

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

## WELCOME

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion toward all who call this place home.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**Mitten Tree** – Our mitten tree has been set up again in our Place of Welcome. Please help us decorate it with mittens, socks, and toques to be donated to Streets Alive

**Christmas Eve Service** – Wednesday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm with Pr Erin preaching

Christmas Day – No service

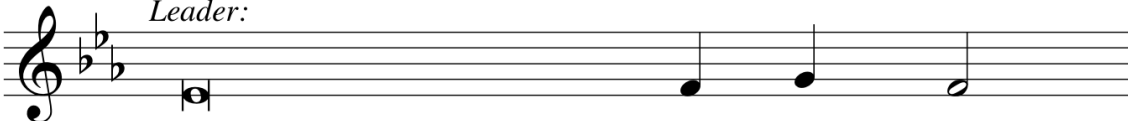
Sunday, December 28 – Christmas Readings and Carols

## (No thematic introduction during Advent)

While everything around us and in our lives seems to speak hurry up, we are invited to take a moment, to enter the wide-open space, to wait in stillness and the presence of God.

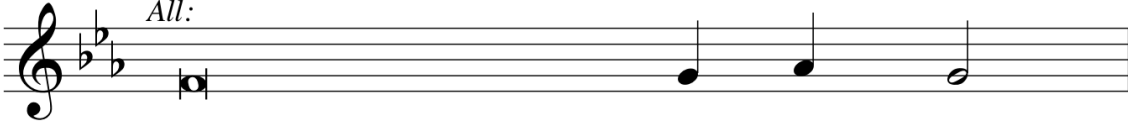
**"SERVICE OF LIGHT OPENING"** *Holden Evening Prayer*

*Leader:*



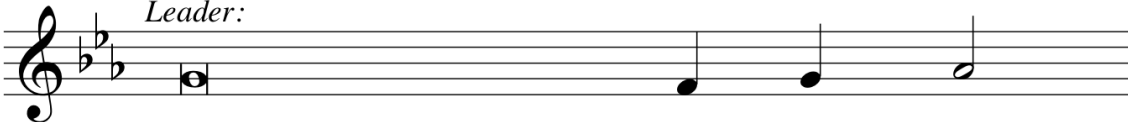
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

*All:*



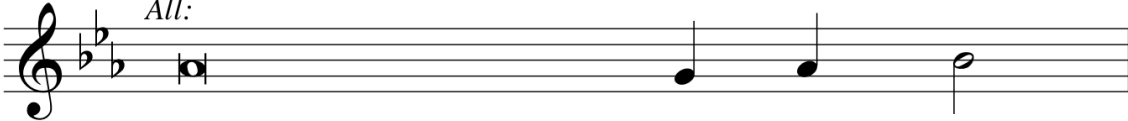
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

*Leader:*



be with us in the light of this morning

*All:*



and chase away the shadows of our fear.

*Leader:*



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

*All:*



and shine within your peo - ple here. —



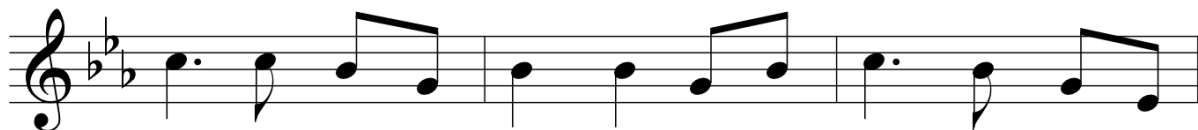
1. Joy - ous light of heav - 'nly glo - ry, lov - ing  
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the  
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's  
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and  
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as  
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that  
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



mor - ning dawns a - round us, we shall raise our songs to  
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry  
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and  
soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us  
way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new. \_\_\_\_\_  
free and make us whole. \_\_\_\_\_  
on to end - less day. \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

