

Light the Advent Wreath

**All: Watch! Wait! The day of the Lord is at hand. Prepare ye the way of the Lord!
We eagerly await the light of Jesus to reach all who walk in darkness!**

Reader: We light first the candle for Love and remember that God sent Jesus to light our world with God's love.

Reader: We light second the candle for Peace and remember that God sent Jesus to light our world with God's peace.

Leader: As we light the candle for Joy, we remember the shepherds. The night that Jesus was born, shepherds were watching over their flocks in the darkness. Angels appeared to the shepherds, bringing "good news [to] cause great joy for all the people." (Luke 2:10) Jesus had been born, and he was lying in a manger! When the angels left them, the shepherds ran to Bethlehem, found Baby Jesus, and then spread the good news of this great joy with everyone they met. Then, "the shepherds went back full of joy. They thanked God for all they had heard and seen. It happened as the angel had told them." (Luke 2:20)

All: God sent Jesus to light our world with His joy.

Leader: "[God] will yet fill your mouth with laughter and your lips with shouts of joy."
(Job 8:21)

Musical Response:

Why did He come?

He came down that we may have joy;

He came down that we may have joy;

He came down that we may have joy,

Hallelujah forever more.