

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2023

9:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome

Procession

Prelude

Lois Hunter

*Call to Worship

One: In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ's coming will bring us love.
For those who are forsaken and alone.

All: Christ will bring us love.

One: For those who are angry and hostile.

All: Christ will bring us love.

One: For those who have turned away from personal interaction.

All: Christ will bring us love.

One: For those who are pariahs, touched by scandal.

All: Christ will bring us love.

*Opening Hymn

Advent Candle Lighting

This morning we light four candles. The first candle lights the way to hope. The second is for a world at peace. The third is for the joy of anticipation as we wait for the Christ child to be born. Finally, the fourth candle warms our hearts with the love Christ will bring us.

Four purple candles are lit.

O Lord God, there is nothing greater than the love showed us when you gave your only Son to a world in dire need of his ministry. Help us to accept this love freely into our hearts so we can become more faithful vessels of your glory. We pray this in your name, O God. Amen.

*Opening Prayer

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love, and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ, our Savior, and give us the strength to grow in love that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer

Special Music

Scripture Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

*Hymn

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon

For God So Loved the World

Pastor Sam

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn

*Blessing and Benediction

*Recessional

Postlude

Lois Hunter

Pastor Sam Moore
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Pat Eikenberg, Secretary
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We invite you to keep the following people in your prayers:

Family of Kitty Alley, Joan Alsever, Family of Maryann Ayd, Family of Paulette Ayd, Miriam Baker, Tammy Baskaran, Bob Reed's cousin Lydia, Bruce Beckman, Frannie Beckman, Family of Dale Bennett, Family of Sherry Billings, Rob Brandt, Michael Brick, family of Michael Britt, Libby Bowerman, Amanda Buckley, Roy Callahan, Carolyn's daughter Debbie, JoAnn Cook, Family of Chris Davis, Steve Dawson, Family of Bill Dietz, Anna Doynov, Susan Getty, **Grace Graham**, **Shannon and Jon Grant**, Tim Eichhorn, Family of Paula Farina, Pat Finley, Taliyah Fitzgerald, Family of Baby Graham Geschke, Lynn Gibbons, Family of Karen Goles, Brenda and Georges Guerrier, Donna Hesson, Lynah Guile, Amy Humphrey, Family of Pauline Jackson, Mark Hardy, Family of Billy Hughes, Jim Hobson, Ellie Hunter, Lois Hunter, Ouita Jackson, Family of Dean Jestes, Family of Claire Kelly, Family of David Kirchner, Gene Kolnowski, Jan Lambert, Family of Patty Leupen, Laurel's Mom and Dad, Billy Lewis, Karen Martin, Ed Massey, Tiny Massey, Butch Lichliter, Lisa McClay, Family of Tom Melkus, Mary Michael, Craig Moore, Kathy Moore, Kathy Mullins, Family of Pete Murdza, Mark Nicholson, Gail Phillips Smith and Miles Smith, Michael Smith, Theresa Schmitt and the Mullins children, Larry and Jackie Paulus, Linda Playdon, Family of Linda Rice, Joyce Ritter, Bob Reed, Family of Doris Rhinehart, Dana Rosendahl, Russell Rueling, Bob Russel, Jim Bob Schultze, Family of Ed Scott, Pat Sievers, Jean Steigleman, Bob Spicher, Bob Smith, Jack Snyder, Lisa Summers, Sharon Truedel, Debbie Webb, Don Weinberg, Family of Harding Wescott, Bud Whitehead, **family of Jamie Whitehead**, family of Mary Francis Whitehead, Shannon Whitehead, Gertie Williams, Family of JoEllen Williams, Family of Reds Williams, Tom Wimsatt, Diane Withers, Family of Larry Wright, Jimmy Wylie, Family of Tony Zile

Long-term prayer concerns: Karyn Brandel, Jerry Fowler, Shirly Graham, Richard Giffin, Carrie Harrison, Robin Jones, Barbara Maury, Anna Catherine Miller, Dustin Summers, Ryan Whitehead and his family

Thank you to our Greeters and Ushers – Shannon and Ron Whitehead

Thank you to our Liturgist – Ron Whitehead

Upcoming Events

- **Sunday December 24**
 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight – GM 5:30 PM**
 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight – Emory 7:30 PM**
- **Sunday December 31 – combined service at Emory at 10 AM**