(A) First Sunday of Advent

<The Universal Prayer>

+ We bring to God the longing of our hearts and our desires for the wellbeing of all God's family.

1. For all gathered at this table, that in the season of Advent they draw near to God's day, we pray to the Lord. ◎ Lord, hear our prayer.
2. For all countries and regions, for peacemakers throughout the world, we pray to the Lord. ◎ Lord, hear our prayer.
3. For those who hunger and thirst, for outcasts and those who grieve, that they find comfort in God's living presence, we pray to the Lord. ◎ Lord, hear our prayer.
4. For the members of this assembly, that we and all those we love shepherd one another well, we pray to the Lord. ◎ Lord, hear our prayer.

+ God, Father of heaven and earth, you hold centuries in your hand. Free us from the darkness of sin and lead us into the light of your presence. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
◎ Amen.