

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY
ADVENT 2021
PROVIDENCE FORGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Week 1 November 28 The Hope Candle

Reader 1: The world says, "All is lost."

Reader 2: God says, "All is loved."

Reader 1: The darkness says, "The light is dying."

Reader 2: The light says, "The fire is catching."

Reader 1: Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears."

Reader 2: Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."

Candle is lit.

Lay Reader: As we light our first Advent candle.

All: We pray for the holy hope of God.

Lay Reader: Come now, O Child of Mary.

All: Come now, O Prince of Hope.

Week 2 December 5 The Peace Candle

Reader 1: A voice cries out in the wilderness,

Reader 2: "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Reader 1: A choir sings in the silence,

Reader 2: "Come, Emmanuel."

Reader 1: Every valley shall be filled,

Reader 2: Every heart shall be made whole.

Reader 1: For peace is stronger than turmoil

Reader 2: And love is louder than hate.

Candle is lit.

Lay Reader: As we light our second Advent candle.

All: We pray for the holy peace of God.

Lay Reader: Come now, O Child of Mary.

All: Come now, O Prince of Peace.

Week 3 December 12 The Joy Candle

Reader 1: "Rejoice in the Lord always,

Reader 2: Again I will say, Rejoice."

Reader 1: The world says, "Worry,"

Reader 2: And we say, "Rejoice."

Reader 1: The world says, "Be happy,"

Reader 2: And the church says, "Be faithful."

Candle is lit.

Lay Reader: As we light our third Advent Candle,

All: We pray for hope, peace, and joy.

Lay Reader: Come now, Child of Mary.

All: Come now, O Prince of Joy.

Week 4 December 19 The Love Candle

Reader 1: Isaiah spoke to a people called chosen,

Reader 2: To a tribe called Israel, with a light of hope.

Reader 1: Gabriel came to a town called Nazareth,

Reader 2: To a girl called Mary, with a light of joy.

Reader 1: Mary went to a place called Bethlehem,

Reader 2: To a stable called a nursery, with a light of love.

Candle is lit.

Lay Reader: As we light our fourth Advent candle,

All: We rejoice with Mary, for love become flesh.

Lay Reader: Come now, Child of Mary.

All: Come now, O Prince of Love.

The Christ Candle

Reader 1: "Good news of great joy," the angel said.

Reader 2: "For to you a Savior is born."

Reader 1: "Peace on earth," the choir sang.

Reader 2: "For God reigns in the highest."

Reader 1: "Follow me," the star beckoned.

Reader 2: "For Hope was born in Bethlehem."

Candle is lit.

Lay Reader: As we light the Christ candle.

All: We watch for the Christmas story around us.

Lay Reader: Emmanuel has come and is coming.

All: Come all ye faithful, and worship God.

Liturgy is from *Call to Worship*, Volume 55.1, 2021, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)