

## The Lighting of the Advent CandleThe Comley Family

### Unison Prayer

Dear God, are we doing this right? Sometimes we are not sure. We think that we are ready for the baby to be born who will lead us in love. Show us how to love our neighbor while we wait. As we welcome the baby Jesus into the world, teach us how to be like him. Let the light of your love shine in us for all to see. Amen.

**\*\*Hymn 38**

*“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*

**\*\*Call to Confession**

**\*\*Prayer of Confession**

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. We have heard the story of the birth of Jesus so many times the wonder of his birth ceases to inspire us. Though we know this story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**\*\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

**\*\*Hymn “Gloria Patri”**

*“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,*

*as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,*

*world without end. Amen. Amen.”*

**\*\*The Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Leader:May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader:Let us share this peace with one another.

**Time with Our Youngest Saints**

### ***THE WORD***

**Unison Prayer for Understanding**

You have a history of disrupting the routine, O God. Come to us and disrupt our thinking with the reading and the proclamation of your word this day. Teach us, inspire us, challenge us for the sake of the infant Jesus. Amen.

**The Reading from the Gospels**

**Luke 2:1-20**



*The Call to Worship, the Advent Candle liturgy, and the basis of the sermon are taken from the book “Calling All Angels” by the Reverend Erin Wathen.*



***First Presbyterian Church of Lancaster***

***Order of Worship for***

# ***The Fourth Sunday of Advent***

***December 22, 2024***

*Liturgist: Ms. Addison Comley*

*Interim Organist—Mr. Jim Parrish*

*Ushers—Mrs. Amanda Marsee and Mr. Nick Marsee*

*Pastor—The Reverend Michael Denney*

***Please silence your phones prior to worship.***

## ***THE GATHERING***

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

**\*\*Call to Worship**

Liturgist: Lord, we are ready and waiting!

**People: The tree may not be perfect, the gifts may not be wrapped, the house is still a mess, but Lord, we are ready!**

Liturgist: The earth cries out for a savior, and we are waiting for love to be born.

**People: All is not calm, all is not bright...we are so ready for love to live among us in the flesh.**

Liturgist: Come as you are, says the Lord. Arise and shine, for your light is coming.

**People: Come, Lord Jesus. We may not be prepared, but we are ready. Let your light of love shine in the darkness.**

**\*\*Prayer of the Day**