

Order of Service for the 4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Prelude "Come, All You Shepherds" arr. John Leavitt

Welcome

Call to Worship

Love deeply, creating the wells of kinship, **for in the Body of Christ we belong.**  
Love boldly, like the spirited colors of a rainbow, **for in the Body of Christ we find peace.**  
Love joyfully, like the blissful songs in the wind,  
**for in the Body of Christ we claim our connections.**

Hymn No. 103 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Hebrew Scripture Lesson Micah 5:2-5a (pew bible pg. 1445-46)

Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

Choir: *What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a Shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise One, I would do my part; Yet what can I give Him? I will give my heart.*

On this fourth Sunday of Advent we gather with great anticipation for the gift God will reveal.  
**We open our hearts to the gift of love.**

The promise of Love is the Divine Gift we receive.

**And what will we do with this gift?**

The gift of love is the essence of the birth of Christ. The Holy One wanted to be so present to us that God's spirit became flesh in order to inhabit the gifts of touching, healing, comforting, and challenging. Love is the clarion call to us as followers of Jesus. The more love we put into the world, the better the world will be.

**We light this Candle of Love as a sign that we will be Present with Love in the world.**

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shep-herd,  
I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise One, I would do my  
part; Yet what can I give Him? I will give my heart.

Gospel Lesson Luke 1:39-55 (pew bible pg. 1588-89)  
Anthem "Carol of the Advent" French Carol

Sermon

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

**Divine Light and Love, we have been weighed down by the heaviness of the season, the sorrows carried from the past, and the expectations of the present and future. We hide in shadows instead of the light. We embrace individualism instead of basking in the joy of community love. Create a new path in our hearts so that we can find levity and grace. Reconnect us with the Body of Christ instead of the distressing comfort of spiritual solitude. Amen.**

Sermon Response "I Waited on the Lord" Iona

Morning Prayers

Prayer of Our Savior

**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.**

Offering

Response "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the glorious love of heaven.  
No one discerns God's coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where yearning souls long to be whole, the dear Christ enters in.**

Prayer of Giving

**God of all joy and holy love, we delight in living in your ways as we create your realm here on earth. These offerings of talents, treasures, and time are not to appease you but to collaborate with you. As followers of Jesus, we seek your intentions and celebrate your love for us and all our neighbors. Amen.**

Hymn No. 136 "On This Day Earth Shall Ring"

Blessing

Postlude "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" arr. Eugene Hancock

**Thank you for joining us today!**

**Tuesday at 8:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** with special music from the Choir, Bell Choir, as well as Organ, Flute, and Celtic Harp. All welcome!

**Greeters:** Barbara Janczunski, Deb Barac

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Marsha & Ted Christensen

**TCC News:** Subscribe to our newsletter: [www.tccnorton.org/contact-us/newsletter/](http://www.tccnorton.org/contact-us/newsletter/)

**Ways to Give:**

- Place cash or check in the offering plate when it is passed to you.
- Give online via our TCC website: [www.tccnorton.org/giving](http://www.tccnorton.org/giving)
- Use your mobile device by downloading the free Vanco Mobile app.



**TCC Prayers and Blessings:**

Pam Holman; Sandy Anderson; Pat Wedge; Mal Haskins; Jim Stewart; Becky McGrath;  
Karen Antonio; Ed Dearborn; Margaret Blake; Lauren Penta, friend of Donna & Paul Salvas;  
Cathy Silvia, friend of Pat Hamilton; Leticia Suarez, friend of Kirk Anderson

To request an addition to TCC's Prayers and Blessings: [www.tccnorton.org/ministries/#weekly](http://www.tccnorton.org/ministries/#weekly)

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