Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love

As the family comes forward to light the wreath, everyone please sing together:

Advent Song # 2090 (Sing the Faith) - Verse 4

Family:

Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy!

We light this candle in joy!

We light this candle with love.

[light the first candle]

[light the second candle]

[light the third (pink) candle]

Out of love for the people of God, the Lord speaks through the prophet Isaiah, as found in the seventh chapter, verses 10-14:

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel."

Let us pray: (in unison)

God of hope,
Prince of peace,
Jubilee Judge,
and Lord of love,
your goodness is beyond our wildest imaginings.
You give us more than we can think to ask,
coming to us with impossible possibility
in the union of flesh and spirit.
Teach us to love this world and all people
as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
God of promise, God of hope,
into our darkness come.