

December 20th & 21st – 4th Sunday of Advent

A In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

A In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Thank you for the gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, that stir our spirits to look for your birth within our own lives. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

A The earth breaks forth in singing at the coming of Jesus. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

A You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we see the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. Invigorate our hands to care for the cold, the hungry, the homeless and the lonely in honor of the Holy Child's birth. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

A When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill especially Todd, Mark, Joyce, Diane, Linda, Thomas and those we name silently or aloud. (pause) God of grace,
hear our prayer.

A Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety and care for all children and those who nurture them. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your love. Bring peace to the Pillers family at the passing of Diane. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.
Amen.