

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Barbara Papagian, Worship Leader

Online Worship

December 20, 2020

## PRELUDE

“Christmas Time Is Here” – Vince Guaraldi

Adam Peithmann and  
Leo LeBlanc, percussionist

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kevin Pleas

## INTROIT

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel” by Bob McGee

## THE SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING

Rowe Family

Kathy and John; Bekah and Kate Dreyer-Rowe

## CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Prepare the Way of the Lord!

**People: Share the good news of God’s love.**

Leader: Be the voice that cries out in the wilderness.

**People: Go forth to share the love of God.**

Leader: Sing of God’s steadfast love forever.

**All: Let us sing and worship God – a God of Love.**

## INTRODUCTION

Today we light the candle of love, also known as the angel candle. Love plays a vital role in the Christmas story. Joseph’s love for Mary, Mary’s motherly love for Jesus, and God’s love for everyone by sending his son for us. Jesus focused on preaching love throughout his ministry. Two of his greatest commandments are: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind” is the first and the second is “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Matthew 22:36-39

## LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE

Today we light the candle of love. Its light is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us. Jesus shows us perfect love. He is God’s love in human form. The Bible says that “God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

## ADVENT PRAYER (Unison)

**Lord, thank you for loving us so much that you gave your son for us. Please help us to see every person the same way that you see them. Help us to love them the same way that you love them. Please show us how to walk continually in Your love. Amen.**

## HYMN # 142

“People, Look East”

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Kevin Pleas

## TIME OF SILENCE

**OUR LORD’S PRAYER**

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs. 4

**ANTHEM**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 1:26-38

Tom Irving

**SERMON**

“Impossible to Possible”

Barbara Papagian

**CLOSING HYMN # 165**

“Once in Royal David’s City”

**CLOSING WORDS**

**BENEDICTION**

May you live this week with an eternal perspective.

Live as if God has come among you because he has.

Live as if God has revealed himself to you and called you to love and good works – because he has.

Live as if your life depends on God’s grace – because it does.

Go in peace to live the church.

**POSTLUDE**

“Christmas Is Coming” – Vince Guaraldi

---

**Please note: In these difficult times, we are holding you all in our thoughts and prayers. For those who are able, we are grateful for your continuing contributions to the stewardship of our church.**

---

**Hymn No. 142****“People, Look East”**

1. People, look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east: Love, the Guest is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east: Love, the Star, is on the way.
4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east: Love, the Lord is on the way.

**Prayer Response****Hymn No. 144****“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (vs. 4)**

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our God, Emmanuel.

**Closing Hymn No. 165****“Once in Royal David’s City”**

1. Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
2. Christ came down to earth from heaven, love incarnate for us all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall; with the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.
3. Jesus is our childhood’s pattern; day by day like us he grew, he was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.
4. And our eyes at least shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that child who seemed so helpless lives and reigns in heaven above; and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.