

OPENING PRAYER: Chris Caruso

Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this place. As one body, with one voice, we honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, and joy! Amen.

PRELUDE: The Christmas Rose Martin
Adele Harrison, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Mark Juengel

INTROIT: Comfort, Comfort, Now My People
Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP: Chris Caruso
Leader: God spoke through the prophet Isaiah, “Comfort, O comfort, my people.”
People: A voice cries out, “Prepare the way of the Lord!”
Leader: Every valley will be lifted up, every mountain brought low,
People: And the glory of the Lord will be revealed.
Leader: All people shall witness this together, For the mouth of God has spoken.
People: Come, O Come, Emmanuel; We wait for You to enter our world and our lives in a new way.

*HYMN # 119: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE (Peace): Caruso Family

Reader #1: Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of hope. Let us light it again to show that our hope continues. (Light the 1st candle)

Reader #2: John the Baptist called on the people of his day to prepare the path for the coming of the Messiah. He called them to repent, turn around, change their ways. To live in peace with others, we need to repent and change directions.

Reader #1: We light this second candle to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He shows us how to share God’s peace with others. (Light the 2nd candle)

Reader #2: The prayer of St. Francis asks God to help us be peacemakers. Let us say it together:

All: Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; and where there is darkness, light. Grant that we may not seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

RESPONSE: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” verse 1 & 2
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

O come, thou Wisdom, from on high, who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Friends, we are in the presence of the ineffable and holy God. Let us humbly confess our neediness and ask for grace and mercy. Let us pray.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Attendance Pad at the end of the pews. This allows the church to be in touch with you and for you to greet your neighbor by name during the passing of peace during the service.

To our guests and visitors. Welcome! This is Communion Sunday, the day we share in the Lord's Supper. This is Christ's table, and he welcomes all who seek him to partake in it with the rest of the church.

CHRISTIAN ED SOUP LUNCHEON – Today - CE will be hosting a soup luncheon for coffee hour.

PARISH LIFE - ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER - Reservations and Payments must be paid in full by today.

ANGEL TREE - Angel tree gifts are due today. Please place your unwrapped in a gift bag with the ornament tag attached by the tree in the Church's Hall.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES - Wednesday, December 24th at 7:00pm.

CHRISTMAS CANDLES - Just a reminder to please not adjust the switches on the Christmas Candles in church as they are on timers. Thank you, Worship & Music.

POINSETTIA ORDERS - We will be taking orders through Sunday, December 14th.

THE ARCADIA CHORALE will present The Coming of the King: Sacred Songs for Hanukkah, Advent, and Christmas on today, at 3:00pm at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Scranton. Uniting psalms, prayers, and Christmas carols, this program offers a deeply moving musical journey through December’s sacred celebrations. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, and free for students. The Chorale will also perform in Hawley on Friday, December 12th at 8:00pm at the United Methodist Church, as part of the first day of Winterfest. Reservations may be made through the Downtown Hawley Partnership website. If you have any questions, please see Matthew Rupcich.

BLACK BEAR CONSERVATORY - Students from the Black Bear Conservatory will perform two recitals at First Presbyterian Church in Hawley today. The first recital, featuring instrumentalists, will begin at 2pm, followed by a second recital featuring singers at 3:30pm. All are welcome to attend and support our talented local student musicians. If you have any questions, please see Matthew Rupcich.

ROAD TO BETHLEHEM LIVE NATIVITY - Winterfest (December 12th -14th) - The United Methodist Church of Hawley is reaching out to all the local churches to ask for any help in filling our scenes. There’s no rehearsals required, no need to read or speak, just a willingness to stand outside and share the Good News! We’ll take everyone, of any age, but do ask that if the children are young, (less than 8 years), they have an adult willing to stand outside with them. Anyone interested can reach out Meredith L. Hellstern, MD at the church’s office - 570-226-3875 or via email - meredith.hellstern@gmail.com

COOKIE WALK - Saturday, December 13th from 9am to 12:30pm.

A CELTIC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WITH THE CHANCEL CHOIR - Sunday, December 14th, at 10:00am. Our Chancel Choir will fill the sanctuary with the sounds of Christmas as they present Tapestry of Light: A Celtic Christmas Celebration, composed by Joseph Martin.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE – Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on Monday, December 15th, from 1pm-6pm.

ANNUAL REPORTS - The Annual reports are due in the church office by Wednesday, December 17th. All committee chairs are required to submit a yearly report.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING – Sunday December 21st - The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings the Presbyterian Church USA collects each year. We will receive this special offering on Sunday, December 21st during the worship service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Cont’d.

Sunday, December 21stVOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Please sign up in the vestibule to be an Usher and to host Coffee Hour and Good News Café. For Liturgists see Adele Harrison and to help with Communion see Ann Marie Grilk.

