



December 21, 2025
Sunday Gathering
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

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-PRELUDE-

"And So This Is Christmas" - arr. P. Keveren
Brenda Gardiner

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-A READING-

"Teathered"
Neal Scott

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Show Up"

FEAR CAN BE A MESSAGE, FEAR CAN BE A GIFT
IF MET WITH A CURIOUS HEART.
BE NOT AFRAID OF THE FEAR THAT'S BESIDE YOU,
LET IT BE KNOWN WHO YOU ARE.

I BELIEVE THAT A GOD, BORN INTO EMPIRE
CARRIES THE MESSAGE THAT HOPE IS ENOUGH
A LITTLE BRAVE CANDLE AGAINST GROWING SHADOWS
FEARFUL OR NOT, WE SHOW UP
WE SHOW UP.

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-WELCOME-

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-A READING-

"The First Step"
Kara Erdman

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-GREETING ONE ANOTHER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Show Up"

I BELIEVE THAT A GOD, BORN INTO EMPIRE
CARRIES THE MESSAGE THAT HOPE IS ENOUGH
A LITTLE BRAVE CANDLE AGAINST GROWING SHADOWS
FEARFUL OR NOT, WE SHOW UP

WE SHOW UP.

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-LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE-

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-CALL TO WORSHIP-

Here in worship,
WE PRAY TOGETHER,
WE STAND TOGETHER,
WE SING TOGETHER,
AND LISTEN TOGETHER.

Here in worship, we are together.
WE ARE NOT ALONE.

So when life gives you reason to grieve,
reason to fear, or to worry,
REMEMBER THIS MOMENT.

We are not alone.
WE ARE NOT ALONE.
AMEN!

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-OPENING PRAYER-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"O Come, Take Heart"

O COME, O COME THOUGH TIMID AND UNSURE,
AND TRUST THAT GOD DECLARES YOUR WORTH.
REMEMBER WHEN YOU'RE FEELING SMALL
THAT EVERY CHILD OF GOD IS CALLED.

TAKE HEART, TAKE HEART!
THE ONE WHO CALLS TO YOU
WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH AND SEE YOU THROUGH.

O COME, O COME THOUGH YOU FEEL UNPREPARED,
WHEN COURAGE FAILS YOU, DO IT SCARED.
DON'T LET THE FEAR OF MAKING MISTAKES
IMPEDE YOU FROM THE PATH YOU'RE CALLED TO TAKE.

TAKE HEART, TAKE HEART!
THE ONE WHO CALLS TO YOU
WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH AND SEE YOU THROUGH.

O COME AND JOIN GOD'S KIN-DOM WORK
AND BE GOD'S HANDS AND FEET ON EARTH.
YOU'RE CALLED EXACTLY AS YOU ARE

TO LOVE THE WORLD WITH EVERY BROKEN PART.

TAKE HEART, TAKE HEART!
THE ONE WHO CALLS TO YOU
WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH AND SEE YOU THROUGH.

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-SCRIPTURE-

Luke 1:26-29 (CEB)

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

Matthew 1:18-25 (CEB)

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

*Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel.
(Emmanuel means "God with us.")*

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

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-THE MESSAGE-

Pam Lee-Miller

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"O Come, All You Faithful" (adapted)

O COME, ALL YOU PEOPLE,
ALL WHO SEEK BELONGING,
O COME, ALL GOD'S CHILDREN, BELOVED AND WHOLE.
COME TO THE TABLE,
OPEN FOR CREATION:
O COME, AND TASTE THE BREAD HERE,
O COME, AND DRINK THE WINE HERE,
O COME, AND TAKE YOUR PLACE HERE,
WHERE THERE IS LOVE.

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-INVITATION TO COMMUNION-

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-COMMUNION MEDITATION-

"O Come, All You Faithful" (adapted)

COME, ALL YOU WEARY,
COME AND FIND COMPASSION;
COME, AND DISCOVER GOD'S LOVE IN THE WORLD.

HOPE IS DISCOVERED,
AND BECOMES OUR COURAGE:
O COME, AND TASTE THE BREAD HERE,
O COME, AND DRINK THE WINE HERE,
O COME, AND TAKE YOUR PLACE HERE,
WHERE THERE IS LOVE.

COME, ALL YOU STRANGERS,
EVERY TRIBE AND NATION;
COME, EVERY VOICE AND TONGUE FROM ALL O'ER THE WORLD,
HERE WE REMEMBER
CHRIST IN EVERY NEIGHBOR:
O COME, AND TASTE THE BREAD HERE,
O COME, AND DRINK THE WINE HERE,
O COME, AND TAKE YOUR PLACE HERE,
WHERE THERE IS LOVE.

COME, TASTE THE PROMISE
OF GOD'S NEW CREATION—
TABLES MADE WIDER,
AND WALLS BROKEN DOWN.
FEAST OF BELONGING,
BREAD FOR LIBERATION:
O COME, AND TASTE THE BREAD HERE,
O COME, AND DRINK THE WINE HERE,
O COME, AND TAKE YOUR PLACE HERE,
WHERE THERE IS LOVE.

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-OFFERING-

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-IN GRATITUDE-

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-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

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-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

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-SINGING TOGETHER-

"The Servant Song"

WILL YOU LET ME BE YOUR SERVANT,

LET ME BE AS CHRIST TO YOU;
PRAY THAT I MAY HAVE THE GRACE
TO LET YOU BE MY SERVANT, TOO.

WE ARE PILGRIMS ON A JOURNEY;
FELLOW TRAVELERS ON THE ROAD.
WE ARE HERE TO HELP EACH OTHER
WALK THE MILE AND BEAR THE LOAD.

I WILL HOLD THE CHRIST-LIGHT FOR YOU
IN THE NIGHTTIME OF YOUR FEAR;
I WILL HOLD MY HAND OUT TO YOU,
SPEAK THE PEACE YOU LONG TO HEAR.

WHEN WE SING TO GOD IN HEAVEN,
WE WILL FIND SUCH HARMONY,
BORN OF ALL WE'VE KNOWN TOGETHER
OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND AGONY.

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-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

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-POSTLUDE-

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" - arr. J. Schaum
Brenda Gardiner