



ADVENT 2021

DEVOTIONS FOR FAMILIES

IMMANUEL ANGLICAN CHURCH

NOTE:

This devotional has been adapted with permission from *A Thrill of Hope* by Ashley Wallace. You can purchase this Advent resource book for yourself on Amazon or at anglicancompass.com/thrill.

Cover artwork by Sarah Bertsche.



SUPPLIES

If you have an Advent wreath, this devotional includes instructions for how to incorporate the different candles of the Advent wreath each day. If you don't have a wreath, you can use any large pillar candle to light when you use the devotional.

Besides a wreath or candle, all you need for devotions is a Bible. If you have younger children, feel free to use a Children's Bible for the stories in the devotional. Most of these stories will appear in a typical children's Bible storybook!

BUILDING A NEW HABIT

If your family does not currently have spiritual practices / devotions built into the habits of your day, this may be challenging at first. I recommend that you attach this routine to a habit or ritual you already have as a family, like dinner or bedtime.

INCLUDING CHILDREN

Give each child a role in the devotions each night. One may be responsible to gather the family each evening, another may light and extinguish the candles, others may take turns or share parts of the reading of the Scripture, etc.

FREEDOM FROM PERFECTION

Building new traditions will rarely unfold perfectly - the idyllic image you may have in your mind for family devotions may devolve into chaos when you upset the natural rhythms of individualism in family life! Have grace for yourself and have grace for your kids, and trust that God's light and presence can minister to your family even in the imperfections. I pray this practice will be a refreshing experience for your family!

Jennifer Wood, Director of Family Ministries, Immanuel Anglican Church
Email: jennifer@immanuelanglican.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 (FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Patriarch Candle (the first violet or blue candle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

You can say or sing the Phos Hilaron. Find music on Advent Song Sheet.

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING ONE: CREATION

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 1:1-2:3

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29 (SECOND DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Patriarch Candle (the first violet or blue candle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING TWO: ADAM AND EVE

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 2

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 (THIRD DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Patriarch Candle (the first violet or blue candle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING THREE: THE FALL

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 3

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1 (FOURTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Patriarch Candle (the first violet or blue candle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING FOUR: NOAH AND THE ARK

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 6:12-7:24

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2 (FIFTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Patriarch Candle (the first violet or blue candle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING FIVE: NOAH AND THE FLOOD

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 8-9

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3 (SIXTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Patriarch Candle (the first violet or blue candle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING SIX: CALL OF ABRAHAM

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 12:1-9; 15:1-5

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 (SEVENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

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OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING SEVEN: BIRTH OF ISAAC

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 21:1-6

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 (SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Prophet Candle (the second violet or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING EIGHT: JACOB AND ESAU

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 27

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 (NINTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Prophet Candle (the second violet or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING NINE: JOSEPH

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Genesis:*

GENESIS 37

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 (TENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Prophet Candle (the second violet or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING TEN: MOSES

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Exodus:*

EXODUS 6:1-13

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 (ELEVENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Prophet Candle (the second violet or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING ELEVEN: THE RED SEA

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Exodus:*

EXODUS 14:5-31

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father** who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9 (TWELFTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Prophet Candle (the second violet or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING TWELVE: MANNA FROM HEAVEN

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Exodus:*

EXODUS 16

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10 (THIRTEENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Prophet Candle (the second violet or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING THIRTEEN: JOSHUA, THE WARRIOR LEADER

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Joshua:*

JOSHUA 1

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 (FOURTEENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Prophet Candle (the second violet or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch Candle should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING FOURTEEN: HANNAH'S PRAYERS

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the first book of Samuel:*

1 SAMUEL 1:2-11

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 (THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Mary Candle (the pink candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING FIFTEEN: DAVID CHOSEN TO BE KING

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the first book of Samuel:*

1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13 (SIXTEENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Mary Candle (the pink candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING SIXTEEN: DAVID AND GOLIATH

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the first book of Samuel:*

1 SAMUEL 17

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14 (SEVENTEENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Mary Candle (the pink candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING SEVENTEEN: THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the book of Psalms:*

PSALM 23

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15 (EIGHTEENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Mary Candle (the pink candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING EIGHTEEN: NAAMAN IS HEALED

Assign the reading of today's passage to one child, or parts of it to different children. Younger kids can use this time for any other Advent observances: adding figures to the Nativity Scene, coloring Advent artwork, hanging ornaments, etc.

READER: *A reading from the second book of Kings:*

2 KINGS 5

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16 (NINETEENTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Mary Candle (the pink candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING NINETEEN: A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

READER: *A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes:*

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-11

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17 (TWENTIEH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Mary Candle (the pink candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

Today marks the beginning of the Octave (eight days) or countdown to Christmas Day. It is the day that the ○ Antiphons begin.

