

Wreath Lighting Liturgies

Week 1: Sunday, November 22

Self-revealing, Self-giving God,
you come to your people
in the ordinary and the extraordinary,
in strength and in weakness.
Today, we light this candle in expectation,
knowing that once again you will draw near to us
and make yourself known
in the places where we most need
the gift of your presence.

Week 2: Sunday, December 6

God of Presence, Ever-Near One,
we are so often afraid.
We fear that your work is finished,
we fear that we are on our own,
we fear that nothing can be different,
and our fear paralyzes us.
But today,
we light this candle remembering that you say,
"Be not afraid," and invite us to participate
in your ongoing story of new and renewed
creation.

Week 3: Sunday, December 13

Child of God, God-with-Us,
you were born as we are all born,
and you lived as we all live:
among family and friends,
in a community,
in this world with all its beauty and difficulty.
Today, we light this candle
acknowledging that you step
into the physical, everyday realities of our lives
and call us to the work of revealing your creative
love in our physical, everyday lives,
among family and friends,
in our community,
and in this world with all its beauty and difficulty.

Week 4: Sunday, December 20

God of Boundless Grace and Outpouring Love,
you took the risk of showing up among us.
You chose to meet us in our pain,
to speak hope into our desperation,
to forgive our shortcomings,
and to pour out your life,
so that we might live in the light of your love.
Today, we light this candle
knowing that love is the source of all you do.
May it be ours as well.

Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.