



HOPE: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LEADER: In the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains. The season of Advent beckons us to turn our attention to the coming, to the expectation, to the waiting.

RESPONSE: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

LEADER: In due time, they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they study war any more.

RESPONSE: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

LEADER: The time is surely coming, says the Lord. God will establish God's reign in the earth, and in our lives. We pray that we do not sit idly by, but that we are enabled to work alongside God as co-creators.

Light one purple candle.

ALL: We light the candle of hope, and we remember our commitment to hope as a discipline. Let us wait with expectation, work with hope, and serve with an eye toward the "not-yet." Amen.