



## POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Advent - Love

10:00 am

### Prelude

### Welcome

**An Advent Call to Worship** Written by Johana Harader

The day is near. And so we wait.

We wait with hope, for the brokenhearted to be healed, for the downtrodden to be lifted up.

**We wait for the coming of the Christ child.**

In this meantime,

We will sing into the silence.

**We will light a candle against the darkness.**

Holy God of Hope,

Give us ears to hear and hearts to trust the promises you offer to us in this season of Advent.

**As we worship together, we offer ourselves to you and we open ourselves to your abundant grace.**

Lord let our souls rise to meet you as the day rises to meet the sun.

**Glory to The Father and to The Son and to The Holy Spirit.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

### Advent Video

#### **Advent Week 4 Litany and Lighting the Advent Candle**

##### **Reader:**

Advent is about our human longings: For peace. For love. For God. Please join me in this responsive reading.

As we light the fourth advent candle, we remember that Jesus came into the world because of his love.

It was his love that made him leave heaven.

It was his love that reached out to the ones the world had forgotten.

**It was his love that drove him to Calvary. It was his love that forgave us all.**

**It is his love that heals the broken world.**

God is love and whoever lives in love, lives in God and God in them.

So, we light candles because we are waiting in the dark, watching in expectation for the author of love to come.

And we pray: **Come Lord Jesus. Open our lives so that we may be a people of love. Amen.**

### **Opening Song – Blue #164**

*“Silent Night” v. 1-3*

### **An Advent Prayer of Confession by Rev. Deborah Vaughn**

Mighty God and Prince of Peace, silently and gently falling and failing changing and resting seeking you, Lord.

**we watch, we wait, we dream, we pray**

**for the earth to renew**

**for our hearts to soften**

**for your grace to cover us**

**for your justice to pour out**

**for time and space to listen**

**for courage to act**

on the edge of Advent,

we sit with you

we pause

we hurt

we repent

we rage at the injustice, the unfairness and the inequality in the world.

**When will it be?**

**Will it ever be?**

**Come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

Lord hear our prayer.

**Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance**

Remembering the promise to reconcile the world to himself, God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ—the eternal Word made flesh.

**He is the long-awaited Messiah, one with us and one with God, fully human and fully divine, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**Christ came for us. Christ came for you.**

Friends, may the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **Living the Way of Jesus**

As followers of Jesus, our lives are shaped by his life. We are changed by the way he showed compassion and love for all people. Hear these words and participate in this meditation from Teresa of Avila.

Christ has no body but yours, No hands, no feet on earth but yours, Yours are the eyes

with which he looks Compassion on this world,  
**Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,**  
**Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.**  
**Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,**  
**Yours are the eyes, you are his body.**

Christ has no body now but yours, No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world.  
**Christ has no body now on earth but yours. Amen.**

**Duet** "Breath of Heaven" Eaton & Grant  
Leslee Ferray and Caroline Winter

### **Announcements**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

### **Offering**

**Offertory – Choir Anthem** "All Is Well" Smith/Kirkpatrick

**Doxology – Blue #174** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" v.1 & 5

**Sermon Text: John 3:16-17; 1 John 4:7-12; 16-19**

**Sermon Title: Love Has Come**

### **Our Shared Faith: From The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation His kingdom will never end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

**Closing Song – Blue #146** "Joy to The World" v. 1-4

### **Benediction**

#### **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Worship Leader:	Pastor John Burden
Liturgist:	Rick Pierce
Guest Music Director:	Scott Burzynski