

*LEADER: We light the candle of love to remind us that Jesus is God's gift of love to us - and that in him, the light of love triumphs over darkness.*

**PEOPLE: Love never fails - it transforms all those who give it and receive it. God calls us to share his love with each other.**

## *Lighting The Christ Candle*

*LEADER: We light the Christ candle to remind us that the light of the world was born this night.*

**PEOPLE: Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God is born this night.**

*LEADER: May this light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds.*

**PEOPLE: May the hope, the peace, the joy, and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem this night fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do.**



## *The Advent Candle Wreath*

Christ is the light of the world – and the candles are to represent that light. Please join us today in our responsive reading as we relight the Advent candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love; and as we light the fifth candle, the Candle of everlasting light...The Christ Candle.

*LEADER: We gather to celebrate the birth of the one who is the light of the world.*

**PEOPLE: We are here to worship God and his Son Jesus, born this night in Bethlehem of Judea.**

*LEADER: We light the candle of hope to remind us of the promises made by all the prophets that God would raise up a savior for his people Israel.*

**PEOPLE: Christ is our hope and our salvation. He calls us to share our hope in him with each other.**

*LEADER: We light the candle of peace to remind us that it is only with God and by following in his path that true peace can be found.*

**PEOPLE: Christ brings the peace of God to us. He calls us to share the peace he gives with each other.**

*LEADER: We light the candle of joy to remind us that God gives joy to every heart that abides in him.*

**PEOPLE: As Mary rejoiced in the birth of Jesus - so his birth brings us joy. God calls us to share the joy he gives with each other.**

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