



**Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love**  
**TFWS#2071 “Jesus Above All Names”**

**Call to Worship**

L: Stop. Listen. Pay attention. Love is coming near.

**P: We wait in the love of the coming Messiah that transforms us.**

L: The Hope Bringer, Peace Maker, Joy Sustainer grows in a womb, preparing to be born among us.

**P: We wait in the love of the coming Messiah that transforms us.**

L: We long for the coming of the Child who will transform the world, bringing justice where injustice reigns, fullness where hunger persists, and favor to the ones the world calls lowly.

**P: We wait in the love of the coming Messiah that transforms us.**

L: Let us join our voices and our lives in magnifying God, our Savior!

**P: We come to wait and to declare the coming of the Love that transforms us! Amen.**

**Opening Prayer**

In the rush of preparation for the holiday celebration, we come to this place to be fed by God. We need the hope, peace, joy, and love that this season represents. Open our hearts this day, Lord, to receive the words and the blessings, to be fed, and then to be those who will share with others as you have shared with us. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

**Silent Prayer of Confession**

**Opening Hymn “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” UMH#229**

**Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Children's Time**

**The Apostles' Creed**

**UMH#882**

**Scriptures**

**Julie Ratka**

**Luke 2:1-7**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

**Philippians 2:5-11**

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**