

# IN EXCELSIS DEO

## ADVENT 2024

**Sunday, December 8**

**Read: Malachi 3:1-4**

I know we all have had “one of those days”, sometimes it seems like it turns into weeks, and more. August of 2016 was ‘the year’ to experience for our family. Returning home from the joyous occasion of celebrating our son’s wedding to the disbelief of evacuating our home of nearly thirty years. Leaving a home that had been the location of many milestone celebrations such as birthdays, seasonal family gatherings, parents 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, youth sleepovers, and most of all, the home where we felt safe and looked forward to many more years of family gatherings.

But from deep inside came the desire to move forward, to rebuild, to not look at loss, but to polish what was left, treasure our memories with greater intensity and move forward with love and hope. We could see the light. The Lord had blessed us with the hope, peace, love and joy in the coming of enormous support from our family and friends.

Our cup truly runs over as we celebrate the arrival of Jesus and prepare for the coming of the light that God brings to us.

We pray that this advent season is one of renewed hope, health, and joy for all.

Debbie and Dave Hurlbert