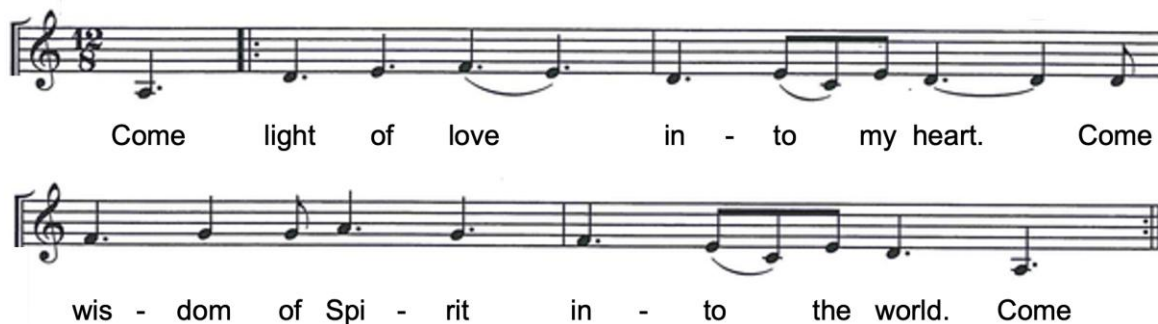
The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

It is our delight to pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING

### "Come, Light of Love"



Candlelighters (two voices)

- A: The season of Advent reminds us of the hope we have in Jesus, who came as a vulnerable child to live among us and to show us the path of peace and to bring joy to our world.
- B: We light again the candles of hope and peace and joy, because in Jesus, heaven came to earth.

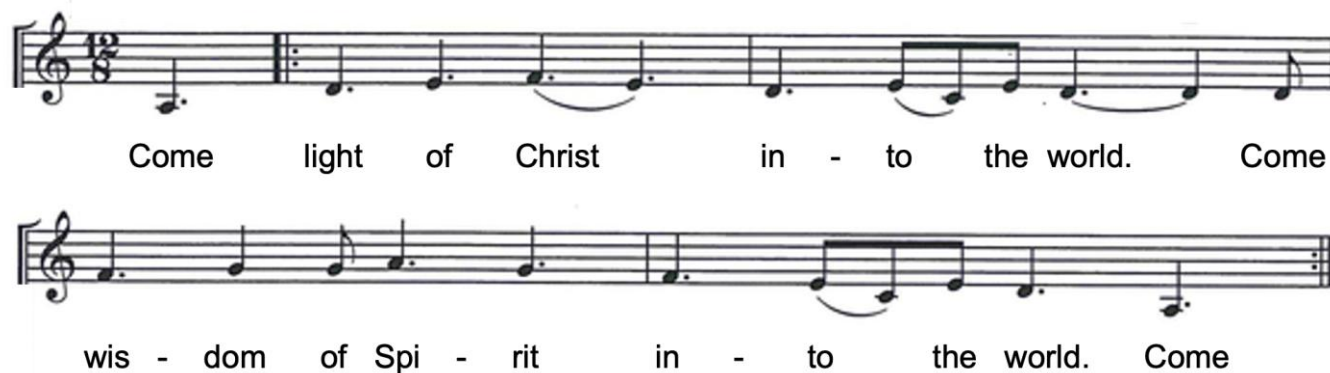
*Light the first, second, and third candles.*

- A: Love is the purpose, the reason, the source. Love is the all-in-all of Advent and Christmas. Without love, Christmas is just a resounding carol, a clanging jingle bell. But love transforms us into joyful participants in the great story of a wondrous birth.
- B: Today, we light the candle of love because God so loved the world that God sent Jesus.

*Light the fourth candle.*

- A: Jesus Christ you are the light of the world. May we have eyes to see you and ears to hear you.
- B: Come into our world today. Amen.

*Sing twice*



## WALK-ON CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 2025

### INTRODUCTION

CHERYL

Welcome to our interactive and intergenerational Christmas Pageant! We're excited to have you join us as we participate in the Christmas story. Some of you will participate with open ears and eyes, some of you may participate with your entire body!

We will be calling at specific points in the pageant for those who would like to don sheep ears or angel halos to help fill the roles in the story. There might be one sheep; there might be 10 Wise Ones! It's up to how the spirit moves us this morning!

