

4th Sunday of Advent Readings: Love

Light the HOPE, PEACE, JOY & LOVE candles

Over the past 3 weeks, we've lit candles for HOPE, PEACE & JOY. Today we light the LOVE Candle, also called the Angel's Candle. It symbolizes God's love revealed in Christ & reminds us of the love behind God's plan of salvation.

This love is sacrificial, unconditional & eternal. Christ's birth shows us that God's love is not distant but personal. As we prepare for Christmas, we are called to embody that love in our relationships.

Too often, love is seen as "what you do for me." But God's love is different—it holds on through difficulty & perseveres. Scripture reminds us:

1 Corinthians 13:4–8 *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.*

Love is not just a feeling—it is action:

- Love is patient—it waits with grace.
- Love is kind—it responds with tenderness.
- Love endures—it perseveres through hardship.

John 3:16-17 *For God so loved the world that He gave his One and Only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.*

- How have you experienced God's love this year?
- In what ways can you show Christ's love to others during Advent?

Prayer: *Lord, we thank You for sending Your Son, a gift of unconditional love. Let Your love fill our hearts this season & help us to love others as You have loved us. May Your love guide us & shine brightly through us in all we do. Amen*