed today by Eric Litwiller.

In the pew pockets are **Welcome Cards** and **Prayer Request Cards**. If you are a visitor to Tabor, please fill out a **Welcome Card** and return it in the offering bag. If you have a prayer request or praise item, please fill out a **Prayer Request Card** and return to a Pastor's mailbox.

This Week

Tuesday, December 27

10:00 a.m.—Staff meeting

12:00 p.m.—Tabor Ladies Lunch Bunch

Next Sunday, January 1

10:00 a.m.—Next Sunday we celebrate Epiphany and the theme is “God's Radiance.” Scripture focus will be Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Matthew 2:1-12; and Ephesians 3:1-12 and Pastor Phil will be preaching.

11:00—Faith Formation hour: Plan to stay to enjoy Christmas goodies and fellowship. Please bring snacks to share.

Dates to Remember:

January 14: Prayer and Visioning Retreat

January 22: Potluck with Mission Partner Dan Smith Derksen

**Christmas Day Prayer**

O God, my Father,
 looking up at the shining stars
 of the cold December sky
 I remember the patient mother
 and the rock-hewn manger
 in lowly Bethlehem where lay cradled
 Thy Love for the world.
 In the shadows of the silent stall
 I stand beside Christ.
 Speak to my soul as I wait, I pray Thee.
 Let the trusting, loving spirit of the Child
 steal into my life until it calms
 my fears and soothes my pain.
 In willing surrender and passionate longing
 let me take the Christ child to my heart,
 that henceforth I may live as He lived,
 love as He loved, and, following His footsteps,
 bring help to the needy, courage to the weak,
 comfort to the sorrowing, and hope to the lost.
 Amen.

--Anonymous

*The Incarnation: an Anthology, Nelson's Anthology Series ©2002 Thomas Nelson, Inc.*
OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE
December 18, 2016

Offering	= \$ 2,735.00	Attendance	= 158
Adult F.F.	= \$ 40.52	Attendance	= 46
Jr. F.F.	= \$ 11.30	Attendance	= 32

Announcements and conference prayer requests are on the announcements page, which was either emailed to you or can be found in your church mailbox. Additional copies can be found in the literature rack.

**Tabor Mennonite Church**

Prelude: 9:15am Worship: 9:30am
 Fellowship Time: 10:30am Faith Formation: 10:45am

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As God's children and the body of Christ, we are called by God to offer hospitality, healing and hope in the name of Christ.

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