



Communion:

The Lord be with you – **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts – **we lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God – **it is right to offer our thanks and praise.**

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Please come forward to receive communion

Communion Song: "Jesu Tawa Pano"

Prayer after Communion

Hymn: "People Look East" – Hymnal, n. 12

Benediction

Postlude: "Prepare the Royal Highway" – Paul Manz

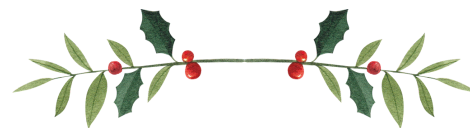


A huge thank you to Matthew Black for sharing his musical gifts with us today!

The flowers in the sanctuary are given with thanks to God
by The Coley Family

First Presbyterian Church of East Aurora

9 Paine St, East Aurora, NY, 14052 ~ 716-652-0160 ~ office@fpcea.org

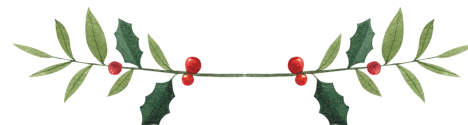


December 7th, 2025 Second Sunday of Advent



Rev. Jesse Larson, Pastor
Bradley Meholic, Music Director

Mike Boldt, Liturgist
Betty Pitcher, Organist



A warm welcome to all visitors! Please join us for refreshments after the service!

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: “Pastorale” – L. Roques,
“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” – J. Pachabel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Shannon Holfoth & Family

In the midst of war and rumors of war,

We cling to God’s promise of peace.

We remember these words of the prophet:

**“The tender mercies of God, like the dawn from on high, will
break upon us to guide our feet in the way of peace.”**

In this season when the world can be too much with us,

We remind each other what peace looks like:

Every valley shall be filled,

And every mountain and valley laid low,

The crooked made straight,

And the rough places made smooth.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we light these candles as a
sign of our commitment to the way of peace.

Let us worship God.

Hymn: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” – Hymnal, n. 9

Prayer of Confession:

**God of grace and truth, long ago your prophets told of your
promises – a promise of restoration and salvation. We confess
that we have not believed your promise, that we have
preferred brokenness to restoration, and have lingered with
dis-ease rather than welcome salvation. We have remained
steadfast in the ease of the status quo, not wanting to face the
hard work of repentance and change. Forgive our stiff necks,
and renew our strength, so that we may receive the fullness of
your promise, and live into that joy.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Passing the Peace:

The peace of Christ be with you – **and also with you.**

Song of Praise: “Come, Let Us Worship God” – R. Makeever

Sharing our Praises and Concerns:

Lord, in your mercy – **hear our prayer**

Lord, with thanksgiving – **hear our prayer**

Old Testament: Psalms 63:1-8 (page 527)

Special Music: “Jesu Tawa Pano” – P. Matsikenyiri

Jesu tawa pano (3x)

Tawa pano

Mu zvita re-nyu

New Testament Reading: Matthew 3:1-12 (page 2)

Sermon: John the Baptist and the Grinch

Hymn: “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” – Hymnal, n. 38

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Doxology: Hymnal, n. 592

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Anthem: “Peace on Earth” – Matthew Black



Happening This Week

- Sunday, Dec 7: Caroling with Youth Group, 12:30pm
- Wednesday, Dec 10: Bible Study, 10am
- Wednesday, Dec 10: Aktion Club Service, 7pm
- Sunday, Dec 14: Annual FPCEA Christmas Pageant, 10am

In Your Prayers

- Marcia Siebert, those who are hungry and without food, peace in our country and in our world.

Stewardship Update

- Our 2026 Stewardship campaign is in full swing! Our goal is \$200,000, and so far, we have received pledges totaling \$190,072. We are SO close! Please return your pledge card if you haven't!

Mark Your Calendars

- Sunday, Dec 21: Christmas Cantata, 10am

Christmas Eve Services will be held at 4pm and 10pm,
with a concert at 9:30 on Dec 24th

Are you new to FPCEA? We are so glad you're here! Please fill out a
welcome sheet found in the pew so you can receive communications
from the church!



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Our Community Engagement team would like us to do our part to help solve the food insecurity problem facing our community. SNAP benefits have been in limbo in November, so let's step up and do what we can! Below you will find a list that FISH gives to us each Spring for Project 5000. Any of these foods will do, but they have asked for an emphasis on protein-dense foods. These include canned soups/stews, canned meat and fish, etc. Please buzz Annie during office hours or leave your donation on the bench in the vestibule. We will be running this collection until the end of the year. Let's help ensure no one in our community goes hungry this holiday season!

List of Suggested Foods

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 cans tuna fish | 4 cans fruit |
| 2 boxes pasta | 1 lg. jar spaghetti sauce |
| 1 jar peanut butter | 2 cans ravioli |
| 1 lg. can beans (any kind) | 1 lg. box cereal |
| 4 cans soup | 1 Brownie mix |
| 1 lg. box cereal | 1 package of juice boxes |
| 4 cans vegetables | 1 lb. package spaghetti |
| 1 lg. plastic bottle juice (apple) | 2 cans beef stew/chili |
| 2 boxes mac & cheese | 2 can beef stew/hash |



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