

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B DECEMBER 20, 2020
INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

The One who created us is creating us still. The One who brought forth light in our world is shining even now. The One who began this work in us will be faithful to complete it.

Lighting of the Candles (3 Purples, 1 Pink)

Reader: We light the candle of love, thankful for God's love shown in Jesus.

***SCRIPTURE READING Malachi 3:1-4**

*** OPENING HYMN: # 2090Light the Advent Candle (Vs. 4)**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Look to the east.

People: Light is dawning this day.

Leader: Look to the west.

People: Prepare for the journey ahead.

Leader: Look to the north.

People: God is guiding our steps.

Leader: Look to the south.

People: God is shining the warmth of love in our lives.

Leader: Look to the heavens.

People: Christ is coming soon.

*** Let us pray (Congregation):**

Almighty God, you sent the Baptizer with a message of repentance and forgiveness for all humankind. Broaden our vision and open our minds to the universality of your love and mercy, so that our narrowness of mind and hardness of heart may never deprive

anyone of your good news in the coming Christ. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

229Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

Holy God, refine us with your mercy and love. Purify us with your compassion and grace. Guide us from our aimless wandering, that we might walk in your ways and live in your truth. Refine us, that we may again be people of mercy and love. Purify us, that we may again be people of compassion and grace. In your gracious love, we pray. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

242..... Love Came Down at Christmas

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The One who started this work in you will stay with you to complete it. God isn't finished with us yet, but grace is ours today and always, refining us, purifying us, forgiving us, and making us whole.

***SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 3:1-6**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: "It is time, for Christ is coming for His people soon"

*** RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 224 Good Christian Friends Rejoice**

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns

*** PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

CLOSING HYMN: # 251Go, Tell It on the Mountain

***DISMISSAL BLESSING**

1st Scripture Reading: Malachi 3:1-4 (NKJV)

“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” Says the LORD of hosts. ² “But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderers’ soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and ^[a]purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness. ⁴ “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be ^[b]pleasant to the LORD, as in the days of old, as in former years.

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 3:1-6 (NKJV)

Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² ^[a]while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight. ⁵ every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth; ⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

Please don't forget to send in your tithes and offerings to:

LeRoy UMC, 10 Trigon Park, LeRoy, NY 14482



December 20, 2020
4th Sunday of Advent

LeRoy United Methodist Church

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