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Monday, December 8th 11:00am: Staff Meeting 11:00am: Small Group Monday 12:00pm: AA Meeting 2pm-6pm: WH Quilters	Thursday, December 11th 9:00am: Admin & Finance Mtg. 11:00am Bible Study
Tuesday, December 9th 10:00am: Handbell Choir 11:00am: Chancel Choir 6:00pm: Annual Christmas Dinner	Friday, December 12th 8pm: Arcadia Chorale - the United Methodist Church, Hawley
Wednesday, December 10th 12:00pm: AA Meeting 5pm-8pm: Cub Scouts	Saturday, December 13th 9am-1:30pm: Cookie Walk
	Sunday, December 14th Hanukkah A Celtic Christmas Celebration Final Day to Place Poinsettia Order 10:00am: Worship Deacons Mtg.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS - NOVEMBER

<u>Liturgist Schedule:</u>	<u>Usher Schedule:</u>	<u>December - Communion Servers</u>
12/7: Chris Caruso	12/7: Robert Pinkney & Bill Chicoski	(December 7th)
12/14: Grace Laird	12/14: TBD	Set Up & Clean Up: Pat Bartleson
12/21: Patrick Field	12/21: TBD	Servers: Pat Bartleson
12/24: Brad Kiesendahl	12/24: Jill Juengel	Beth Crowley
12/28: TBD	12/28: TBD	Cliff Crowley
		Kathleen Roberts
		Kathy Smith

JOYS and CONCERNS FOR WEEK OF 12/7/2025

*Prayers for Jill J., who is recovering from surgery.
*Prayers for Pat S., who is at Regional Hospital.
*Prayers for Nancy B.
*Prayers for the Decario family.
*Prayers for Jennifer, friend of Alesia B .
*Prayers for Nick, Patrick F.’s nephew.
*Prayers for John H., son of Virginia R. who is recovering from surgery.
*Prayers for Beth, friend of Linda K.
*Prayers for Marcia J.
*Prayers for Daniel.
*Prayers for Jeremy, friend of Pat S.
*Prayers for Missy, Pat B.’s daughter.
*Prayers for Steve, Joe J’s brother-in-law.
*Prayers for Brian, Kathy& Dave S.’s son.
*Prayers for the family members of Sue G. (Don, Susan & Eden).
*Prayers for Phyllis N.
*Prayers for Joe J.’s great-nephew, Jackson.
*Prayers for Nancy B.’s & her son James.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Chris Caruso
We confess to you, O God, that we have fallen asleep. We often go through the motions and live our daily lives without much thought outside of ourselves. Forgive us for our shortsightedness. Forgive us for not being awake to the wonders and signs that you are doing something new in our world and in our lives. Help us to seek you in the face of others. Call us into your ways of love and justice, so that we might be fully awake, watching and waiting for your return in our world and in our lives in a new way. Amen.

KYRIE: Hear, our prayer, O Lord,
Hear, our prayer, O Lord,
Incline Thine ear to us and grant us Thy peace.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS: Chris Caruso
O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. As we wait for Christmas, we know that Christ has already come into our world and lives, has already been born in us. We are renewed and restored. Go and share the good news of God’s love and restoration. **Alleluia, Amen.**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - HYMN #132:**
“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST: Rev. Mark Juengel

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: Chris Caruso
Father, how do we see for the first time a story we've read so many times? Give us new perspective. Help us not to assume we know all there is to know, but to open our hearts and minds to your Spirit and the new truth you may be teaching us today. Perhaps the truth will not be new, but a lesson we've heard and simply need to be reminded of again. Wherever it is you are leading, let us be willing to follow. Whatever it is you want to teach, let us be open to listening and obeying. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Romans 15:4-13 Chris Caruso
SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10 Rev. Mark Juengel
MUSIC MEDITATION: When Will We See God's Son Stevens
Lauren Piccotti, Soprano
Ginny Hack, Alto
Stephen Faubel, Bass

TIME WITH YOUNG CHRISTIANS
SERMON: “Introducing the Amazing Shoot” Rev. Mark Juengel
INVITATION TO OFFERTORY
OFFERTORY: In the Bleak Midwinter Cook
Matthew Rupcich, piano

***DOXOLOGY:** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

OFFERTORY PRAYER
***HYMN # 144:** “In the Bleak Midwinter”
THE LORD’S SUPPER
INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION LITANY
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also, with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER
Leader: Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise...
Hymn #1: “Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!”
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!,
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in Three persons, blessed Trinity.

Leader: Great is the mystery of faith
People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND SHARE THE ELEMENTS
COMMUNION RESPONSE
Leader: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.
People: And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!
Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul.
People: And forget not all his benefits. Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life and renewed us for your service. We give ourselves to you, and ask that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom. May our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN # 87:** “Comfort, Comfort Now My People”
THE BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing Smith
Adele Harrison, organ

*Please stand if you are able.

**First Presbyterian Church
of Hawley**

“Come to Grow in Love, Spirit, and Faith”



**December 7, 2025
10 AM**

***Communion Sunday
Second Sunday of Advent***

First Presbyterian Church
815 Church Street, Hawley, PA 18428
570-226-4835
Web: fpchawley.org

*“On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples: the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.”
Isaiah 11:10*

Please take time to prepare for worship through meditation and prayer during the prelude. As the prelude begins, quiet your voice and soul. With music and prayer let us move from “getting to church” to “being the church” as we worship together.