



# *First United Methodist Church in Downtown Erie*

*An Historic Church Serving the People of Erie*

*On the Corner of Seventh and (707) Sassafras Streets  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16501*

[www.fumcerie.org](http://www.fumcerie.org)

Telephone: 814•452•3300

 Like us on Facebook

**December 05, 2021**

**9:00 a.m. "Light for the City" Worship**

**10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship**



**OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

*"To share our passion for Jesus Christ with Erie's next generations."*

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## **Second Sunday in Advent**

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

WELCOME *Indicates the people may stand if able.* *Pastor Bob*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*(If you have a prayer request, please fill out the prayer card, found on the back of the pew in front of you, and give it to an usher during the prelude.)*

#### **GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

BRINGING THE LIGHT: *Brittany Figueroa, acolyte*

PRELUDE: *"O Come, Emmanuel"* *Joseph Martin*  
*First Methodist Vocal Ensemble*  
*Bruce R. Gingrich, Music Director/Organist*

WELCOME to those listening on the radio on WERG 90.5 FM and on the web.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP : *Fred Erickson, liturgist*

*L: Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this place.*

*All: As one body, with one voice, we honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, and joy. Amen. So be it.*

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\*OPENING HYMN:      ***“Blessed Be the God of Israel”***      **No. 209**  
   ***Red Hymnal 3 Verses***  
   ***(Please be seated)***

**LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE**

Bob & Cindi Reid

*Upon hearing the news that his son would be a prophet of the Most High, Zechariah broke into a song of praise. And you, child, will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.*

***Light 2 blue candles.***

*We light the second Advent candle as an act of praise that by God’s mercy, the Messiah will come to give light to those in darkness, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Come, Lord Jesus.  
All: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***Unison: Covenant God, you send us messengers to cleanse and refine us for your coming. Help us endure the mirror of the prophets’ message, that we may see you when you suddenly appear among us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.***

**THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**

***“An Advent Awakening”***      *Vicki Tucker Courtney*  
***First Methodist Vocal Ensemble***  
***Bruce R. Gingrich, Music Director/Organist***

**KIDS’ MESSAGE:**

*Pastor Bob*  
*Children 12 and under may come to the chancel area. Parents: If your little one needs some encouragement, please feel free to come and sit with them.*

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PRAYER HYMN:

***“All Earth Is Waiting”***  
***Red Hymnal Verses 1 & 2 Only***

*No. 210*

MORNING PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE

*Pastor Bob*

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison):

**Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

**Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 1:18-25

THE MESSAGE

***“It’s Almost Christmas”***  
***Reverend Robert Trask, preaching***



## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERING CALL

*Pastor Bob*

*Please pass the Friendship Pads so all may sign and know with whom they worship today. Please return to the center aisle. Thank you!*

OFFERTORY:

***“Prepare the Way”***

*James Mansfield*

***Bruce R. Gingrich, Music Director/Organist***

\*DOXOLOGY:

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise *God*, all creatures here be-low;  
praise *God* a-bove, ye heaven-ly host;  
praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.**

\*THE OFFERING PRAYER

*Pastor Bob*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WITH PRAY OF CONFESSION

## SENDING FORTH THE PEOPLE OF GOD

\*CLOSING HYMN

***“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”***  
***Red Hymnal 4 Verses***

***No. 213***

\*BENEDICTION

*Pastor Bob Trask*

\*MUSICAL RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION

***“Emmanuel”***

***No. 204***

\*POSTLUDE:

***“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”*** *David Cherwien*  
***Bruce R Gingrich, Director of Music Ministries/Organist***



## *First United Methodist Church in Downtown Erie*

707 Sassafras Street, Erie, PA 16501 ■ 814•452•3300

Office Hours: Monday Thru Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ *We thank God for your presence this morning with us!* If you are a **visitor or college student**, please fill out one of the **Visitor Cards** found in the attendance pad on the pew at the center aisle and place it in the offering plate. Please feel free to take a **Welcome Brochure**.
- ◆ **Children** are important to us and we strive to include them in worship. Children's activity bags are available from an usher for quiet activity during the service. A children's message is offered during the service, please come forward when invited by the pastor. Also, a staffed nursery is available for children.
- ◆ **Restrooms** are located on the lower level, below the sanctuary, or upstairs in the lobby of Oxford Center (through the door to the left of the chancel). Accessible restrooms are on the first floor (level L) near the elevator.
- ◆ **Personal listening devices are available for the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service!** You may use a headset provided by the church or plug your own headset (with a 1/8" audio jack) into one of the church's portable receivers. Please see an usher for assistance.
- ◆ **Pastors Karen and Bob Trask will be hosting an open house on December 11, 2021 from 1pm to 3:30pm and would love it if you could stop by their home at 3427 Aberdeen Avenue, Erie, PA 16506. They would enjoy your company!**

### UMW Annual Christmas Cookie Walk, Sunday, December 19, 2021

Calling all bakers, please consider baking a few dozen cookies for this annual event.

After the 10:30am service join us in Fellowship Hall to pick out your cookie selection to take home. Once you have filled your box, you will pay by weight. We will be following standard COVID procedures. Any questions regarding cookie donations or this event, please call Donna Burkhart at (814)866-2781, or email [dlb4813@roadrunner.com](mailto:dlb4813@roadrunner.com).

