Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXIII December 23, 2018 No. 51



The Candle of Christmas

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we once again proclaim the world's true light, which appears in Christ Jesus. "Arise, Shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. Therefore, live as children of light!"

GATHERING AND PRAISING

PRELUDE Pastor Katherine Goerzen

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Michael Unruh

RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL AND LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE Preschool Faith Formation Class HYMN "Nun ist sie erschienen" No. 52 CS

*CALL TO WORSHIP screens

*GATHERING HYMN "Arise, Shine" No. 48 CS Brian Voth, guitar

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE "Hark! The herald angels sing" -vs. 1 & 3 No. 201

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PROCLAIMING

CHILDREN'S STORY

Carrie Unruh

THE CANDLE OF CHRISTMAS

Adult Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 1: 1-3, 14-19; John 1: 1-5 Luke Unruh Mary Schmidt

CHORAL ANTHEM "Song of the Stars" -Lloyd Larson

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9: 2; 60: 1-3

CHORAL ANTHEM "Arise, Shine, for Thy Light Has Come"

-Stephen Burtonwood Organist: Karen Andres Soloists: Elaine Unruh and Donavon Schmidt

CHRISTMAS POEM & SCRIPTURE READING I Corinthians 4: 6
CHORAL ANTHEM "O Little Town of Bethlehem" -Dan Forrest
Clarinetist: Valarie Klaassen

SCRIPTURE READING

John 8: 12; Romans 13: 11b-12 Ephesians 5: 8-10, 13-14

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

CHORAL ANTHEM "Arise! (Hodie Christus natus est)" -Joseph M. Martin

THE CANDLE OF CHRISTMAS poem by Jerry Botta
CHORAL ANTHEM "We Shall Light a Thousand Candles" -David Rasbach

CLOSING REFLECTION Marcene Entz

CHORAL REPRISE "Arise, Shine, for Thy Light Has Come"

RESPONDING

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN "Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light"
-vs. 1 & 3 No. 203

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER
Graduate Sharing
Pastor Phil Schmidt
Carson Voth

SENDING

*SENDING HYMN "We've a Story to Tell the Nations" Insert

*BENEDICTION AND 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 Pastor Phil and Mary Schmidt and family and Jerry and Leann Toews. *A special welcome is extended to all visitors*.

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

10:45 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone.

This Week

Monday, December 24: 6:30 p.m.

—Christmas Eve Celebration Service! Children's prelude will begin at 6:05pm. Ushers, please arrive at 5:45 to hand out bulletins and candles. All children, please meet in the fellowship hall at 6:15.

Tuesday, December 25: Christ is Born!

Wednesday, December 26:

Bulletin announcements are due.

Church office closed Dec. 24 -25. Irregular hours Dec. 26-28. Closed Dec. 31-Jan.1.

Next Sunday, December 30

10:00 a.m.—Next Sunday is the first Sunday after Christmas. Come to "Sing the Good News" during the worship service! Following worship, there will be a time of fellowship during the Faith Formation hour. Please bring Christmas goodies to share.

Prayer Requests

The following prayer requests were shared on December 16.

★ Kevin Nickel gave thanks for the support he received as he biked across Kansas to raise funds for the Tabor Church Building Fund. Thanks be to God for a successful ride and the generous donors!

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ strength for those who are struggling with illness and health issues during this busy time. Lord, hear our prayer.
- ★ all who are grieving and hurting in this holiday season. Lord, hear our prayer.
- ★ the many people working diligently on our church building project. Lord, hear our prayer for safety and strength.

Remember to praise God for:

- ★ the season of Advent, which reminds us in the midst of the busyness of life to watch and wait for signs of God's Messiah. Thanks be to God!
- ★ Tabor's Adult Choir, who blessed us with wonderful music this morning!

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE December 16, 2018				
Offering =	\$ 2,971.38	Attendance	=	171
Adult F.F. =			=	43
(Jr. F.F. =	\$ 2.97	Attendance	=	51

Tabor Worship Services to view: Sermons can be found on the Tabor Church website. The entire service is kept as an unlisted, secure link. If you would like to view a service, please email Kim Funk (kfunk@tabormennonie.org) and the link will be emailed to you.





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.

Pastor:
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Associate Pastor: Katherine Goerzen Cell: 316-727-4986

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Deacons:

Barb Abrahams
Duane Duerksen

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