READ ○ ANTIPHON FOR THE DAY "O SAPIENTIA"

LEADER: ○ *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. Amen.*

READING TWENTY: MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

READER: *Readings from the prophet Isaiah:*

ISAIAH 9:1-7; ISAIAH 11

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SING VERSES FROM 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O Come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily; to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 (TWENTY-FIRST DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Mary Candle (the pink candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch and Prophet Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READ O ANTIPHON FOR THE DAY "O ADONAI"

LEADER: *○ 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. Amen.*

READING TWENTY-ONE: DANIEL AND THE LIONS

READER: *A reading from the prophet Daniel:*

DANIEL 6

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SING VERSES FROM 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 ap-
pear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O
Israel!**

*O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on
Sinai's height in ancient times did give the law in cloud and
majesty and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to
thee, O Israel!*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy King-
dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we for-
give those who trespass against us. And lead us not into tempta-
tion, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

*Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the
candle(s) at any time after the blessing.*

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to
shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his
countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 (FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the John the Baptist Candle (the third purple or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READ O ANTIPHON FOR THE DAY "O RADIX JESSE"

LEADER: *○ 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. Amen.*

READING TWENTY-TWO: JONAH AND THE FISH

READER: *A reading from the prophet Jonah:*

JONAH 1-3

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SING VERSES FROM 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem, unto your own and rescue them! From depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20 (TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the John the Baptist Candle (the third purple or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READ O ANTIPHON FOR THE DAY "O CLAVIS DAVID"

LEADER: *○ 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. Amen.*

READING TWENTY-THREE: REUNION AND REBELLION

READER: *Readings from the book of Nehemiah and the prophet Malachi:*

NEHEMIAH 8:1-12; MALACHI 3:1-4:2

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SING VERSES FROM 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the door to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21 (TWENTY-FOURTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the John the Baptist Candle (the third purple or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READ ○ ANTIPHON FOR THE DAY "O ORIENS"

LEADER: ○ *Morning Star, splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness: Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Amen.*

READING TWENTY-FOUR: ANNUNCIATION

READER: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:*

ALL: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

LUKE 1:26-45

READER: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

ALL: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SING VERSES FROM 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22 (TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the John the Baptist Candle (the third purple or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READ O ANTIPHON FOR THE DAY "O REX GENTIUM"

LEADER: *○ King of the nations, and their desire, the cornerstone making both one: Come and save the human race, which you fashioned from clay.*
Amen.

READING TWENTY-FIVE: MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE

READER: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:*

ALL: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

LUKE 1:46-56

READER: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

ALL: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SING VERSES FROM 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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23 (TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF ADVENT)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *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.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the John the Baptist Candle (the third purple or blue candle) is lit at this time. (The Patriarch, Prophet and Mary Candles should already be lit.)

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READ O ANTIPHON FOR THE DAY "O EMMANUEL"

LEADER: *○ Emmanuel, our King and our lawgiver, the hope of the nations and their Saviour: Come and save us, O Lord our God. **Amen.***

READING TWENTY-SIX: ZECHARIAH'S PROPHECY

READER: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:*

ALL: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

LUKE 1:67-79

READER: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

ALL: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SING VERSES FROM O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

Sing as many verses as you wish!

**O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God ap-
pear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O
Israel!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy King-
dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we for-
give those who trespass against us. And lead us not into tempta-
tion, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to
shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his
countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24 (CHRISTMAS EVE)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch, Prophet, Mary and John the Baptist Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *Lord Jesus Christ, on this day we celebrate your birth at Bethlehem, and we are drawn to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Savior and our eternal God. Amen.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Jesus Candle (the white candle in the middle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

○ gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
○ Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, ○ God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
○ Son of God, ○ Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING TWENTY-SEVEN: ANGEL VISITS JOSEPH

READER: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:*

ALL: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

MATTHEW 1:18-24

READER: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

ALL: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SING VERSES FROM O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

Sing as many verses as you wish!

**O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God ap-
pear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O
Israel!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy King-
dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we for-
give those who trespass against us. And lead us not into tempta-
tion, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to
shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his
countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 (CHRISTMAS DAY)

Start the devotion in the dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin. The Patriarch, Prophet, Mary and John the Baptist Candles should already be lit.

LEADER: *Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

OPENING PRAYER

LEADER: *Lord Jesus Christ, on this day we celebrate your birth at Bethlehem, and we are drawn to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Savior and our eternal God. Amen.*

If you are using the Great Advent Candle, light it at this time. If you are using an Advent Wreath, the Jesus Candle (the white candle in the middle) is lit at this time.

OH GRACIOUS LIGHT (PHOS HILARON)

O gracious light,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun
And our eyes behold the vesper light
We sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times
To be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be glorified through all the worlds.

READING TWENTY-EIGHT: THE BIRTH OF JESUS

READER: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:*

ALL: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

LUKE 2:1-20

READER: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

ALL: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SING VERSES FROM O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

Sing as many verses as you wish!

**O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God ap-
pear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O
Israel!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: *Let us pray.*

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy King-
dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we for-
give those who trespass against us. And lead us not into tempta-
tion, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Parents, lay hands on each of your children and pray this blessing over them. You may extinguish the candle(s) at any time after the blessing.

LEADER: *The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.** The Lord make his face to
shine upon you and be gracious to you. **Amen.** The Lord lift up his
countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.***

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**



JOIN US AT IMMANUEL

Join us for services at 10AM on the following dates:

NOVEMBER 28 | ADVENT 1: NURSERY ONLY

DECEMBER 5 | ADVENT 2: SUNDAY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 12 | ADVENT 3: SUNDAY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 19 | ADVENT 4: LESSONS & CAROLS

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