## Advent 2015 Readings Cornerstone Congregational Church

The following advent is adapted from: <a href="http://www.lnwhymns.com/">http://www.lnwhymns.com/</a> <a href="http://www.lnwhymns.com/">LightingAdventCandles.aspx</a> (Accessed: 11.24.15)

\*Please enjoy below

## Week 1 - Hope Nov 28, 2015

Today we begin our celebration of Advent. On the four Saturdays leading up to Christmas, we will rejoice in the great gift that is ours in Jesus Christ.

To help us celebrate, we will be lighting the candles of the Advent wreath. The candles signify that Jesus is the Light of the World. The evergreens remind us that He is life and brings life to us. All these are arranged in a circle because life in Christ has no end.

Each Saturday we will light an additional candle. Then on Christmas Eve, we will light all the candles, including the center one, the Christ candle. As we do, we will rejoice that Christ has come to us. He is Immanuel...God with us.

On this first Saturday of Advent, we light the candle of hope.

Hope is our assurance that God will finish all He has started. Hope is our confidence that He will do all He has promised.

All the promises of God are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. He is our hope, today and forever!

## Week 2 - Peace Dec 5, 2015

On this second Saturday of Advent, as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ, we light the candle of peace.

Jesus Christ is our peace. He is the Prince of Peace, and the fruit of His presence is peace.

Christ comes to bring justice, wholeness, and harmony to every relationship throughout all creation. He wants to grant us spiritual peace in all of life.

We experience peace through Jesus' work on the cross. Christ's sacrifice grants eternal peace between God and people. We know peace by knowing Jesus.

Jesus, we pray, guide our feet into the path of peace.

Week 3 - Joy Dec 12, 2015

On this third Saturday of Advent, as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ, we light the candle of joy.

When Christ comes into our lives, He brings the fullness of joy. He fills our hearts with praise and gladness.

When Jesus was born, the angels said that His coming was good news of great joy for all people.

Because Christ has come to us, we can live every day in the joy of the Lord. Praise to His name!

Week 4 - Love Dec 19, 2015

On this fourth Saturday of Advent, as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ, we light the candle of love.

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us!

This is how God showed His love: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him.

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

A new command I give you: Love one another.

As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.

## **Christmas Eve - Christ**

Dec 24, 2015

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus and rejoice in His coming to us, we light the Christ candle.

Jesus Christ is our hope. He is our peace. Jesus Christ is our joy. He is our love

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.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift, Jesus Christ!