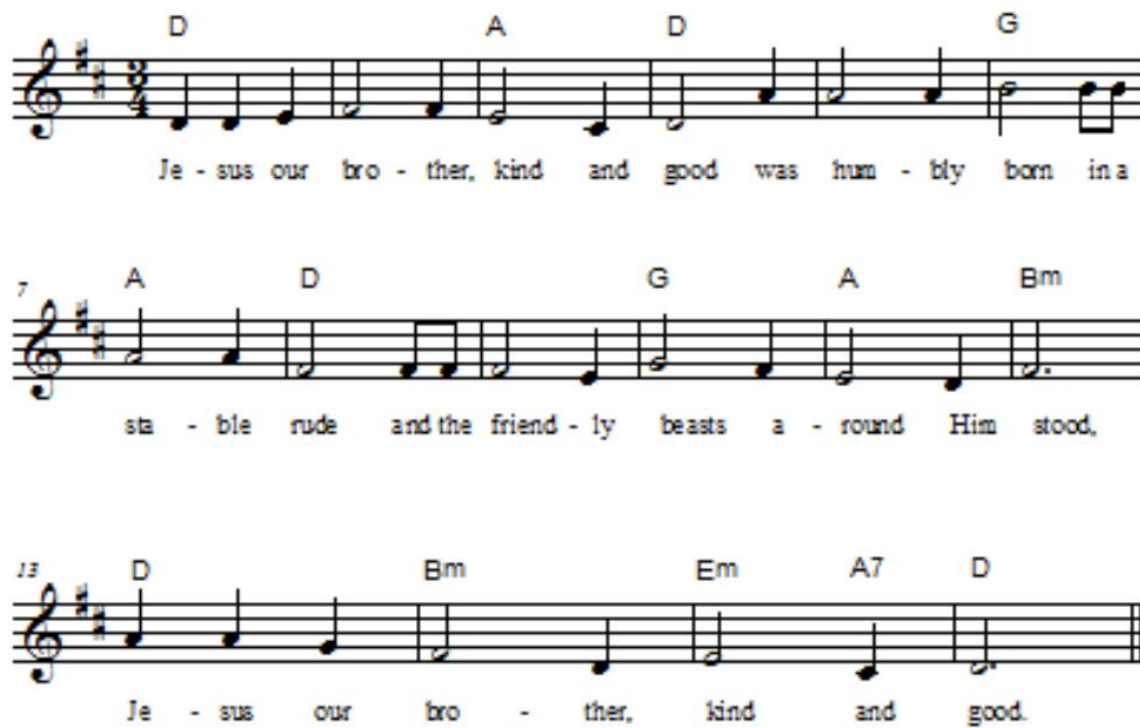
### *Part I: The Story Begins for Mary and Joseph*

**"Away in a Manger" v 1&3 ELW 277 – piano, bass, flute**



## PART II: The Animals

"The Friendly Beasts" v 1 – solo with guitar; v 2, 4, 6 – all



Je - sus our bro - ther, kind and good was hum - bly born in a

sta - ble rude and the friend - ly beasts a - round Him stood,

Je - sus our bro - ther, kind and good.

2. "I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown,  
"I carried his mother up hill and down  
I carried here safely to Bethlehem town.  
I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.
4. I," said the sheep with curly horn.  
"I gave him my wool for his blanket warm;  
he wore my coat on Christmas morn.  
I," said the sheep with curly horn.
6. Thus all the beasts by some good spell  
in the stable dark were glad to tell  
of the gifts they gave Immanuel,  
the gifts they gave Immanuel.

### **PART III: The Angels**

**"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" v 1 & 2, ELW 270—piano, bass, flute**



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

### **PART IV: The Shepherds**

### **PART V: Wise Ones and Star**

**"We Three Kings" WOV 646 – piano, bass, guitar**



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!



## PART VI: Conclusion

### "Love Has Come" ELW 292 - piano, bass, guitar



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## SENDING

Go in peace. Share the Good News! Jesus is born!

**Glory to God!**

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