

December 20, 2020

11:15a Service



4th Sunday of Advent

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (TLB)

PRE-SERVICE HYMN SING

#384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #593 Here I Am Lord #245 The First Noel

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING

The Sines Family

SCRIPTURE 1 John 4:9-11 (TPT)

9 The light of God's love shined within us when he sent his matchless Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 This is love: He loved us long before we loved him. It was his love, not ours. He proved it by sending his Son to be the pleasing sacrificial offering to take away our sins. 11 Delightfully loved ones, if he loved us with such tremendous love, then "loving one another" should be our way of life!

ADVENT HYMN

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

211

HYMN

"Love Came Down at Christmas"

242

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, the whole meaning of Christmas can be explained in one little four-letter word...LOVE. You sent your gift of pure love to us that first Christmas. Love descended from heaven to be born of a virgin. Love lay in the scratchy hay of a manger in a meager barn in Bethlehem. All of your love, God, was robed in the delicate skin of a baby and wrapped in swaddling clothes. This final week of Advent helps us to reflect on the magnitude of love that was made manifest in Jesus.

Your word became flesh and you made your dwelling among us when Jesus was born. You set aside all of the glory and splendor of heaven and chose the most humble way to enter into your kingdom. Beneath the stars, surrounded by all of the hosts of heaven, Love came. Welcomed by an earthly mother and father, shepherds and wise men, Love came. You are King and King and Lord of Lords, Messiah and Ruler of All, yet you came not as a lion but as a lamb. You came as an innocent baby whose purpose was walk this earth in complete love, and then to sacrificially give his life as an atonement for the sins of His children. Emmanuel. God with us. Love in the form of a man.

That was your plan. From beginning to end, you knew every minute of Jesus life. You knew that the cross of Calvary was waiting for Jesus, yet you still sent your only Son so that our sin debt could be paid and we could walk blameless. Father, this final week of Advent, fill our hearts and minds with the significance of that truth. Thank you, Lord, for loving us enough to send Jesus. In His precious name we pray. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON

"Mary's Song"

Rev. Rusty Belcher

The Gift of Love Advent 4

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:47-53 (RSV)

GIVING MUSIC

"A Baby Changes Everything"

Katie Brugal

Ways to give-

ONLINE at www.fumcwg.org

BY TEXT 786-627-6995

BY MAIL at 125 N. Lakeview Ave, WG, FL, 34787

Make checks payable to First United Methodist Church of Winter Garden.

DOXOLOGY

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

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BENEDICTION & POSTLUDE