

Week Four “Love”

“Welcome to the fourth week of Advent or the season of anticipation! Last week, we were reminded of the joy of knowing Jesus is our savior.”

(Light Two Purple Candles and the Pink Candle)

“The third week of Advent is ‘Love.’ Agape love is God’s love toward humanity. Agape is a new word that’s only found in the New Testament, and Jesus uses it to describe God’s perfect love for the world.

God has always been loving toward His children. I invite you to listen to Psalm 136, the hymn of love.

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever;

to him who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever;

to him who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures forever; to him who spread out the earth above the waters, for his steadfast love endures forever;”

(Psalm 136:1–6, ESV)

“The prophet Hezekiah penned Psalm 136 as a call to remember God’s saving love and mercy. Jews throughout the centuries have used this psalm to be reminded that God’s love endures forever. Christmas marks the pinnacle of that saving love because Jesus, the Savior, comes into the world.

The Golden verse John 3:16 marks this love for us.

‘For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.’ **(John 3:16, ESV)”**

(Light the final Purple Candle)

“As many times as we have said that faithful verse, let’s remember again this morning that when Jesus arrived as a baby on earth, it was because God’s steadfast love endures forever!

Will you pray with us?

Thank you, God, that your love for us endures forever. You love us in the best and worst times. You have loved us from the beginning of time. Jesus, your willingness to come to earth, to live, suffer, die, and be resurrected shows us God’s saving love! Help us try our best to love you in return. We ask this in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.

God’s Steadfast Love Endures Forever, Merry Christmas!”