

Morning Prayer for Advent

[2020]



Call to Worship

O Lord, open our lips

All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Reveal among us the light of your presence

All that we may behold your power and glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

In your tender compassion

the dawn from on high is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.

As we look for your coming among us this day,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We listen to a HYMN

1.

Lighting the Advent Candles

As the candles are lit, the prayer for each week is read:

Advent 1

God of Abraham and Sarah,
and all the patriarchs of old,
you are our Father too.

Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of David.

Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth
to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit
to make his home among us.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

Amen.

Advent 2

God our Father,
you spoke to the prophets of old
of a Saviour who would bring peace.
You helped them to spread the joyful message
of his coming kingdom.

Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
to share with those around us
the good news of your power and love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

Amen.



2.

Advent 3

God our Father,
you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age
a son called John.
He grew up strong in spirit,
prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,
and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.
Help us, who have been baptized into Christ,
to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,
and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

Amen.

Advent 4

God our Father,
the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary
that she was to be the mother of your Son.
Though Mary was afraid,
she responded to your call with joy.
Help us, whom you call to serve you,
to share like her in your great work
of bringing to our world your love and healing.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

Amen.



Confession

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

[cf 1 Corinthians 4.5]

Heavenly Father,
you have created a universe of light:
forgive us when we return to darkness.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
you are the light of the world:
cleanse and heal our blinded sight.

Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
you give us light in our hearts:
renew us in faith and love.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive *us our* sins,
open *our* eyes to God's truth,
strengthen *us* to do God's will
and give *us* the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Canticle 'A Song of the Wilderness'

[Isaiah 35: 1, 2b-4a, 4c-6, 10]

The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice,
the desert shall blossom and burst into song.

All **They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.**

Strengthen the weary hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

All **Say to the anxious, 'Be strong. Fear not.
Your God is coming with judgment,
coming with judgment to save you.'**

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

All **Then shall the lame leap like a hart,
and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy.**

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert.

All **The ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing,
with everlasting joy upon their heads.**

Joy and gladness shall be theirs,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for the Week

1st Reading:

At the end: This is the word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to...

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

We take time for reflection as we listen to a HYMN

Affirmation of Faith *[Revelation 4.8,11; 5.9; 22.17, 20]*

We say together in faith:

All **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:

All **for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

All **for with his blood, he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

All **the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen**

Intercessions

This, or another response may be used:

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

At the end: Merciful Father,

**All: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Thanksgiving for the Gifts - *all that God gives us and that we can
give back to him for service in and through his church*

Yours Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour and the majesty.
For everything in heaven and earth is yours.

**All All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Blessing

With love and compassion

All come Lord Jesus.

With judgement and mercy.

All come Lord Jesus.

In power and glory.

All come Lord Jesus.

In wisdom and truth.

All come Lord Jesus.

And may the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

We listen to our final HYMN

Dismissal

As we await our coming Saviour,
let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.