



**Worship Service for December 19, 2021  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

<b>Prelude</b>	Marshall Davies
<b>Chiming of the Hour</b>	Marcy Schmich
<b>Welcome</b>	Pastor Mak
<b>Centering Moment</b>	Pastor Mak
<b>Call to Worship</b>	Marcy Schmich

LEADER: In Advent we watch and wait.

**ALL: We prepare to welcome the Christ Child into the world.**

LEADER: Come, Holy Child, come!

**ALL: In Advent we prepare for a life of discipleship.**

LEADER: We watch for signs of God's presence breaking into the world.

**ALL: Come, Holy Child, come!**

LEADER: We watch for signs of God's Divine Nature in each of us.

**ALL: Actions of compassion and grace toward each other and creation.**

LEADER: Come, Holy Child, come!

**ALL: Come, Holy Child! Remind us of our divine essence and holy calling to love.**

**Kidz Korner**

Pastor Mak

**Hymn**

Congregation

**TNCH #135** "O Come, All You Faithful" vs. 1&3

O come, all you faithful,

Joyful and triumphant,

O come now, o come now

To Bethlehem.

Come and behold

The ruler of all angels:

O come in adoration,

O come in adoration,

O come in adoration:

Christ is Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,

Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all you messengers  
Of heavenly love:  
“Glory to God,  
All glory in the highest”:  
O come in adoration,  
O come in adoration,  
O come in adoration:  
Christ is Lord.

### **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Renee & Lacy Zapata

### **Biblical Witness**

Marcy Schmich

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, and has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands

grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; God will rejoice over you with gladness, will renew you in love; God will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

## **Contemporary Witness**

Pastor Mak

### Love's Wild and Worldly Promises

(excerpt) by Rev. Gail Doktor

God's love is subversive and wild, untameable and irresistible. It is a love that makes possible what seems impossible, because God is not only great, God is good. Good to us. And God shows up, and draws near, and loves us in spite of our flaws and failings and sins as mere humans, simply because God loves us. We cannot earn or deserve such grace. God comes to us, precisely because we are broken humans, who need such love. God does for us, what we cannot do for ourselves. ...

We should tremble that we dare to light this candle. That we dare to desire this love. It will change us. Then, I suppose, we ought to go ahead and laugh and take the chance. Set

the flame to the wick. Send up the invitation. Admit the expectation

**Reflection**                      “Expectant Love”                      Pastor Mak

**Special Music**    Plymouth Choir  
“Love Came Down at Christmas”

**Pastoral Prayer**    Pastor Mak

**Unison Prayer**    Congregation

**Together we defy the darkness by being the Light. We make violence tremble by being peacemakers. When chaos and trauma cause distress, we counter by reaching for love and remembering joy. This day, when people are going hungry, give us bread to share. This day, when people are angry and hurtful, give us forgiveness to offer. When there is so much temptation to be selfish and careless, this day give us the strength to be kind and intentional. As we wait and prepare to celebrate the birth of a holy child, remind us that we are**

**all born holy and deserve love and tenderness. In the many names of Love, may it be so.**

**Invitation to Offering**

Marcy Schmich

**Offertory Music**

Marshall Davies

**Doxology**

Congregation

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God all Creatures here below.**

**Praise God for all that love has done.**

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit One!**

**Amen!**

**Offertory Prayer**

Marcy Schmich

LEADER: Even during Advent, a time set aside for waiting, it is often very hard for us to wait. Our world worships the power that acts quickly through force.

**ALL: The time, talent, and treasure of this offering is a way for us to act. A way for us to bring the Beloved Kin-dom here to earth.**

LEADER: We open our hearts and spirits to new birth and transformation.

**ALL: We commit what we have gathered to help us  
sow seeds of love into the world**

**Hymn**

**Congregation**

**TNCH # 126** “Angels, From the Realms of Glory” vs.1-3

Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;  
As you sang creation’s story,  
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, give thanks and sing.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o’er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the infant light:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, give thanks and sing.

Sages, leave your contemplations,

Brighter visions beam a-far;  
Seek the great Desire of Nations,  
Guided by Christ's natal star:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, give thanks and sing.

**Benediction**

Pastor Mak

**Postlude**

Marshall Davies