

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Service time: 9:30am

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:00pm

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 22, 2024

4th Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion Setting 3 - ELW Year C

INTRODUCTION

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

PRELUDE

Announcements are on pages 19-21.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A very warm welcome to all who worship here this morning, we thank God for sending you to Tabor.

ADVENT HYMN: *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* ELW 240
Sing Verse 4 Only

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned.
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God
through + Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.

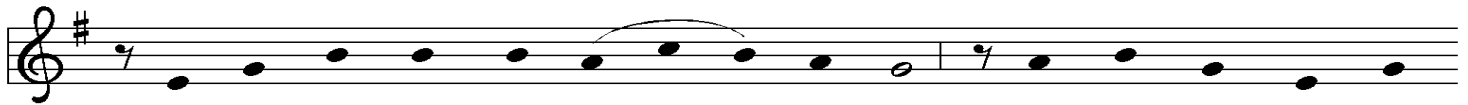
Amen.

GATHERING

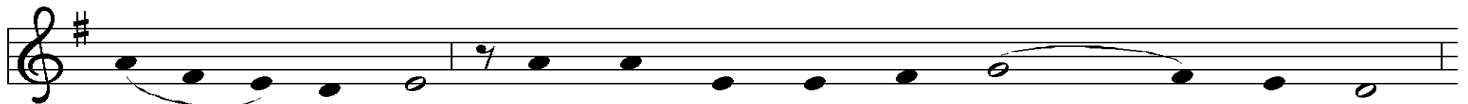
GATHERING SONG

ELW 257

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far - and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

REETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

The children are invited to come forward.

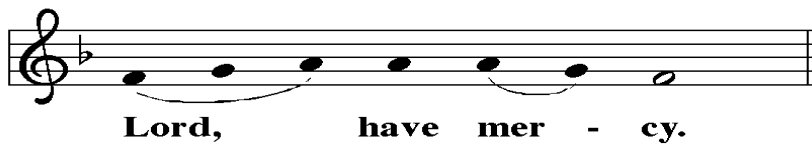
KYRIE



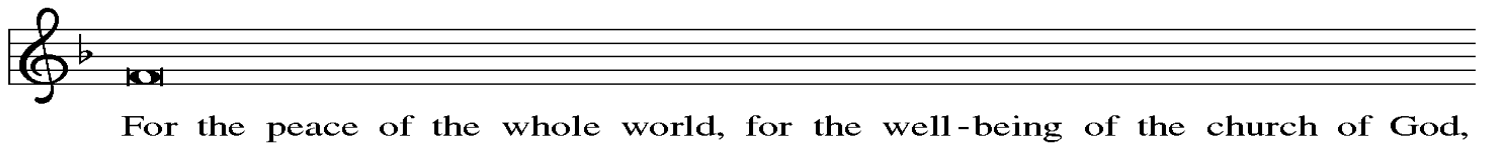
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



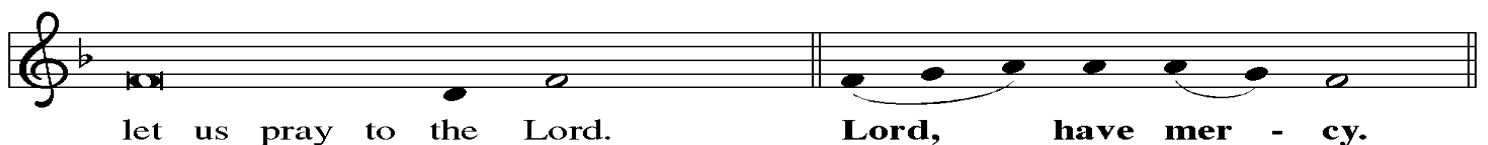
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



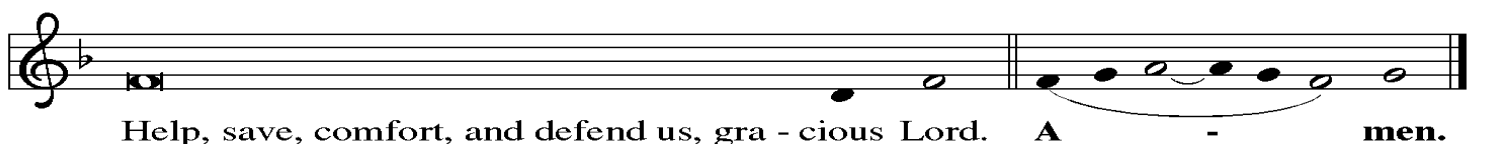
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God

ELW Setting 3



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm: Psalmody: Luke 1:46b-55

Read responsively

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us. R**

³Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD ¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

The word of the Lord.

