

Advent Candles

From our inner city context, the greatest temptation is despair. A frequent refrain is that 'we believe there is hope.' Sometimes even that seems like a bold assertion of faith! We used the image of the Syrophaenician women who challenges Jesus that even the dogs are allowed to gather the crumbs under the table as the title for our book of prayers Crumbs of Hope: Prayers from the City. It's still available! Here we image the feeblest flickering flame of our hope in the Advent Candles.

A tiny spark flickers to a flame
A ray of sunshine through the rain
A whisper of peace in the noise of the city
A crumb of hope

We light the first candle to remember
that we are not the first people of hope
and we will not be the last.

A tiny spark flickers to a flame
A ray of sunshine through the rain
A whisper of peace in the noise of the city
A crumb of hope

We light the second candle to remember
the voices who cried in the wilderness
and the voices that will not be silenced.

A tiny spark flickers to a flame
A ray of sunshine through the rain
A whisper of peace in the noise of the city
A crumb of hope

We light the third candle to remember
those who foreshadow the baby
and embody Shalom in their lives.

A tiny spark flickers to a flame
A ray of sunshine through the rain
A whisper of peace in the noise of the city
A crumb of hope

We light the fourth candle to remember
the poor and marginalised who refuse to be forgotten
and live out your hope in their anger

A tiny spark flickers to a flame
A ray of sunshine through the rain
A whisper of peace in the noise of the city
A crumb of hope

We light the fifth candle to remember
a baby in a stable, born to bring hope
and remind us that you live on in humankind

A tiny spark flickers to a flame

A ray of sunshine through the rain
A whisper of peace in the noise of the city
A crumb of hope

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