



Advent IV Love  
December 24, 2023

# KNOX SUNDAY WORSHIP

## ADVENT IV

December 24, 2023 (10:00 am)

♪↑ Rise to sing, as you are able

♪+ Remain seated to sing

**Prelude:** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Malcolm Archer

### Welcome and Call to Worship

♪↑ **Hymn:** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" VU 2

### Advent Candle Lighting:

**Minister:** Today, we light the fourth candle of Advent, the candle of love. This candle represents the love that shines forth from the Christ child born in Bethlehem.

**Reader:** Isaiah 7:10-16

**Minister:** God's love is made manifest in the birth of Jesus, offering us profound love and renewal.

**Reader:** Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

**Minister:** God's faithful love ensures an everlasting renewal of our spirits.

*Light the first, second, third and fourth candles.*

**Together:** As we gather by the warm glow of these candles, may we embrace the love and renewal found in the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

♪+ **Hymn:** "Hope Is a Star" (verse 4) VU 7

Love is a flame that burns in our heart,  
Jesus has come and will never depart.

When God is a child  
there's joy in our song.  
The last shall be first  
and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.

### Prayer of Love

♪↑ **Hymn:** "To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary" VU 14

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 1:26-38  
The angel Gabriel's visit to Mary.

**Anthem:** "In the Bleak Midwinter" Words: Christina Rossetti  
Music: Harold Darke  
Setting: Larry Shackley

*(The violin being played today belonged to Paul Overgaard)*

**Sermon:** Love's Arrival

**Meditative Music:** "The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came"  
(Gabriel's Message) Paul Manz

♪↑ **Offering Song:** "As with Gladness Men of Old" (verse 3) VU 81

As they offered gifts most rare  
at that manger crude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

### Offering Prayer

### Prayers of the People 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

♪↑ **Hymn:** "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" \*\* VU 44

**Commissioning and Benediction**

♪↑ **Benediction Response:** "Hope Shines as the Solitary Star" MV 220

Love shines as the solitary star,  
faith is the inner light.  
You and I together  
mirror the Light of Lights,  
and illumine the pathway home.

**Postlude:** "Angels We Have Heard on High" Dale Wood

\*\* Favourite Hymn Survey

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**Advent IV Love: December 24, 2023**

**Text:** Luke 1:26-38

**Title:** Love's Arrival

**Synopsis:** Luke 1:26-38 presents the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary, announcing the birth of Jesus. On this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, we connect Richard's experience of the bond of love he shared with his brothers during their trip to the love that transcends boundaries found in the birth of Christ. The Advent journey culminates in experiencing God's love and profound renewal.

**Worship Leaders:**

Minister: Rev. Richard Chung  
Advent Candle Reading: Colin McCarlie  
Advent Candle Lighting: Allison McCarlie  
Scripture Reader: Kimberly Cheong  
Music Director: Colleen Coulter  
Organist: Madelene Klassen  
Pianist: Colleen Coulter  
Ministry of Music: Knox Choir  
Violinist: Brandon Cheong  
Usher/Greeters: Dave Cass, Marnie Thompson  
Live-Streaming: Kevin Wong  
Webminder: Debra Danny



**KNOX UNITED CHURCH**

Mission: "We exist to love God and love our neighbours" (Matthew 22: 36-40)

Vision: "We aspire to engage our neighbours through the arts, building a community without loneliness.

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Land Acknowledgment:

We acknowledge we worship on the unceded territories of the x\_wm\_əθk\_wəy'əm\_(Musqueam), S\_kw\_x\_wú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel'il\_witulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to relating with them as covenant people of God as we continue to care for this land together.

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**“Es ist ein’ Ros’ Entsprungen”**, (Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming) Improvisation  
based on a German carol, Malcolm Archer, After the Last Verse, 200 Hymn  
Improvisations, Kevin Mayhew, 1995

**“The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came”**, (Gabriel’s Message, Basque Carol)  
arr. Paul Manz, Six Advent Improvisations, Paul Manz, Morning Star  
Publishers, 1990

**“Angels we Have Heard on High”**, French carol melody, arr. Dale Wood,  
Christmas Pipings, Yuletide Carols for Organ, Dale Wood, Sacred Music Press  
1997

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