# SECOND OF SUNDAY ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVE DECEMBER 5, 2021

#### WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

**Prelude** 

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus' Name The Rev. D

The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

\*Opening #154

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI, EMMANUEL

\*Call to Worship

THE LOVE CANDLE

See, God is sending God's messenger to prepare the way.

The one whom we seek is indeed coming.

We wait for the one who refines us.

We wait for the one who purifies us.

The Lord's purifying fire burns with love for us.

The Lord's cleansing soap washes us in his love.

We light the love candle this week because, as we wait for the Lord's coming, we remember that Christ has already demonstrated his great love for us so that we can be refined by his righteousness.

When we see the love candle shining, we remember that our waiting is not empty, but must be filled with love for others. For as Christ loves us, so we must love each other.

<sup>†</sup>Reading based on Malachi 3:1-4, the Holy Bible, New International Version (NIV), © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2021 by Biblica, Inc. from Reformed Worship Number 141 (September 2021) © 2021 by Worship Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

\*Song of Faith #221

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

W ZLOBIE LEZY

\*Opening Prayer – God of Love, may your Spirit spur us to actions of love during this period of waiting. As the Son demonstrated what love requires - submission, sacrifice, and sanctification - may we emulate his ways so that the world may know of your great love. We pray through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever.

\*Songs of Praise

"Build My Life"

**Worship Team** 

#### WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Colleen Smith

The First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

The Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

**Luke 3:1-6** 

Responsorial #210

"Love Came Down at Christmas"

WHITNEY

Announcements & Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations - Collection plates are in the front and back of the sanctuary, and you can also give online.

**Offertory Special Music** 

**Children's Sermon** (Kids 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and Younger can walk to Children's Church)

**Prayer & Message** 

"What are We Waiting For?"

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

#### THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE OF THE LORD

**Invitation to the Lord's Table –** We practice *open communion*. All persons who profess faith in Jesus Christ are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. You do not need to be a member of this church or a Baptist to eat the bread and drink the cup. Please hold each gift until everyone is served, then we will feast together.

The Right Hand of Fellowship – Welcoming New Members into the Church

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer – OUR FATHER,** who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

### **Holy Communion:**

**Breaking of Bread –** The Body of Christ; The Bread of Heaven **Passing of the Cup –** The Blood of Christ; The Cup of Salvation

#### WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

\*Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

\*Hymn #174

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

TAIZÉ

\*Spoken Benediction

\*Postlude

THE LORD'S SUPPER - We celebrates the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) on the first Sunday of each month. All persons, regardless of age, race, or church affiliation, are welcome to partake of the Table of the Lord. In solidarity with our brothers and sisters, we use only non-alcoholic grape juice. Please hold each element until everyone is served, then we will feast together.





American Baptist Church USA – American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today, with approximately 5,000 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members across the United States and Puerto Rico. www.abc-usa.org



## WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

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