

**Devotion, Week of December 24, 2023**  
**Rev. Jeanne Simpson**

**Love**

We sang the hymn "Love Has Come!" this past Sunday to celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent theme of love, and Christmas Eve. The first verse is about the birth of Jesus:

Love has come – a light in the darkness!  
Love explodes in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;  
Hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!  
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

The last verse, however, is meant for us to take the gift of Christ and carry on after this season of Advent:

Love has come – He never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us;  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;  
Love! Love! Praise to You, God on high!

I hope this week you will take some time to reflect on the lasting gift of our Savior to us. His love never ends, even in the sad times, the bad times, the boring times, the times when we feel forgotten. God is love, and he will not let us go. He sent his Son so we would understand this, always.

Merry Christmastide, Jeanne

P.S., If you received a CD from me of Celtic Music, the soloist Alyth McCormack, is from the Isle of Skye and is a MacLeod like Jim. We sang with her in Belfast, Ireland in 2005 for a production of "On Eagle's Wing." This stage show was about the Scots-Irish immigrations from Scotland to Ireland to America, and the Gwinnett Choral Guild went over to be a part of it, and it was an incredible experience. The CD was produced in conjunction with Living Waters for the World and Presbyterian Women to provide funds for their efforts to provide clean water across the world.

*Jeanne*