

# Advent Daily Prayers

## First Week of Advent: *Waiting for the Lord*

### Format

Advent Daily Prayers can be said at family meals as well as in the family gathering place. Follow this simple format:

1. Family members gather before the evening meal begins.
2. Family leader prays: *Let us begin our prayer of waiting for the Lord.*
3. Everyone responds: *Our hope is in the Lord: Jesus is the light of our family.*
4. Leader continues with Daily Prayer.

### Sunday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: "O Lord of all creation, we are the clay and you are the potter. We are all the work of your hands."

*Let us pray:* O Lord, thank you for the gift of life which you have given to all of us in this family. You fashioned each of us as unique individuals. Help us to prepare our hearts for Christmas by being more patient with one another. Open our eyes of faith that we might recognize You in each other.

*All:* We wait for you Lord.

### Monday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: "Nations, hear the message of the Lord and make it known to the ends of the earth: Our Savior is coming."

*Let us pray:* Lord, thank you for the promise of your Son who is our salvation. Help us to prepare our hearts for Christmas by opening our ears so that we might truly listen to each other in our family. May the words that we speak to one another become the sweet music of our unique family.

*All:* We wait for you Lord.

## Tuesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse and from his roots a bud shall blossom. . . justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. . . then the wolf shall be the guest of the lamb and there shall be no harm or ruin on my holy mountain.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, thank you for becoming one of us and for teaching us your way of faithfulness and justice. You can heal the hurts which divide us as a family. Help us to prepare our hearts for Christmas by seeking to forgive each other for the hurts which stunt our growth as a family. May we become both forgivers and acceptors of forgiveness.

*All:* We wait for you Lord.

## Wednesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “The Lord is coming and will not delay; the Lord will bring every hidden thing to light and be revealed to every nation.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, thank you for your Presence in our world yesterday, today, and always. You revealed yourself to all peoples of all nations . . . no one can hide from your love. Help us to prepare our hearts for Christmas by accepting the love you offer in the persons of our family. Gently touch us through the Eucharist and your Word, and form us into a joyful family of hope.

*All:* We wait for you Lord.

## Thursday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: Jesus said, “Anyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like the wise person who built a house on rock.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, thank you for your words of eternal life that are our stronghold and our rock of safety. The secret of inner peace, joy, and contentment is revealed by your word. Help us to prepare our hearts for Christmas by spending time together, as a family, resting in and sharing your word.

*All:* We wait for you Lord.

## Friday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “As Jesus moved on from Capernum, two blind men came after him crying out, ‘Son of David, have pity on us!’ Jesus said, ‘Are you confident that I can do this?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ they replied. At that he touched their eyes and said, ‘Because of your faith, you shall be cured’.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, thank you for our gift of faith. We are confident that you can heal us as a family of all sorrows and disappointments. What gift can we give you in return? Help us to prepare our hearts for Christmas by making time to laugh as a family while remembering all the crazy and fun times we have shared through the years.

*All:* We wait for you Lord.

## Saturday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Happy are all who long for the coming of God, who heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, thank you for your gentle healing touch. How refreshing it is to know that we can trust in you always. Help us to prepare our hearts for Christmas by seeking to trust each other with our thoughts and feelings.

*All:* We wait for you Lord.

## Second Week of Advent: *Hope*

### Format

Advent Daily Prayers can be said at family meals as well as in the family gathering place. Follow this simple format:

1. Family members gather before the evening meal begins.
2. Family leader prays: *Let us begin our prayer of waiting for the Lord.*
3. Everyone responds: *Our hope is in the Lord: Jesus is the light of our family.*
4. Leader continues with Daily Prayer.

### Sunday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Make ready the way of the Lord, clear a straight path.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, help us to prepare for the coming of Christ by giving new life through acts of generosity to our family members.

*All:* We hope for you Lord.

### Monday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Say to those whose hearts are frightened: ‘Be strong, fear not!’”

*Let us pray:* Lord, help us in our family not to be fearful, but to speak the truth to one another in love, even when it is difficult.

*All:* We hope for you Lord.

### Tuesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Just so, it is no part of the plan of our loving Creator’s plan that a single one of these little ones should ever come to grief.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, today help us to remember in a special way to pray and to act for the good of our youngest family member.

*All:* We hope for you Lord.

## Wednesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar as with eagle’s wings.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, renew the strength of this family so that we may model the holy family of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.

*All:* We hope for you Lord.

## Thursday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “I am the Lord, your God, who grasps your right hand. It is I who say to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you’.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, empower our family members to turn to you in difficult times of trouble and despair.

*All:* We hope for you Lord.

## Friday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “I, the Lord, your God teach you what is for your good, and lead you on the way you should go.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Teach our family to follow your example of prayer, compassion, and service.

*All:* We hope for you Lord.

