

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY **O Come, O Come Emmanuel** **Jack Brooks**

***DOXOLOGY #607**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

—Sending—

***HYMN #187** **Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE **Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates** **Jack Brooks**

You may be seated after the light passes you in the aisle.



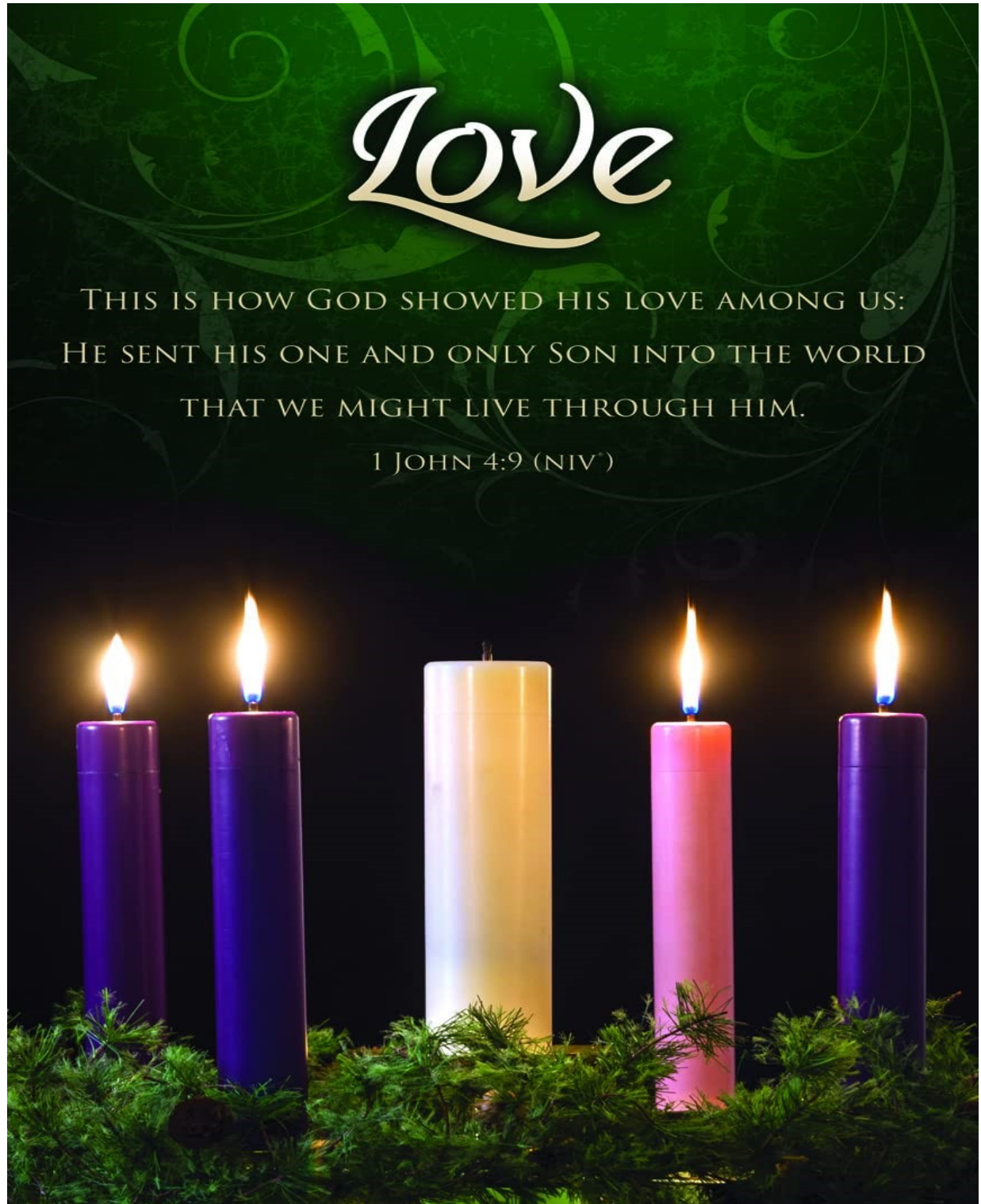
Debbi Ricci.....Admin. Assist.
Jack Brooks Guest Organist



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



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(* Please rise in body or in spirit

Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

First Presbyterian Church, Henderson, TX
4th Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024

— Gathering —

PRELUDE
WELCOME

Jesus Loves Me

Jack Brooks
Liturgist: John Hillin

CALL TO WORSHIP (Luke 1:46)

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
With Mary, our spirits rejoice, and we sing God's praise.
Let us honor God with our worship this fourth Sunday of Advent.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

*HYMN # 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

CONFESSION

Soon we will celebrate the Prince of Peace, but we are not a people at peace. We glorify violence and dismiss the pacifist as weak. We dominate and demean turning dialogue into debate. We wage war with enemies and invest in self-defense before giving non-violent strategies a chance. Lord, forgive us. Help us work towards your peaceable kin-dom, where swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI #581

*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.*

—Word—

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:1-8

Bible p. 32, LG p. 42

The word of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

Bible p. 627-628, LG p. 816-817

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Make a Highway

Rev. Evan Dolive

—Response—

*HYMN # 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Book of Common Worship, Colossians 1:15–20)

*Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.
He is head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning,
the firstborn of the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...together in peace. *Come, O Come Emmanuel*

...from your love...*Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

...grant them hope...*Come, O Come Emmanuel*