

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

CANTATA

The Cantata	“Christmas Presence” The World Awaits Your Coming We Are Here, God Is Here Tiny Miracle Angels Came to Earth One Night Call of the Magi Still They Are Here Hope, Love, and Joy to the World (Be a Christmas Presence) Go Tell It Where I Send Thee	Pepper Choplin
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CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

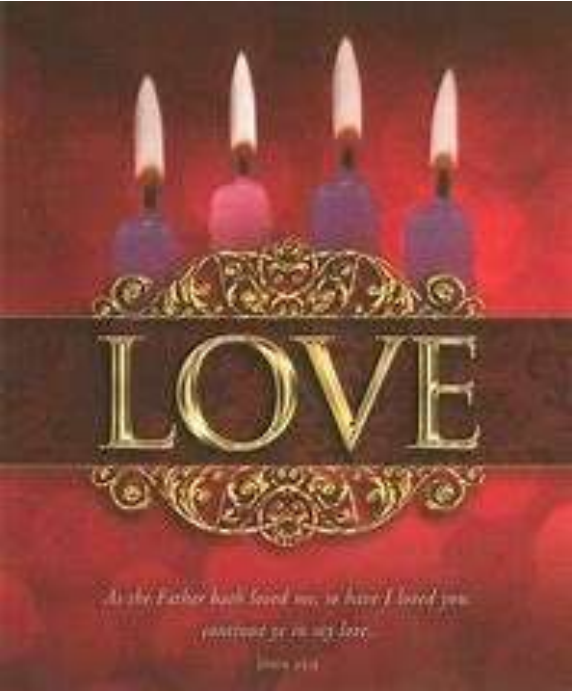
Be people of love.
Let love live in your heart and share the love of Christ with all you meet.
Share love by loving those you see regularly. Start by loving your community.
Share love by loving those you do not know. How do your actions affect the rest of God’s creation?
Share love by praying for our world.
In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share love.
As you go out into the wonder of God’s creations, share love, joy, peace, and hope with those you meet. Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	“The First Noel”	No. 245 (Refrain)
<i>Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.</i>		

*RECESSIONAL HYMN	“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”	No. 204 (sing twice)
<i>Em-man-u-el, Em-man-u-el, His name is called Em-man-u-el. God with us, revealed in us, His name is called Em-man-u-el.</i>		

*POSTLUDE	“Masters in This Hall”	arr. Mark Hayes
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WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD!



South Avenue and Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Churches

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**DECEMBER 18, 2022
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. Large Print Bulletins: We have bulletins in LARGE print available. Please ask an usher for one. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP – 10:30 AM

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ‘Where Are These Shepherds Going?’ Claude Balbastre
(As the prelude begins, you are invited to center yourself for worship)

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN “O Come, All Ye Faithful” No. 234, vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: This is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a time to rejoice in the wondrous things that God is doing.

People Our hearts are filled with the hope that is coming into the world.

Pastor: The time is fast approaching, not for parties or presence, but for the awareness of God’s loving gift to us--the gift of the Christ child.

People: Help slow us down, Lord, that we may realize that your gift of love is at the center of our lives and our celebrations.

Pastor: Thanks be to God who again reminds us of God’s eternal love.

People: Open our hearts, O Lord, to receive your blessed gift. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. AMEN.

INTROIT ‘Hark! The Herald Angels Sing’ No. 240

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY (The Candle of Love)

Pastor: The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

Pastor: The lights that we have kindled each week light the way to the coming of the Christ.

People: The candles of hope, peace, and joy glow brilliantly. Today we light the candle of love.

Pastor: Praising the God who cares so deeply for al creation, we light this candle. Together, we will demonstrate and share the love of the Christ.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE

HYMN (Tune: “Away in a Manger”) Ann Freeman Price, No. 217

*Light four Advent candles and feel all around
The love that is growing and soon will surround.
Light four Advent candles and wait for the morn
When new birth will happen and light will be born.*

PRAYER

O God of love, Emmanuel, send your light into our hearts at this time. Grant that we may so dwell in him that his perfect love fills our entire being. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD’S OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY To the Tune “What Child Is This?”

*“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Holy One, this Advent season we wait with love,

People: And we give with love.

Pastor: Love for you, our God;

People: Love for your beautiful people.

Pastor: Receive these generous offerings,

People: And use them for your works of love in our world. Amen.