

WE GATHER 我们相聚

Fourth Advent Candle Lighting 呼召礼文:
(the first three candles have been lit)

Voice 1: Today we are lighting the fourth candle
on our Advent wreath.
We have almost finished our waiting.
Jesus is going to be born soon!
We note, too, that it is covered in greenery
to symbolize God's love for us that is always growing.

Voice 2: The four candles are blue.
We use blue to signify expectancy.
Mary's robe is often colored blue,
and we think of Mary waiting to bear a child
that she knew was special.
The candle we light today is the candle of love.

(the fourth candle, Love, is lit)

Voice 1: Today, let us turn inside to remember that love.
Close your eyes or focus on the candle.
Voice 2: Think of love and rest in it, offer thanks for it.
Take this time to be with the love that God offers.

(a few moments of silence)

Voice 1 and 2: Jesus, help your light to shine in us as love.

Candle Lighting Carol 烛光颂歌: Hope Is a Star vs 4, VU 7

Lighting the Christ Candle 点燃基督之光

Lighting the Memorial Candles 点燃纪念烛光

✧ Carol 颂歌: The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy VU 73

Opening Prayer 始礼祷告: *The Confirmation Class*

O God, you call us to be your friends
and to make friends of others.
More even, to recognize in them our brothers and sisters,
your family in Christ.
Hear our prayers for our families

in their happiness or distress.
**Gather us up into the reconciling fire of your love,
that we may be purged of all that fosters misery,
and inducted into everything
that creates love, joy and peace. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer 主祷文: (sung)

VU 959

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
for the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Grace 赦罪宣告:

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the child leaped in her womb.
And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit." (Luke 1:41)
Through all the joys and all the struggles in our lives,
one truth is offered to each and every one of us:

**God has loved us,
is loving us
and will always love us.
May we too greet each other like Mary did.
May our *Elizabeths* be filled with
the Holy Spirit too. Amen.**

✧ Response of Praise 礼赞回应: See Amid the Winter's Snow
See amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see, the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.
Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;

**hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

Children's Carol 儿童颂歌: Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Moment of Discovery 儿童天地:

THE GOOD NEWS 福音信息

Message 证道: "Magnify Love!"

Scripture Reading: Luke 路加福音 1:39-45

Anthem 圣歌: An Advent Prayer

Allen Pote

Message 证道: "Magnify Love!" continued

WE RESPOND 我们回应

◇ Carol 颂歌: What Child is This

VU 74

The Offering

God has blessed our lives with relationships
—joy inspiring and challenging.

**In response to God's blessings in our lives,
we are now invited to share our offerings.**

Anthem 圣歌: In the Bleak Midwinter

Holst, arr. Bertalot

◇ Presentation: In the Bleak Mid-Winter

vs 4, VU 55

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him --- give my heart.**

◇ Prayer of Dedication 谢捐祷告:

Creator God,

you have blessed our lives with relationships
that both inspire and challenge.

We offer these gifts so that we might continue to build
relationships with one another
and with your whole creation.

**Bless these gifts that they may bring wholeness
and life abundance to all your people.
We pray. Amen.**

Prayers of the People 子民祷告:

Voice 1: At times it is hard to be fully present
to our siblings and others in our nuclear family
and within this Christian family.

Voice 2: Our patience may be short, we sometimes don't
really listen, we may be tired, or angry, or hungry,

or lonely, or ...

whatever it is that keeps us from loving
and caring for one another,

help us to know that you are always with us,
loving us so that we may love others.

Voice 3: But *Mary* goes to see *Elizabeth!*

We can't quite imagine what it must have been like for
Mary, to hear God's request and to respond,
unconditionally with "Yes!"

Voice 4: We have a tendency to put conditions on
everything. We want to know what we have to do,
how long this will take, what's in it for us,
what are the projected outcomes.

**Slow us down,
and cause us to take time
to really consider the wonderful ways
you have always worked in our lives.**

As we have come before you with concerns
on our hearts for our families, friends, and world,
remind us that your presence is with us
and your healing love comforts and restores us.

**Open our hearts and our ears to the cries of
those in need. Let us use our talents and
resources to help others.**

Give us courage, energy, and enthusiasm

as we work for you in this world.

(silent prayer)

God of Mary and Elizabeth,
you invite us too to reach out in welcome, support,
and care for one another.

Help us to live in relationships that seek justice, love
kindness, and ground ourselves in your love for us.

**May we love our family members
in their happiness or distress.**

**In our family, may we create more of love, joy
and peace. Amen.**

WE GO INTO THE WORLD 进入世界

◇ Carol 颂歌: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing VU 48

◇ Commissioning & Benediction 差遣礼文 & 祝福

◇ Response 祝福回应: Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Down in a lonely manger

**the humble Christ was born,
and God sent our salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.**

***Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.***

***Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.***

Postlude 殿乐: Joy to the World VU 59