

## Morning Prayer in Advent

### Preparation

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.

*a suitable hymn, or A Song of the King's Glory*

1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it,  
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.

2 For he has founded it upon the seas  
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.

3 'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord,  
or who can rise up in his holy place?'

4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,  
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol,  
nor sworn an oath to a lie;

5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord,  
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'

6 Such is the company of those who seek him,  
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 'Who is the King of glory?'  
'The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 'Who is this King of glory?'  
'The Lord of hosts,

he is the King of glory.'

*Psalm 24*

**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.

*This opening prayer may be said*

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## **The Word of God**

*The appointed [psalmody](#) is said.*

*Each psalm or group of psalms may end with*

**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.**

*If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here.*

*Canticle: A Song of the Wilderness,*

**All Lift up your voice with strength,  
O herald of good tidings.**

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

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

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

4 Say to the anxious, 'Be strong, fear not,  
your God is coming with judgement,  
coming with judgement to save you.'

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

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

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

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

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

*Isaiah 35.1,2b-4a,4c-6,10*

**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.**

**All Lift up your voice with strength,  
O herald of good tidings.**

*Scripture Reading*

*One or more readings appointed for the day are read.*

*The reading may be followed by a time of silence.*

*A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form, may follow*

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,  
**All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.**  
Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,  
**All for the night is far spent.**  
Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness  
and put on the armour of light,  
**All for the day is at hand.**  
Put on the Lord Jesus Christ  
and make no provision for the flesh,  
**All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.**

*Gospel Canticle*

*The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said.*

*Refrain:*

**All Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,  
and see the glory that is coming from God.**  
*From 17 December until Christmas Eve:*  
**All Like the sun in the morning sky,  
the Saviour of the world will dawn;  
like rain upon the meadows,  
the Christ will come down upon us.**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1.68-79*

**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.**

**All** ***Refrain above***

## **Prayers**

*Intercessions are offered*

¶ *for the day and its tasks*

¶ *for the world and its needs*

¶ *for the Church and her life*

*The cycle [here](#) and the prayer [here](#) may be used.*

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

**(or)**

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Collect of the day or the following is said*

Almighty God,

give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

and to put on the armour of light,

now in the time of this mortal life,

in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;

that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty

to judge the living and the dead,

we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**All** **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

Awaiting his coming in glory,

as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All** **Our Father in heaven ...**

## **The Conclusion**

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

**All** **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

## Evening Prayer in Advent

### Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

**All** O Lord, make haste to help us.

Reveal among us the light of your presence

**All** that we may behold your power and glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,  
creator of light and darkness,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

As evening falls, you renew your promise  
to reveal among us the light of your presence.

May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path  
that we may behold your coming among us.

Strengthen us in our stumbling weakness  
and free our tongues to sing your praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All** Blessed be God for ever.

*This opening prayer may be said*

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,  
so may your mercy come down upon us to cleanse our hearts  
and set us free to sing your praise now and for ever.

**All** Amen.

### The Word of God

*The appointed [psalmody](#) is said or sung.*

*Each psalm or group of psalms may end with*

**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.

*A Song of the Spirit may be said*

**All** Surely I am coming soon.  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

1 'Behold, I am coming soon', says the Lord,  
'and bringing my reward with me,  
to give to everyone according to their deeds.

2 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end.'

3 Blessed are those who do God's commandments,  
that they may have the right to the tree of life,  
and may enter into the city through the gates.

4 'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you,  
with this testimony for all the churches.  
5 'I am the root and the offspring of David,  
I am the bright morning star.'  
6 'Come!' say the Spirit and the Bride;  
'Come!' let each hearer reply.  
7 Come forward, you who are thirsty,  
let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.  
Revelation 22.12–14,16,17

**All To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honour and glory and might,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**All Surely I am coming soon.  
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

*Scripture Reading*

*The reading may be followed by a time of silence.*

*A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form, may follow*

My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:  
in your word is my hope.  
**All My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:  
in your word is my hope.**  
There is forgiveness with you,  
so that you shall be feared.  
**All In your word is my hope.**  
Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
**All My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:  
in your word is my hope.**

*Gospel Canticle: The Magnificat may be said*

*Refrain:*

**All Lord Jesus, you are the one who is to come,  
the one whom we await with longing hearts.**

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.  
2 From this day all generations will call me blessed;  
the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.  
3 He has mercy on those who fear him,  
from generation to generation.  
4 He has shown strength with his arm  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,  
5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones  
and lifting up the lowly.  
6 He has filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.  
7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,

to remember his promise of mercy,  
8 The promise made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

*Luke 1.46-55*

*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.**

*All* **Lord Jesus, you are the one who is to come,  
the one whom we await with longing hearts.**

*From 17 December until 23 December, see the following refrains.*

*17 December – O Sapientia*

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,  
reaching from one end to the other mightily,  
and sweetly ordering all things:

Come and teach us the way of prudence. *cf Ecclesiasticus 24.3; Wisdom 8.1*

*18 December – O Adonai*

O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,  
who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush  
and gave him the law on Sinai:

Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm. *cf Exodus 3.2, 24.12*

*19 December – O Radix Jesse*

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;  
before you kings will shut their mouths,  
to you the nations will make their prayer:

Come and deliver us, and delay no longer. *cf Isaiah 11.10, 45.14, 52.15;  
Romans 15.12*

*20 December – O Clavis David*

O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel;  
you open and no one can shut;  
you shut and no one can open:

Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,  
those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. *cf Isaiah 22.22, 42.7*

*21 December – O Oriens*

O Morning Star,  
splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness:  
Come and enlighten those

who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. *cf Malachi 4.2*

*22 December – O Rex Gentium*

O King of the nations, and their desire,  
the cornerstone making both one:

Come and save the human race,  
which you fashioned from clay.  
*cf Isaiah 28.16; Ephesians 2.14*

*23 December – O Emmanuel*

O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver,  
the hope of the nations and their Saviour:

Come and save us, O Lord our God. *cf Isaiah 7.14*

## Prayers

*Thanksgiving may be made for the day.*

*Intercessions are offered*

¶ *for peace*

¶ *for individuals and their needs*

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

**(or)**

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Collect of the day or the following is said*

Almighty God,

give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

and to put on the armour of light,

now in the time of this mortal life,

in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;

that on the last day,

when he shall come again in his glorious majesty

to judge the living and the dead,

we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

Awaiting his coming in glory,

as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All Our Father in heaven ...**

## The Conclusion

May the Lord, when he comes,

find us watching and waiting.

**All Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**