

# Tithes and Offerings



## In-person

Place in the blue offering bins in the lobby.



ACH

## Online

[tablelifechurch.org/giving](http://tablelifechurch.org/giving)

ways to  
*give*

or text GIVE  
to 717-420-1600



## Mail

617 16th Street  
New Cumberland, PA 17070



## Auto pay

Send directly from bank.



TABLELIFE  
CHURCH

CHURCH OF  THE NAZARENE

## CHURCH STAFF

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717-774-6444



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Order of Worship  
December 14, 2025  
Third Sunday of Advent

## **We Gather to Worship God**

Welcome  
Call and Response  
Worship in Song  
Advent Reading  
Lighting of the Christ Candle  
Worship in Song

## **We Listen to the Word**

Sermon: "Week #3: Opening Joy"

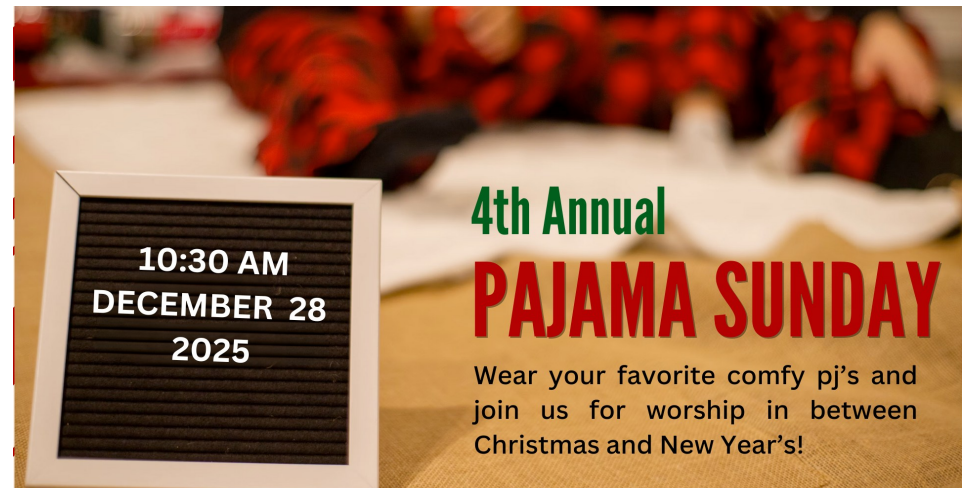
## **We Come to the Table**

Prayer of Confession and Consecration  
The Lord's Prayer  
We Eat and Drink Together  
We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song  
Prayer

## **We Go to Live in the Reign of God**

Community Life  
Doxology  
Blessing and Sending

\*Words to music, responsive readings and  
The Lord's Prayer will be on the screen\*



## Doggy Bag-

### Some questions to chew on:



1. Who is someone you would describe as joyful? What makes them joyful?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your joy? Would the people who know you best describe you as joyful?
3. Why do you think joy was a mark of the coming messiah? Why do you think “remaining in Jesus” is the key to bearing fruit of the Spirit, including joy?
4. In John 15:8–12, Jesus connects joy to obedience, which is not the first thing most of us think about when we think about joy. How do you think obedience leads to joy?
5. After explaining the connection between obeying his commands, remaining in him, and our joy being complete, Jesus says: “Love each other as I have loved you.” Why must loving others be part of lasting joy?
6. When was a time when you were in the middle of unmet expectations or difficulty but still had joy? What happened, and what did you learn about God as a result?
7. How have you seen the effects of joy (envy to contentment, greed to generosity, etc) play out in real life? Share an example.
8. Why does the world teach a Y-O-J approach to joy? This Advent, how can you be intentional about cultivating a J-O-Y kind of joy?

## NEW HERE? NEED PRAYER?

TABLELIFE CHURCH  
Connection Card

☐ I'm new here ☐ I'm a returning guest  
☐ I have new contact information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us?  
☐ Friend's referral ☐ Online  
☐ Social Media ☐ Invited by \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to know more about or help with:  
☐ What it means to follow Jesus  
☐ Connecting to a group  
☐ Serving  
☐ Kids & Youth Ministry  
Prayer Request \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out a  
connection card located  
in the seats in front of  
you. Or you can fill one  
out online.



## Opening Christmas Week #3: Opening Joy Pastor Kris Beckert

### When was the last time you experienced overwhelming joy?

**For centuries, the prophets predicted \_\_\_\_\_ would  
be a mark of the coming messiah**

*Isaiah 61:1-3 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,  
because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good  
news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the  
brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and  
release from darkness for the prisoners, <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the  
year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our  
God, to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> and provide for those  
who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of  
beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning,  
and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.*

**On the night Jesus was born, the angel announced  
\_\_\_\_\_ with his coming**

*Luke 2:8-12 And there were shepherds living out in the  
fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>  
An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of  
the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>  
But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you  
good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>  
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;  
he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You  
will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”*

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your  
relationship with Christ, please email [pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org](mailto:pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org) or call

717-774-6444

## I. What is true of the joy Christ brings?

1. It's not \_\_\_\_\_
2. It can't be \_\_\_\_\_
3. It's not \_\_\_\_\_

*Galatians 5:22 "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace . . ."*

## II. How do we open ourselves to the consistent and constant joy of Christ?

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus

*John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you abide in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."*

- To abide means:
  - ☐ Submit to--
  - ☐ Rest in—
  - ☐ Focus on—

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ his commands

*John 15:8-10 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.*

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ others

*John 15:11-12 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.*

## III. An inside-out approach to cultivating JOY:

J\_\_\_\_\_ -- O\_\_\_\_\_ -- Y\_\_\_\_\_

- Envy turns into \_\_\_\_\_
- Greed turns into \_\_\_\_\_
- Grumbling turns into \_\_\_\_\_
- "I have to" turns into \_\_\_\_\_
- Fear turns into \_\_\_\_\_

## Big Idea:

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