

# 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 REPRIS "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 Pastor Phil Schmidt  
Graduate Sharing 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.**



