

## Fourth Sunday of Advent-Light of Love and Joy

### “Light of Light”

Advent is a time to celebrate the joy of living. **Lord of light, we thank you for the gift of life.** Advent is a time to celebrate the joy of relationships. **Lord of light, we thank you for our friends and family.** Advent is a time to celebrate the earth we all share. **Lord of light, we thank you for providing for our needs.** Advent is a time to celebrate eternal life. **Lord of light, we thank you for sending a Savior.**

Today we light all four candles - the candles of hope, peace, love and joy. The candle of love, (which we are lighting now) is a symbol of Christ's eternal love for us, as well as a reminder that we have been instructed to love others as we love ourselves. Because God is love, and because we were created in God's image, we ourselves are the embodiment of God's love here on earth. Love is patient and kind and powerful, and we all share the embodiment of God's love here on earth.

The fourth candle is the candle of joy and it reminds us that because of our lord, we have reasons to be truly joyful. The world around us is filled with surprise and beauty. Our cups overflow with goodness and grace and we rejoice in the promise of eternal life.

# Light of Light

Congregational Part

JOEL RANEY

Voi - ces cry out from a world in grief:

prayers of those who seek re - lief.

End their dark - ness, hear their call for

peace on earth, good will for all.

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Closing Prayer: God of light and love, we thank you for the many gifts you have given us, and we pray today that you will teach us to be truly joyful. Help us remember that you supply our need and fill our lives with meaning. Fill our days with keen awareness of your presence, and fill our hearts with praise as we celebrate the joyful Advent season. **Amen**