



PRACTICING
Advent

A LITURGY FOR ADVENT 2019
MORNING & EVENING PRAYER

An Advent Devotional

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

*The shepherds sing; and shall I silent be?
My God, no hymn for Thee?
My soul's a shepherd too; a flock it feeds
Of thoughts, and words, and deeds.
The pasture is Thy word: the streams, Thy grace
Enriching all the place.*

An excerpt from *Christmas (II)*
by George Herbert (1593-1633)

There is a “time-bending nature” to the season of Advent. As Christians, we live in an in-between time: the now and the not yet between Jesus Christ’s first and last coming. The first Advent began in a manger in Bethlehem and led to Jerusalem and the cross; the second will bring judgment and all things made new. Bernard of Clairvaux wrote that to live with Christ between these two Advents is to sleep between the arms of God with his left hand under our head and his right hand embracing us.

Our location in this in-between time places us in the midst of much darkness and the constant signals that all is not well in our sin-soaked world. Yet, for those who are in Christ there is the unwavering assurance that all shall be made well when justice and mercy meet. We wait “for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).

Of course we’re not idle as we wait! The Anglican tradition has given us a tremendous gift for prayer called “Collects.” These ‘waiting prayers’ collect our hearts and minds and redirect them away from the tinsel and traffic of commercial Christmas towards the beauty of Jesus who satisfies our deepest longings. But however beautiful these prayers might be, their rich language can make them difficult to understand and internalize. Therefore we have provided a bible reading plan to deepen the value of these prayers by offering daily readings from the Scriptures which inspired each Collect.

This booklet is designed to be very flexible. You can use it once a week or every day. It’s useful for family discipleship at the dinner table or personal devotions. The prayers are adapted from the Anglican Book of Common Prayer. May these prayers and readings strengthen and equip you to love and serve the Lord in your busy everyday life this Advent season. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

*ALMIGHTY Lord and everlasting Father,
who would have the kingdoms of the world become the kingdom
of your Son Jesus Christ:
Give your blessing, we ask you,
to all who labour for peace and righteousness among
the nations,
that the day may come quickly when war shall be no more,
and you shall take the nations for your inheritance;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Collect for Advent Ember Days

Daily Readings

ADVENT I Putting On	
DEC 1	<i>Ephesians 6:10-20</i>
2	<i>Romans 13:11-14</i>
3	<i>1 Thessalonians 5:5-11</i>
4	<i>Acts 10:34-48</i>
5	<i>2 Timothy 4:1-8</i>
6	<i>Revelation 1:1-8</i>
7	<i>Catch Up Day</i>
ADVENT II Holding Fast	
DEC 8	<i>2 Timothy 3:14-17</i>
9	<i>Hebrews 4:12-16</i>
10	<i>Romans 15:1-7</i>
11	<i>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</i>
12	<i>Psalms 119:33-40</i>
13	<i>1 John 2:1-14</i>
14	<i>Catch Up Day</i>
ADVENT III Making Ready	
DEC 15	<i>1 Peter 1:8-13</i>
16	<i>Luke 1:5-17</i>
17	<i>1 Corinthians 4:1-5</i>
18	<i>Isaiah 6:1-10</i>
19	<i>Psalms 19:10-14</i>
20	<i>Revelation 2:1-7</i>
21	<i>Catch Up Day</i>

ADVENT IV Stirring Up	
DEC 22	<i>Hebrews 10:19-25</i>
DEC 23	<i>Hebrews 12:1-2</i>
CHRISTMAS EVE	
DEC 24	<i>Luke 2:1-21</i>
CHRISTMAS DAY	
DEC 25	<i>Titus 3:3-7</i>
26	<i>John 1:1-18</i>
27	<i>Hebrews 1:1-4 and 8-9</i>
28	<i>Revelation 21:12-21</i>
SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Born Again	
DEC 29	<i>John 3:1-16</i>
EPIPHANY The King is Here!	
JAN 5	<i>Matthew 21:1-11</i>



Morning Prayer

INVITATION

*Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!*
Isaiah 60:1

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is 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,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

COLLECT (PAGES 12-13)

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works
of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in
the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus
Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the
last day, when he shall come again in his glorious
majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we
may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever. Amen.

DAILY READING (PAGES 4-5)

Read the scripture passage for today

PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY, THE CHURCH, AND THE WORLD

CLOSING BLESSING

O God, Most High and Holy, Three in One,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
We offer to you this day, ourselves,
our souls and bodies,
to be a reasonable, holy,
and living sacrifice to you;
to whom be all praise and glory.
Amen.

PERSONAL PRAYERS

Evening Prayer

INVITATION

*The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them a light has dawned.*
Isaiah 9:2

CONFESSION

Almighty Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
We confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed.
Have mercy upon us, O Lord,
have mercy upon us out of your great goodness;
According to the vastness of your mercy
do away our offences and
heal us from our brokenness;
Wash us thoroughly from our wickedness,
and cleanse us from our sins;
for Jesus Christ's sake.
Amen.

OR

O God, I cry to you.
Help me to pray and to concentrate
my thoughts on you:
I cannot do this alone.
In me there is darkness,
but with you there is light;
I am lonely, but you do not leave me;
I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help;
I am restless, but with you there is peace.
In me there is bitterness,
but with you there is patience;

I do not understand your ways,
but you know the way for me.
Restore me to liberty,
and enable me so to live now
that I may answer before you and before me.
Lord whatever tomorrow brings,
your name be praised.
Amen.

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty Father, in your great love
you gave your dearly beloved Son to die for us:
grant that through his cross
our sins may be put away,
and remembered no more against us,
and that, cleansed by his blood,
and mindful of his sufferings,
we may take up our cross daily,
and follow him in newness of life,
until we come to his everlasting kingdom;
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COLLECT (PAGES 12-13)

DAILY READING (PAGES 4-5)

*Read today's scripture passage again.
Read it slowly or out loud.
Spend some time talking to God
about what comforts you and what challenges you.*

**PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY,
THE CHURCH, AND THE WORLD**

CLOSING PRAYERS

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night, and at the last a perfect end; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with us this night, and forever more. Amen.

PERSONAL PRAYERS

O God, who looked on us when we had fallen down into death, and resolved to redeem us by the Advent of your only begotten Son; we beg you, that those who confess his glorious Incarnation may also be admitted to the fellowship of their Redeemer, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Ambrose (339-397)
Bishop of Milan

Advent Collects

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

CHRISTMAS WEEK

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Isaiah 11

Rain for Roots

A green shoot will sprout up from Jesse
The roots will grow a budding branch
A wolf will dwell with a gentle lamb
They'll leap and play in the green, green grass

A little child will lead them
A little child will lead them
The lion and the lamb lie down together
A little child will lead them

On that day, Jesse's Root will be raised high,
Posted as a rallying banner for the peoples
The nations will all come to Him
His headquarters will be glorious!

A green shoot will sprout up from Jesse
A banner of love like a melody
Singing "Come back children, come back, hurry"
Singing over you, singing over me

The good, good King will lead them
The good, good King will lead them
The spirit of the Lord will rest upon Him
The good, good King will lead us
The good, good King will lead us

The lion and the lamb lie down together
The good, good King will lead us

O COME O COME EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

REFRAIN: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free,
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

REFRAIN

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

REFRAIN

O come, O come, Thou Lord of Might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the Law,
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.

REFRAIN

O come, Thou Key of David, come;
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

REFRAIN



O DAYS PRING

ISAIAH 9:2 * MATTHEW 24:29-30