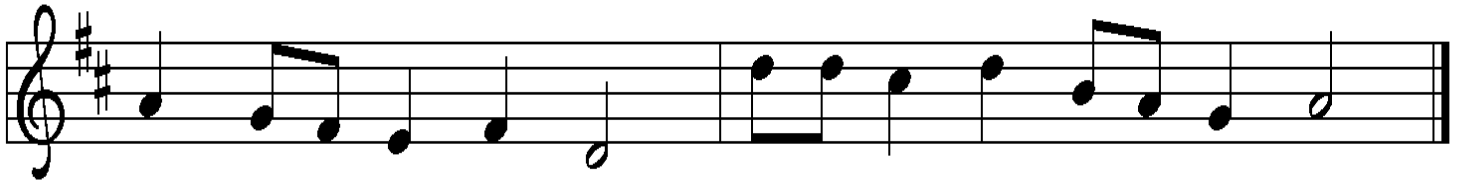
Thanks be to God!

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy gospel according to Luke, the 1st Chapter.
Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

A brief silence for reflection.

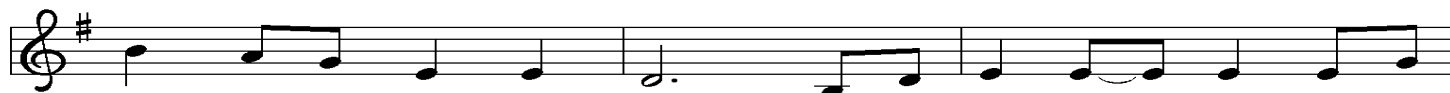
Pastor Bob Kippley

Please stand if you are able

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come.
Amen**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence

Each petition ends:

Lord, in your mercy,

Receive our prayer.

Prayers conclude with:

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say:

Peace be with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND MUSIC

Special Piano Music

Please stand if you are able.

He Came Down

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and ties. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory...

...we await his coming in glory.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God feeds us with tender mercy.

Come to the table.

Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

The Lord's table is open to all worshipers from all denominations who wish to share in God's blessing of the sacrament of Holy Communion. The real presence of Christ is in the bread and wine. Please follow the directions of the ushers. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available if you prefer.

Please let the usher know if you need assistance.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 254

Please repeat until Communion is complete

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Please stand if you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,
we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.
We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
+ bless and keep you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Soon and Very Soon

ELW 439

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God!

<u>Disciples Serving:</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Presider/Supply	Pastor Bob Kippley	Stacie Bowens
Assisting Minister:	Jerry Vargues	Riley Dunton
Pianist:	Dr. J. Michael Beck	Dr. J. Michael Beck
Altar Guild:	Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren	Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren
Ushers/Greeters:	Jerry Vargues	Jerry Vargues
Counters:	Kathy Lambert/Cassie Walgren	Karen Dunton/Sue Kastelic
JAM:	Children's Sermon	No JAM - Christmas Break

PRAYERS

<u>Members, Friends and Relatives</u>	<u>Added by Members</u>
Doris Ask	People of Tabor
Shirley Bass	People of Tabor
Robert Bogusch	Nephew of Kathy Lambert
Nicole Buttram	People of Tabor
Pam Cardinal	Sister of Clay Kashner
John Centa	Bowens Family
Shirley DeRungs	People of Tabor
Virgie Giannetto	Lynn Truxell
Nina Jesmain	People of Tabor
Sue Kastelic	People of Tabor
Will Nichols	Truxell & Vargues Families
Arlis Petersen	Mother of Leanne Neu
Audrey and Andrea Pitre	Friends of Emily Briggs
Pam Salas	People of Tabor
Starcher Family	Friends of Emily Briggs
Caitlan Thorne & Family	Granddaughter of Kathy Lambert
Marvin Truxell	Truxell & Vargues Families
Charlotte Vargues	People of Tabor
Linda Wagner	Lynn Truxell

