First Sunday of Advent: Hope in God's Salvation

Reader 1: On this First Sunday of Advent, we remember that we have hope in God's Salvation.

We light this candle to remind us of the hope that we have in God.

God, You have always shown Your people throughout history a way to be saved. A way to turn away from sin and to live with You. Thank you that we have this hope in Jesus. When our lives are going well, and even when our lives are difficult, help us to hope in Jesus.

Today's Bible passage is Hebrews 10, verse 23: "Let us hold firmly to the hope we claim to have. The God who promised is faithful." (NIRV)

We say together:

We eagerly wait for God.

We pray that you would bring Hope, Love, Peace, Joy and Light this Christmas and forever. Amen.

Second Sunday of Advent: Love is God's message

Reader 1: We re-light this candle to remind us of the hope we have in God's salvation.

Reader 2: On this Second Sunday of Advent, we light this candle to remind us that God's message is Love.

God, we thank You for your message of Love, the Bible. Thank You that you gave Yourself for us because You love us. Thank you that call your people away from evil and You help them to turn to good and to love the poor. Thank you that you love all people. Help us to share your message of love.

Today's Bible passage is Isaiah 54, verse 10. Here we read that God says, "my heart of steadfast, faithful love will never leave you, and my covenant of peace with you will never be shaken,' says Yahweh, whose love and compassion will never give up on you." (The Passion Translation)

We say together:

We eagerly wait for God.

We pray that you would bring Hope, Love, Peace, Joy and Light this Christmas and forever. Amen.

Third Sunday of Advent: Peace is God's destiny

- Reader 1: We re-light this candle to remind us of the hope we have in God's salvation.
- *Reader 2:* We re-light this candle to remind us to remind us that God's message is Love.
- Reader 3: On this Third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle to remind us that God's destiny for us is peace.

God, we thank you that your destiny for us is peace. You call us to repent, in order to bring us back to your love and to be at peace with you. Help us to share your peace. Help us also to bring peace in this world to those who are distressed because of evil or injustice.

In Romans 5, verse 1 we read, "since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us."

We say together:

We eagerly wait for God.

We pray that you would bring Hope, Love, Peace, Joy and Light this Christmas and forever. Amen.

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Joy is God's heart

- Reader 1: We re-light this candle to remind us of the hope we have in God's salvation.
- Reader 2: We re-light this candle to remind us to remind us that God's message is Love.
- Reader 3: We re-light this candle to remind us that God's destiny for us is peace.
- Reader 4: On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle to remind us that God's heart is joy.

God, we thank you that your heart is full of joy and you share that joy with us. We celebrate that your son, Jesus came to our world. Help us to find joy in Jesus even when we are going through struggles and problems. Jesus found joy in you. Please help us to know joy in our relationship with you too.

Today's Bible passage is Romans 5, verse 13: "May the God, who gives hope, fill you with great joy. May you have perfect peace as you trust in him. May the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with hope."

We say together:

We eagerly wait for God.

We pray that you would bring Hope, Love, Peace, Joy and Light this Christmas and forever. Amen.

Christmas Day: God's presence is Light

- Reader 1: We re-light this candle to remind us of the hope we have in God's salvation.
- *Reader 2:* We re-light this candle to remind us that God's message is Love.
- Reader 3: We re-light this candle to remind us that God's destiny for us is peace.
- *Reader 4:* We re-light this candle to remind us that God's heart is joy.
- Reader 5: On this Christmas Day, we light this candle to remind us that Jesus is the Light who has come into the world.

God, we thank you that you came into the world as a light shines in the darkness. You bring hope by your offer of salvation. You are a gift from God — the message of God's love. You make forgiveness possible which brings peace. You are joy in our hearts.

John 8, verse 12: "Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life."

We say together:

Jesus has come!

We pray that you would bring Hope, Love, Peace, Joy and Light this Christmas and forever. Amen.