

All: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Neil: This is how light came into the world.

Hal: God made everything.

Jon: And He said it was good.

(Hallie lights first candle)

(A minute or two of silence: a time to think quietly)

Kim: God made people. He made each of us.

Neil: He made each of us different, with things we love and things we're good at.

Hal: He made us like him. We can think and feel and create.

Jon: We can love and help and serve.

Neil: But we are also NOT exactly like him, because he is perfect and holy. We make mistakes, and sometimes we hurt each other and ourselves.

Kim: Sometimes we think we can do things better than God can, and we ignore what he has told us. This is sin, and it separates us from God.

Jon: This is how darkness came into the world.

Hal: But John 3:16 says... *(read scripture)*

Kim: God had a plan to make it possible for us to not be separated from him, even though we aren't perfect and we aren't holy. This was God's plan to bring true light into the world.

(Jonathan lights the second candle)

Neil: read Isaiah 9:2, 6

(A minute or two of silence: a time to think quietly)

Neil: This is why we can pray to God and know He hears us.

Hal: This is how we know we can be forgiven, and we can forgive others.

Jon: This is how we have hope.

(Neil lights third candle)

Hal: reads Psalm 33:1-11

Kim: reads Psalm 33:12-22

(A minute or two of silence: a time to think quietly)

Neil: prayer

Hal: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord's face shines upon us tonight. The Lord will give us peace. Amen.

All: Thanks be to God.