

Prince Edward North Pastoral Charge
Advent 4 - Love
December 6, 2009

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Gathering Hymn VU 315 Holy, Holy, Holy
Welcome and Announcements
The Lighting of the Advent Candle
VU 6 A Candle Is Burning (verses 1-4)

Call To Worship

Like Mary, we praise God wholeheartedly,
from the depths of our souls.

**For God has not forgotten us, insignificant as we feel
ourselves to be.**

God's name is Holy; God's compassion lasts from one
generation to another.

**God has scattered the proud, and shown that kings and
rulers are nothing special.**

God has lifted up the lowly, and given food to the hungry.

**God has kept the promises made to the people of God;
God will always be merciful. Thanks be to God!**

Hymns VU 1 O Come, O Come Emmanuel
VU 2 Come O Long Expected Jesus

Opening Prayer

God of Grace, come close to us and bless us.

As Mary was surprised by the visit of the angel,

Prepare us for the Holy, the unexpected, at this season.

As Mary carefully thought out the meaning of the angel's visit,
**Enable us to reflect on the meaning of Christ's coming for
us.**

As Mary courageously allowed God's way to become her way,
Show us how we can work in faith together.

As Mary voiced God's care for the poorest and humblest of all

people,

**Give us courage to stand beside those
who have least in the world.**

**Come close to us and bless us,
as you blessed Mary with Jesus.**

Prayer of Confession

Vulnerable God, when we gaze upon you in the starry glow of
the nativity scene we sometimes neglect to see your human
face behind the wire of confining fences.

In our busyness we may pass you by on the street corners, in
the office, the coffee shop – unable to hear your voice.

We confess that in preparing for Christmas there are times we
forget to make room for the Christ who is with us in the hungry,
the lonely, the needy, the afraid.

**Open our eyes to see you in our everyday lives. Open our
ears to hear your cries for peace with justice. Open our
hands to reach out in compassion. Open our hearts to the
possibilities of your love working in us and through us.**

Assurance of God's Love

May God's ever abiding presence kindle the embers of sacred
care and compassion deep within us as we move to the rhythm
of hopeful joy and wonder.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

Caregivers In Action

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Choir

Scripture VU 898 -899 Song of Mary
Luke 1: 39-55

Sermon

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

Hymn The Source of Hope

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offerings of Our Life's Work "Take These Gifts"

**Take these gifts and let them be
Used as blessings sent from thee
Take our lives and use us all
For your glory and your call.**

Hymn VU 64 O Little Town of Bethlehem
VU 16 Mary, Woman of Promise
VU 48 Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Amen



*"Blessed are you among women, and
blessed is the fruit of your womb!"*