

ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY | WEEK I

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Based on Mark 13:24-37)*

We wait in anticipation for the coming of Christ this Advent season.

People of God, prepare your hearts to receive him.

Keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come.

Be alert, stay awake. For no one knows the day or the hour when Christ will return.

In those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,
the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Be alert, stay awake. For no one knows the day or the hour when Christ will return.

Then we will see him coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

Be alert, stay awake. For no one knows the day or the hour when Christ will return.

He will send out the angels, and gather his people
from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

Be alert, stay awake. For no one knows the day or the hour when Christ will return.

Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.
Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

Be alert, stay awake. For no one knows the day or the hour when Christ will return.

Therefore, keep awake--for you do not know when the Lord will come,
or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. I say to all: Keep awake.

Be alert, stay awake. For no one knows the day or the hour when Christ will return.

(Light the first Advent Candle)

***OPENING HYMN OR SONG(S)**

Suggestions for the season:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

People, Look East

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Blessed be the God of Israel

Canticle of the Turning

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Savior of the Nations, Come

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

King of Kings (Hillsong)

Open Up the Heavens (Vertical Worship)

Even So Come (Passion)

All Who Are Thirsty (Brenton Brown)

Wesley Prayer (Come Like a Fire) (Mark Swayze)

Come, Thou Fount, Come Thou King (Gateway)

Hosanna (Hillsong United)

Give Us Clean Hands (Chris Tomlin)

Promises (Maverick City)

Ancient Gates (Brooke Ligertwood)

Wait on You (Maverick City and Elevation)

What a Beautiful Name (Hillsong)

ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY | WEEK II

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Based on Isaiah 40:1-11)*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term.

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

*The grass withers, the flower fades; nations rise and fall,
but the word of our God will stand forever.*

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

Get up to a high mountain, O Zion, lift up your voice with strength, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

The Lord GOD comes with might, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

(Light the second Advent Candle)

***OPENING HYMN OR SONG(S)**

ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY | WEEK III

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Based on Isaiah 61:1-11 and Luke 1:46-47*)

People of God, rejoice! Jesus Christ, the anointed one of God,
is sent to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn and give them a garland instead of ashes,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

Under his rule the ancient ruins will be built up, former devastations raised again;
and ruined cities restored. He will repair the devastations of many generations.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

(Light the third Advent Candle)

***OPENING HYMN OR SONG(S)**

ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY | WEEK IV

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Based on Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26)*

I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

We will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'"

We will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

"I have set the crown on one who is mighty, I have exalted one chosen from the people.
I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;
my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.

We will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him.
I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.
My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him.

We will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers.
He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'

We will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

(Light the fourth Advent Candle)

***OPENING HYMN OR SONG(S)**

ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY | CHRISTMAS EVE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Based on Isaiah 9:2-7 and Psalm 96)*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

**O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.**

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest!

**Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised!
Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

For you have broken the yoke of their burden, and the heavy weight across their shoulders,
the rod of oppression. For all the boots of the tramping soldiers
and all tools used for warfare will be burned as fuel for the fire.

**Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.**

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.
Say among the nations, “The LORD is king! The world is firmly established;
it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity.”**

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David
and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar,
and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.**

(Light the Christ Candle)

***OPENING HYMN OR SONG(S)**