



**PARISH OF THE ASCENSION  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
AND  
LESSONS AND CAROLS  
DECEMBER 18, 2022 @ 11am**

**Candlelight Procession 119 Silent Night, Holy Night**

**THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

The grace and peace of our Saviour Jesus Christ be with you,  
**And also with you.**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace,  
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now  
fill us with your grace, that we in all things  
may embrace your will and with her rejoice in  
your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

**Advent Wreath & Theme Conversation**

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent and we light the *Candle of love*, reaffirming the importance of sharing the love we have in Christ Jesus.

**A CANDLE IS BURNING**

*A candle is burning, a Flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in December's dark night.  
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.*

*A candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:  
For Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.*

*A candle is burning, a candle of joy,  
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow  
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.*

*A candle is burning, a candle of love,  
a candle to point us to heaven above.  
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,  
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.*

**Anthem: *Long Awaited One***

**THE LIGHT OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

**Reading: Luke 1: 26 - 33**

**Hymn: 89 O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

**Reading: Luke 1: 39 – 55**

**THE LIGHT OF INCARNATION**

**Carol: 123 Once in Royal David's City**

**Reading: Isaiah 9:2 - 6**

**Anthem: *A Manger so Far from Home*  
Soloist: Zachary Dawe**

**Reading: Luke 2: 1 - 7**

**Carol: 120 O Little Town of Bethlehem**

**THE LIGHT OF DECLARATION**

**Reading: Luke 2: 8 – 20**

**Carol: 136 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks**

**Anthem: *Were you there on that Christmas Night?***

## **THE LIGHT OF REVELATION**

**Reading: Matthew 2: 1 – 12**

**Carol: 139 The First Noel**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**HYMN FOR THE OFFERING: 118 O Come all ye Faithful vs. 1-4**

## **THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit  
who sanctified the mother of your Son,  
make holy all we offer you this day.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **AMEN.**

## **THE LIGHT OF CELEBRATION**

**All: Let us therefore rejoice, for God, through Christ, has made us His children of Light. We are now a reflection of His glory. As we forsake the darkness of this world, we freely choose the illumination of God's truth and grace. Let us now shine our light before all people, so that by the light of our love, they may see the glory of God in all we say and do. Amen**

**Anthem: *Angel Song "Glory to the Newborn King"***

**Lord's Prayer**

**Blessing**

**Recessional Carol: 138 Hark the Herald Angels**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

