

LOVE: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

By: Carlene Lenore Douglas

LEADER: This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent and today we celebrate LOVE. Over the last three Sundays we lit the candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy. Today we will light the candle of Love. On this Sunday we celebrate God's unconditional love for us, sent to the world through His Son, Jesus Christ. Let us love one another, reminded that God shows no partiality in God's love for His creatures. So, let us love the unlovable, witness God's love to those who feel unworthy of love, be hospitable to those who come to live among us, and advocate for those who feel the sting of rejection by church and society.

• (Light one pink and three purple candles.)

LEADER: Greetings, favored ones! The Lord is with you.

CONGREGATION: The Lord is with us for He sent His Son to save us. What Love!

ALL: Father, we commit to unselfishly sharing love — Your love. We accept that You are love, and You love all whom you have made. Shield us from discrimination and judgement, and mold our hearts to accept and love, just as You have loved and accepted us. May this last Sunday of Advent bring us to remembrance that Jesus will come again, and each day we live we draw closer to that day. In Jesus' name we pray, *Amen*!