

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Trusting in you, generous God, we offer our gifts,  
asking for your blessing. May the good they may do  
become real in the life of your beloved creation. For  
your love's sake we ask this. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:1-11 (page 581)  
2 Peter 3:8-15a (page 988)

### AFTER THE READINGS

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.  
Thanks be to God.

### \*HYMN NO. 340

"This Is My Song"

### SERMON

"Love Is . . . Patient"

### \*HYMN NO. 384

"Soon and Very Soon" (vv. 1, 2, 4)

### \*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy,  
tried and true; With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

### DEPARTING MUSIC

Felix Mendelssohn  
"Andante"

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### Sunday, December 7:

- Training for ongoing organizing against ICE and working for peace and justice in Palestine located at Lee Heights Community Church (4612 Lee Road) starting at 1:00 pm.
- Gingerbread House Event at 6:00 pm.

#### Saturday, December 13:

- Pacesetters Christmas Party at 6:00 pm.

**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)** is responding to Hurricane Melissa, which made landfall as a Category 5 hurricane in Jamaica, also striking Cuba and other island nations on its path through the Caribbean. Initial assessments show catastrophic destruction around the core path of the storm, and throughout the impacted region, devastating flooding and debris are isolating communities in several of these island nations. It will take years to recover. If you wish to donate, reach out to a member of our Justice Ministry or visit [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance after Hurricane Melissa - Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian](#).

**Prayer Requests:** To request prayers for a personal concern, please email the church office ([office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org)).

**Prayers are requested this week for:** Doris Bartlett, Janet Dauer, Bob Dawson, Jeannine Gury, Deborah Howard, Chuck and Jane Ishler, Kemp Jaycox, Scott Lafferty (whose mother died Nov. 16), Mark Le Master, Ellie Linden, Karen Loughridge, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Ron Register, Serena Shung, Joyce Senger, Carolyn Smith, Joel Tan, John Tan, Kate Tzefronis, Eileen Vizcaino, Ann Williams, and the family of Elsie Boyd.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Grace Uhle and Warren Young.

**Care Groups** will assist our pastor with members' needs. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will be passed on to the head of the Deacons.

**The Deacon Card Ministry**, with cards for all occasions, is available in Fellowship Hall most Sundays after worship. Deacon Nathaniel Martin will be happy to help you pick a card for someone who needs to hear from you and our church. Brighten someone's day with a reminder of our care.

**Thank you, office volunteers:** Joan Bacon, Lynda Bernays, Cathy Ghiandoni, Nancy Grube, and Kim Hill.

**Thank you, Stream Team Volunteers!** Anyone interested in helping stream Sunday services should contact Kurt Haas at [kurt@dangereddy.com](mailto:kurt@dangereddy.com).

**Please remember to leave your name tag** in the appropriate column on the magnetic board outside Fellowship Hall before you leave today. You want it to be waiting for you next week!

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Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)

The Rev. Dr. Gene McAfee, Transitional Pastor  
Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministry  
Dr. QinYing Tan, Director of Music  
The Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

## FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN

December 7, 2025 – 11:00 AM

# The Second Sunday of Advent



You may also join worship online using this link:  
<https://youtube.com/live/QiznAaENaMU>

***\*Please stand in body and/or spirit.***

*Childcare is provided for children ages birth to 4 years from 10:45 am – 12:15 pm in Rooms 201/203. Today, children ages 5+ join the congregation for worship and communion. After receiving communion with their families, children leave the sanctuary with their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.*

**CENTERING WORDS**  
*“Do not let the behavior of others destroy your inner peace.” – The Dalai Lama*

**CENTERING MUSIC** Brahms  
“Es ist ein Ros' Entsprungen”  
(Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)

**WELCOME**

**CHORAL INTROIT** Yiddish Folk Song  
“Light One Candle”  
Chancel Choir

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Peg Weissbrod  
We light a candle, we do not curse the darkness.  
**For the darkness and the light are both alike to God.**  
We light a candle to symbolize peace,  
**the peace we long for in our hearts, in our relationships, and in our world.**  
We long for peace, we work for peace, and we wait for peace with patience.  
**For patience, too, is of God, because love is patient as well as kind.**  
In the kindness and mercy of God, we wait with patience.  
**And we worship as we wait.**

**\*HYMN NO. 105** “People, Look East” (vv. 1, 4, 5)  
*Candles on the Advent wreath will be lit each Sunday during the singing of the opening hymn. Susanna and Henry of the Gransee Rodionov family are lighting the first and second candles this morning.*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**  
**Holy One, in whose eyes a thousand years are but as yesterday when it is past, help us to overcome the sin of impatience. Help us to grow in your grace and understanding of human frailty and weakness – ours and others’. Let us not continue to compromise with evil, but seek always to see as you see, to know as you know, and to love as you love. We confess that we have much work to do. Help us, we humbly pray, to do it and to do it well.**

**SILENCE**

**KYRIE (HYMN NO. 434)** “Restore in Us, O God” (v. 1)  
*Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;  
Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (NO. 586)** “Alleluia”  
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION** Stewardship

**FRIENDSHIP REGISTER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
*To participate in our online Friendship Register, please leave a comment in the Live Chat box listing the names of those participating in this morning’s Live Worship or email the office.*

**MUSIC** Mark Hayes  
“Promise of Peace”  
  
*Ushers will collect prayer requests.*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**  
**THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR**  
**Our Loving Parent, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE MYSTERY OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**  
We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, surrounded by his friends, Jesus offered the bread in thanksgiving and said . . .  
**“Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**  
In the same way, Jesus offered the cup in thanksgiving and said,  
**“Take, drink. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.”**  
Come, Holy Spirit. Come. Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless us in our eating and drinking that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died. We eat this meal together...  
**to be reminded that love endures forever.**  
We eat this meal together...  
**to be ready to serve the Lord.**

**COMMUNION MUSIC (HYMN NO. 840)**  
“When Peace like a River” (vv. 1, 4)

**COMMUNION MUSIC** Pachelbel  
“Ciacona in F minor”

**UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION**  
**Thank you for this meal we have shared. Thank you for the company of friends. Thank you, dear God, for being with and among us today. Amen.**

**CALL TO GIVING**

**OFFERING**  
*By texting: 216-400-5300  
You may give online with PayPal, credit or debit card: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)  
Or you may also mail a check to the church office*

**OFFERTORY** Joel Raney  
“What We All Want for Christmas Is Peace”  
Madelaine Matej MacQueen, soprano

**\*SONG OF DEDICATION**  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*