

## Lenten Candle Liturgy 2024

**Palm Sunday: March 24**

**One Candle is lit at the beginning of the service.**

One: We've come to the end of our Lenten journey, following Jesus to Jerusalem, and learning from the stories of Jesus.

**All: We also have learned from the stories we've told ourselves— stories that make us feel better, but do not always lead us to the reign of God. Stories in which we feel we can't do anything more, stories in which our fear holds us back, stories in which there's too much to risk.**

One But there is a different way. We can leave those stories behind, and with God write a new story: a story in which we go into the wilderness boldly, where we help our neighbors in need no matter who they are.

**All: A story in which we are filled with new energy to share what we have with others, in which we're okay with leaving the familiar behind to seek out those who have been marginalized. A story in which we are willing to risk because we know God is with us, and that nothing can hold us back.**

One: As we extinguish the final Lenten candle, we reflect on the story God desires for our lives, and what we have learned through this Lenten season.

***(Extinguish the last Lenten candle)***

One: As we watch the smoke rise, we are reminded that God's spirit is always with us in mysterious and visible ways in our community of faith and in the world.

turn over....

**All: With thanksgiving for your constant and faithful presence, we raise our voices in song — a prayer to you, O God.**

**SUNG RESPONSE: VU 108** (verse 1) stay seated

**Throughout these Lenten days and nights  
we turn to walk the inward way,  
where, meeting Christ, our guide and light,  
we live in hope till Easter Day.**

**PRAYER:**

Let us pray:

**Light of the World, show us a new way to live. As we recall Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, may we boldly and humbly live into your story. May we truly love you and love one another as you have taught us. Light of the World, shine in us, in all times, for your light is with us always, no matter what.**

**Amen.**