BIRTHDAYS

December 25	Eric Dunton
December 28	Karl Wisthoff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † We will have a Special Offering Collection for our employee Christmas bonuses for the next couple of Sundays.
- † A big Thank You to all for your prayers, calls, cards and special thoughts and hugs. This has made my recovery from back surgery much easier and I appreciate it very much. Sue Kastelic
- † Epiphany Tree: In the Narthex is a Christmas Tree set up for Rainbow Trail, as Tabor is a partner church with the camp. On the tree are tags labeled with items from Rainbow Trail's 'Wish List' that aren't budgeted. We are calling the tree "The Epiphany Tree" because the wise men brought gifts to baby Jesus when they came to see Him. The tree will be set up until Epiphany Sunday. Please take a tag if you 'wish' and bring the item back unwrapped and place it under the tree by January 5th.
- † Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be at 5:00pm on Tuesday, December 24th. Please bring your family and friends and join us for worship. No services will be held on Christmas Day.
- † The ladies Quilting Group will not meet on Thursday, December 26th.
- † There are leftover Burritos and Green Chili available for donation. Each have been packaged, vacuumed sealed and frozen. Packages are label and are in the freezer in the parlor. Please contact Denise or Michelle.
- † Tabor's Annual Budget Meeting will be on Sunday, January 26, 2025. All committees need to have their annual reports in to Julie by January 12, 2025.



THE GOOD NEWS

TABOR TIDBITS WEEKLY UPDATE

December 18, 2024



We will have a Special Offering Collection for our employee Christmas bonuses for the next couple of Sundays.



Christmas Eve Choir practice will be held on December 22 immediately following worship.



Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service is December 24th at 5:00pm with Pastor Karen Matuska. Please bring your families and friends and join us for worship. No services will be held on Christmas day.



Thank you to all who participated and helped out with our Christmas program



A big thank you to all for your prayers, calls, cards and special thoughts and hugs. This has made my recovery from back surgery much easier and I appreciate it very much. Sue Kasketic



Thank You to all who helped clean out the gutters of the church



The ladies Quilting Group will not meet on Thursday, December 26th.



Tabors Annual Budget Meeting will be on Sunday, January 26, 2025. All Committees need to have their annual reports in to Julie by January 12, 2025.

Birthdays

December 25 Eric Durnton
December 28 Karl Wisthoff

Disciples Serving: Sunday December 22

Presider/Supply Pastor Bob Kippley
Assisting Minister: Jerry Vargues
Pianist: Dr. J. Michael Beck
Altar Guild: Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren
Ushers/Greeters: Jerry Vargues
Counters: Kathy Lambert/Cassie Walgren
JAM: Children's Sermon

Christmas Eve - December 24

Pastor Karen Matuska
Cyrisse Cooley
Dr. J. Michael Beck
Connie Wisthoff/Cassie Walgren
Jerry Vargues
Children's Sermon



Church Council Meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of every month after worship.
Next Meeting: January 12, 2025
All Members are welcome to attend



The JAM kids have decided that collections from the Noisy Offering from July—December 2024 will go to purchase supplies for homeless bags.



Lay Ministry Meeting schedule:
Monday, January 13 at 6:30pm
Sunday, January 19 after worship



Epiphany Tree

On the Northex is a Christmas Tree set up for Rainbow Trail. Tabor is a partner church with the camp. On the tree are tags labeled with items from Rainbow Trail's "Wish List" that aren't budgeted. We are calling the tree "The Epiphany Tree" because the wise men brought gifts to baby Jesus when they came to see Him. The tree will be set up until Epiphany Sunday. Please take a tag if you "wish" and bring the item back, unwrapped and place it under the tree by January 5th.



There are leftover Burritos and Green Chili available for donation. Each have been packaged, vacuumed sealed and frozen. Contents of packages are labeled and are in the freezer. In the parlor. Please contact Denise or Michelle.

**Fourth Sunday
of Advent**