**United Methodist Women are collecting hats, scarves and mittens for the Bethany Outreach Center. The items can be hand knitted or store bought. There is a collection bin in the library off Fellowship Hall. Donations will be delivered to Bethany in early December. Please call Donna Burkhart at 814-866-2781 or email to [dlb4813@roadrunner.com](mailto:dlb4813@roadrunner.com)**

## Two Week Calendar

December 5, 2021 to December 18, 2021

<i><b>This Week</b></i>				<i><b>Next Week</b></i>			
<b>Dec. Sun</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> Light for the City Svc. 9:30 am Sunday School- adult & children  <b>10:30 am</b> Sanctuary Worship <b>1:30 pm</b> Victory Church/Oxford <i><b>TEDDY BEAR SUNDAY</b></i>		<b>Dec. Sun</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> Light for the City Svc. 9:30 am Sunday School- adult & children  <b>10:30 am</b> Sanctuary Worship <b>1:30 pm</b> Victory Church/Oxford <i><b>2nd Sunday Lunch</b></i>	
<b>Mon</b>	<b>6</b>	1:00 pm Knitting Group (Wesley) 7:00 pm Naranon (Wesley)		<b>Mon</b>	<b>13</b>	1:00 pm Knitting Group (Wesley) 7:00 pm Naranon (Wesley)	
<b>Tue</b>	<b>7</b>	10:00 am EHCA Sign Class 7:00 pm NA (Fellowship Hall)		<b>Tue</b>	<b>14</b>	10:00 am EHCA Sign Class <b>12:00 Noon</b> Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm NA (Fellowship Hall)	
<b>Wed</b>	<b>8</b>	10:00 am Book Study <b>6:30 pm</b> Missions Meeting		<b>Wed</b>	<b>15</b>	10:00 am Book Study	
<b>Thu</b>	<b>9</b>	7:00 pm N/A Fellowship Hall		<b>Thu</b>	<b>16</b>	7:00 pm N/A Fellowship Hall	
<b>Fri</b>	<b>10</b>	12:30pm EHCA Fellowship Hall		<b>Fri</b>	<b>17</b>	12:30pm EHCA Fellowship Hall	
<b>Sat</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1-3:30pm</b> Open House at the Trask's 3427 Aberdeen Ave. Erie PA 16506		<b>Sat</b>	<b>18</b>		

**2nd Sunday Lunch, December 12, 2021**

*Assorted Soups and Sandwiches, Salad & Dessert will be served.*

**Please bring a bag of Dog or Cat Food as a donation to The Anna Shelter.**

**Prayer List:**

Priscilla Ferebee (heart issues), Tina Iddings, Carol Lee Restifo, (medical issues), Valerie Radtke (medical issues). Adam and Amanda Sturgis (Flo Surgis’ grandson and granddaughter-in-law). Ida Sweet and Joyce Mayer (medical issues) Louise Stewart & those suffering from loneliness.

**In the Military:** Michael Reim, Alec Nolan, Cody Nolan, Ben Rea, Dustin Witsch

**Flowers on the Altar: Given by Jeff & Amanda Lasky...**

**“IN MEMORY OF OUR MOTHERS DEBBIE LASKY AND BARBARA HOVIS”**

**Greeter at Brauns Doors: Joyce Thompson**

<b>10:30 a.m. Worship Volunteers:</b>			<b>Birthdays this week</b>	
	This Week	Next Week		
<b>Liturgist</b>	Fred Erickson	Donna Burkhart	12/08	Erica Arndt
<b>Acolyte</b>	Brittany Figueroa	Megan Whitehill		
<b>Projectionist</b>	Azath Siwakoti	Elliott Arndt		
<b>Sound</b>	Bob Rodgers	Bob Rodgers		

**Live Stream, Radio Broadcast, DVD, & Podcast:** Worship with us live on-line at 9:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. at [facebook.com/ERIEFUMC/](https://www.facebook.com/ERIEFUMC/) or after-the-fact on the church’s **YouTube** channel. Or listen to the entire 10:30 a.m. service tonight on Gannon radio **WERG 90.5 FM** at 7:00 p.m. also simulcast on the radio station’s live web feed. Or receive via mail a **DVD** of the 10:30 a.m. service by contacting the church office. Or listen to recent sermons at anytime on the church’s **Podcast page:** [fumcerie.podbean.com](http://fumcerie.podbean.com).

<b><i>Our Church Staff</i></b>		<b><i>Home/Office</i></b>	<b><i>Cell</i></b>	<b><i>Email</i></b>
<b>Pastor</b>	Bob Trask	814•920•4413	814•807•2072	pidge712@aol.com
<b>Dir. of Congregational Ministries</b>	Susan Bartlett		814•969•1468	dog3357@gmail.com
<b>Director of Music &amp; Organist</b>	Bruce R. Gingrich	814•314•0714	814•460•9229	brgingrich4852@gmail.com
<b>“Light for the City” Worship Leader</b>	Brandon Gibbs		850•485•8430	bmgibbs123@gmail.com
<b>Office Manager</b>				
<b>Financial Administrator</b>	Melodye McFadden		814•881•2035	mmcfadden@fumcerie.org
<b>Nursery Care Giver</b>	Gwen Pierce		814•746•8770	gwenpierce101@gmail.com
<b>Custodian</b>	Mike McCreary	814-452-6765		N/A
<b>Media Services Director</b>	Tom Balos			tjbalos@balos.media