



LOVE: The fourth Sunday of Advent – December 19, 2021

Light three purple candles and one pink candle today

ADVENT LITANY

Leader: Why light a candle that will burn out?

People: The message of this candle cannot be quenched. It speaks of love: love we do not deserve; love we can never confine; love we can never escape.

Leader: It represents the steadfast love of God, seen in the birth of the Christ Child

People: We light this candle in faith.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE

All: Prepare the way of the Lord of Love, Jesus.

Suggested Hymn: Savior of the Nations, Come (#14 in The Presbyterian Hymnal)

The Gospel reading for December 19, 2021:

Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!" ⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."

Prayer for the Fourth Sunday in Advent:

Thank You, Lord, for salvation that bathes every day in grace; eternal life that fills each day with meaning; and heavenly hope that warms our souls in the face of every trial. Hear our prayer in the Name of Jesus who became sin for us, though He Himself knew no sin, Amen.