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MILE ROAD

## LITURGY & SONGS – December 22, 2019

### Reflection Quote:

“We build too many walls and not enough bridges.” -Isaac Newton

### 1<sup>st</sup> Candle of Advent:

Leader: Hope is a future confidence based off of past faithfulness. It is not unfounded but rather the proper outlook because of God’s perfect track record through the ages. As we look back at Jesus, we look forward with hope.

All: Therefore, preparing your minds for action and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be bought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:13)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Candle of Advent:

Leader: Peace is wholeness, flourishing. It is available to us now as an internal reality, even when the wind and rains rage around us. One day our king will establish peace as an external reality – a shared experience for the whole created order.

All: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever. May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace! (Psalm 29:10-11)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Candle of Advent:

Leader: Joy runs deeper and truer than happiness. It is strong and buoys the soul when happiness is not an option. It is not circumstantial, rather it is the state of a heart that has been flooded with God’s presence.

All: And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. (Luke 2:10)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Candle of Advent:

Leader: Love is a settled commitment to the good of another. It is considering others above yourself. Love is costly and it is beautiful. It is central to the character of the living God and the primary marker for the person who has genuinely encountered the Christ.

All: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have loved for one another. (John 13:34-35)

### Christ Candle of Advent:

Leader: Jesus Christ is the root of our hope, peace, joy and love. He is our Savior and King. The light of the world come to illumine our lives.

All: In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5)

### Benediction:

People of God, remember that you were at one time separated from Christ, alienated and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Amen and amen. <Based on Ephesians 2:11-14 and Romans 15:7>

## SONGS

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

O Come O Come Emmanuel

What Child Is This?

O Come All Ye Faithful

Silent Night