

# Board of World Mission



Advent Wreath Lighting Liturgies  
2024

## **Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle**

*LOVE through Hunger and Thirst*

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, as we anticipate the coming Christ Child, we light the candle of love.

**We rejoice that in Jesus Christ, God is with us, Immanuel.**

*(Four candles are lit.)*

John 3:16 tells us that God loved the world so much that he send his Son into the world that we might be saved.

**Great is the love God has lavished on us!**

This is how God shared love with the world:

**Jesus was sent into the world so that we  
might love through Him.**

Jesus said, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

**If we have love for each other, all people will know  
that we are Jesus' disciples.**

Contaminated water continues to cause persistent illness in many parts of the developing world. Today, families in the La Moskitia region of Honduras know of God's love because they are receiving water filters that will provide clean water for up to ten years.

**We thank God for tangible expressions of love.**

Tricklebee Café in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Essentials Café in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania are Pay-as-You-Can eateries that foster community across all socio-economic levels. They create safe, inclusive, and welcoming spaces that provide physical nourishment in the form of a great meal and emotional and spiritual wellness.

**We thank God for tangible expressions of love.**

In Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the Fairview, Bethabara, and Friedberg Congregations are working with Sunnyside Ministries to

operate a mobile food pantry that distributes food and essential household items in underserved neighborhoods.

**We thank God for tangible expressions of love.**

In this time, our congregation celebrates the light of Love in our community and through our shared ministry:

*(Speak aloud areas of work and ministry around hunger and thirst.)*

And all God's children say,

**We thank God for tangible expressions of love.**

ST. THEODULPH (151 G)

*Great love alone compelled you to leave eternal light,  
To come to dwell among us and share our common plight.  
The whole world's grief and suff'ring and earth's unspoken pain,  
your perfect hope embraces till only hope remains.*

We pray today for all God's children,

**That each one might know the hope, peace, joy, and love  
that comes from God to the world through the advent  
of the Christ Child. Amen.**

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This resource was created in 2024 as a collaboration between these Moravian agencies: The Board of World Mission, the Moravian Ministries Foundation, the Southern Province on Congregational Development, and the Interprovincial Board of Communication.

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