

Fourth Sunday in Advent: LOVE

Reader: In this season of Advent, we celebrate God's love.

All: Soon we will welcome the beautiful and radical love of God as Jesus Christ comes to live among us.

Reader: We embrace our identity as God's beloved children and let this truth guide our decisions and relationships.

All: In our homes and in our church, we offer hospitality, welcoming those we don't know, those who are in need, and those who are different from us.

Reader: We demonstrate our care for creation in real and tangible ways through the products we buy, the food we eat, and the way we live every day.

All: Together, we are a sign of God's love for the world.

The candle of love is lit.

Unison Prayer: God of extravagant generosity, in Jesus we discover the depth of your care and the lengths you will go to save us. Forgive us when we ignore those in need, trample your creation and refuse to share all that we receive from you. Teach us to love our neighbours, caring for each other in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Written by the Rev. Kristine O'Brien (Director of Crieff Hills)

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A Mother's LOVE

In Afghanistan, Murzia had experienced several difficult pregnancies, including two miscarriages.

When Murzia learned that she was pregnant with her fourth child, she was determined to have a different experience.

In Afghanistan, late-night deliveries are often not attended by health care professionals. Even during times when medical staff are available, many women do not have the transportation or finances necessary to access their services.

Murzia's determination paid off when one of her peers advised her of an affordable treatment option, close to her home.

She decided to visit the PWS&D-supported health centre. There, she was able to receive months of neonatal support and was assisted with a prompt and hygienic delivery of a healthy baby boy by the dedicated staff.

"I am a very happy mother. My newborn is healthy, and my health has improved, too," Murzia enthusiastically shared.

This Advent season help mothers deliver healthy babies with access to safe, clean and affordable maternal health services.

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