## Saturday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Give us new life, and we will call upon your name.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, renew our family so that we may call on you in prayer and reach out to others in need.

*All:* We hope for you Lord.

# Third Week of Advent: Love

## Format

Advent Daily Prayers can be said at family meals as well as in the family gathering place. Follow this simple format:

1. Family members gather before the evening meal begins.
2. Family leader prays: *Let us begin our prayer of waiting for the Lord.*
3. Everyone responds: *Our hope is in the Lord: Jesus is the light of our family.*
4. Leader continues with Daily Prayer.

## Sunday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “God who is mighty has done great things for me.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, your greatness abounds in nature and in your people. Thank you for the countless blessings you give to our family. May we who have been so loved, now love others in return.

*All:* We love you Lord.

## Monday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Justice shall flourish, and fullness of peace forever.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, you love us beyond our dreams. The majesty and splendor of your creation is without limit. You, oh generous God, let all come forth from your hands. Holding onto nothing, may we learn this Christmas season to freely share our gifts and talents.

*All:* We love you Lord.

## Tuesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “They shall call the savior Emmanuel, a name which means God is with us.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, you loved us enough to become one of us. You are a humble God who visits your people. We invite you to come into our home this Advent season to be Lord of our home. May your peace be our peace and may we learn to share your peace and presence in our world.

*All:* We love you Lord.

## Wednesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “You are my rock and my fortress.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, our faith is in you and you alone. Your love for us is enough, it never fails us. If one of us wobbles and becomes unsteady, you are there. May we who have been so loved and blessed, now love and bless in return.

*All:* We love you Lord.

## Thursday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Nothing is impossible with God.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, we don't know how to love as you love. We don't know how to forgive as you forgive. We trust that whenever we call out to you, we will be filled with your overflowing love. Our wealth is your love for us; we pray for the grace to be generous and trusting enough to give it away.

*All:* We love you Lord.

## Friday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “The plan of the Lord stands forever; the design of Your heart, through all generations.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, your love is everlasting. It does not shift with the breeze, here today and gone tomorrow. You are our God for all time. We are your children from the beginning till the end of time. Lord, our hope is to be a family which stays together and shares with others in all seasons.

*All:* We love you Lord.

## Saturday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “God who is mighty has done great things for me.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, your love is prayer; a power which helps us to be generous. Your love is grace which helps us to forgive. Your love is truly great. Teach us your way of love, and help us to give it away to our family, our church, and to a waiting world.

*All:* We love you Lord.

## Fourth Week of Advent: *Rejoicing in the Lord.*

### Format

Advent Daily Prayers can be said at family meals as well as in the family gathering place. Follow this simple format:

1. Family members gather before the evening meal begins.
2. Family leader prays: *Let us begin our prayer of waiting for the Lord.*
3. Everyone responds: *Our hope is in the Lord: Jesus is the light of our family.*
4. Leader continues with Daily Prayer.

### Sunday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Rejoice, O highly favored daughter! The Lord is with you.”

*Let us pray:* Lord, today we rejoice and give thanks for your presence within our family. We ask you to aid us so that we may respond to one another and our church as Mary responded to the announcement of the angel.

*All:* We rejoice in your coming Lord.

### Monday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “All this is the work of the kindness of our God; God shall visit us in mercy...”

*Let us pray:* Lord, thank you for visiting our family. Renew our faithfulness to one another and to our church community.

*All:* We rejoice in your coming Lord.

### Tuesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Sing and rejoice . . . for now I am coming to live among you . . .”

*Let us pray:* As we gather this day, we rejoice for we know you are with us. Help us to recognize your love in the members of our family and in those we meet today.

*All:* We rejoice in your coming Lord.

## Wednesday

*Leader:* Let us hear the work of God: “shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing Joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart . . .”

*Let us pray:* O Lord, sometimes we get caught up in the hectic world around us, and we forget to give you praise. Help us as individuals and as a family to take time to remember how much you do for us, and give you thanks.

*All:* We rejoice in your coming Lord.

## Thursday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said: ‘I offer you praise, Lord of heaven and earth, because what you have hidden from the learned and the clever you have revealed to the merest children’.”

*Let us pray:* We thank you, O Lord, for the gift of children and for the wisdom they share with us. Let us take time this day to bless them with our love.

*All:* We rejoice in your coming Lord.

## Friday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.”

*Let us pray:* You have shown your kindness throughout this season. By our thoughts, words and actions, may we be a blessing to others this day.

*All:* We rejoice in your coming Lord.

## Saturday

*Leader:* Let us hear the word of God: “Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful. Let Israel be glad in its maker, let the children of Zion rejoice in their king.”

*Let us pray:* As a family, we celebrate and recognize you as the Lord of our lives. May we continue to share this message in our home and in the world.

*All:* We rejoice in your coming Lord.