



*Bellflower UMC*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

## ENTRANCE

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

230. O Little Town of Bethlehem, v1

John 15:12: "My command is this:  
Love each other as I have loved you"

## PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

### ADVENT CANDLE<sup>1</sup>

*Reader One:* When the people were looking for deliverance, the prophet Micah declared, "But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient day." (Micah 5:2). But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming, "But you, O [fill in name of church or community], from you shall come forth for me..." What? What might God be calling forth from us?

**Love, love, love,**

**May Earth be filled with love.**

**The love of God that knows no ending,**

**Blessings of love that God is bringing.**

**Love, love, love,**

**May Earth be filled with love.**

*Reader Two:* We light this candle of love as a sign of our commitment to live as people of God's promise, a

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<sup>1</sup> Text by Dr. Lisa Hancock. Copyright Discipleship Ministries.  
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promise of salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from God's love for all creation.

*Light four candles of the Advent wreath.*

## HYMN

246. Joy to the World

239. Silent Night

*John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"*

## CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:16-20 (NIV)

### 23. O Little Town of Bethlehem

*Refrain:*

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!**

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

*Refrain:*

**Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.**

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

*Refrain:*

**Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.**

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Incline Thine ear to us,

and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Micah 5:2-5a

*From Bethlehem comes a ruler*

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-55

*"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior"*

DISCUSSION

PEACE & OFFERING

DOXOLOGY - #95

1 John 4:19: "We love  
because he first loved us"

THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*1 Peter 4:8: "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins"*

## SENDING FORTH

### BLESSING

Love is patient and kind; God is love.

Love does not envy or boast; God is love.

Love always protects, always trusts,  
always hopes, always perseveres; God is love.

Go with God. Go with love.

### CANDLES

**Go Now In Peace**

*1 John 4:7-9: "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love"*

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Do you prefer using an electronic version of the bulletin? You can view this week's bulletin at <https://tinyurl.com/2s8ky54h>. If you use the electronic version, please let Pastor Rob know.



Bellflower UMC spreads God's love within our church family and throughout our communities and world using our prayers, our gifts and our service; thus to become a shelter of love and a community of compassion..

To learn more, visit [facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC](https://facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC)

If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob (309-722-1500, [rob@methodist.cc](mailto:rob@methodist.cc))

## ***Every Day With Jesus***

This year we follow a Bible reading plan called “Every Day With Jesus”. With four short readings each day, we will have read the entire Bible by the end of the year.

12/22/24	Joel 3:1- Amos 2:16	Psalm 143:1-6	Proverbs 30:21-23	Revelation 7:1-17
12/23/24	Amos 3:1-5:27	Psalm 143:7-12	Proverbs 30:24-28	Revelation 8:1-9:12
12/24/24	Amos 6:1-8:14	Psalm 144:1-8	Proverbs 30:29-33	Revelation 9:13-10:11
12/25/24	Amos 9:1- Obadiah 21	Psalm 144:9-15	Proverbs 31:1-3	Revelation 11:1-19
12/26/24	Jonah 1:1-4:11	Psalm 145:1-7	Proverbs 31:4-7	Revelation 12:1-18
12/27/24	Micah 1:1-4:13	Psalm 145:8-13	Proverbs 31:8-9	Revelation 13:1-18
12/28/24	Micah 5:1-7:20	Psalm 145:14-21	Proverbs 31:10-12	Revelation 14:1-20
12/29/24	Nahum 1:1-3:19	Psalm 146:1-10	Proverbs 31:13-14	Revelation 15:1-16:11
12/30/24	Habakkuk 1:1-3:19	Psalm 147:1-6	Proverbs 31:15-17	Revelation 16:12-17:8
12/31/24	Zephaniah 1:1-3:20	Psalm 147:7-14	Proverbs 31:18-19	Revelation 17:9-18:8
01/01/25	Haggai 1:1- Zechariah 1:21	Psalm 147:15-20	Proverbs 31:20-22	Revelation 18:9-24
01/02/25	Zechariah 2:1-6:15	Psalm 148:1-6	Proverbs 31:23-25	Revelation 19:1-21
01/03/25	Zechariah 7:1-10:12	Psalm 148:7-14	Proverbs 31:26-27	Revelation 20:1-21:4
01/04/25	Zechariah 11:1-14:21	Psalm 149:1-9	Proverbs 31:28-29	Revelation 21:5-27