

CALL & RESPONSE

Parent : Lord, you are the light of the world.

Children : O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES *light two purple*

SCRIPTURE READING

9 / Sunday: Hebrews 10:37

10 / Monday: Isaiah 40:11

11 / Tuesday: James 5:7-8

12 / Wednesday: Psalm 72:12-14

13 / Thursday: 1 John 2:28

14 / Friday: Isaiah 61:1-2

15 / Saturday: Revelation 21:4-5

PRAYER

O Prince of Peace,

who purchased our peace with your own blood, shed on the cross,

and who preached peace to those who were near and those who were far:

Calm the storms in our hearts and in our world,

break down the walls that divide us,

and make us instruments of your peace,

as we long with hopeful expectation for the day

when the lion will lie down with the lamb

and every tear will be wiped away;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen.



W E E K 3 / J O Y

This week we celebrate the joy that Christ's Advent is near. We will not have to wait forever.

The joy of Advent is that, even though we are still waiting, we know Christ's coming among us is very near. Israel's waiting will not go on forever; the child is about to be born. And our waiting will not go on forever as Jesus' return draws near. This confident anticipation fills us with joy, a joy that lifts our hearts above the chaos of this life and prepares us to rejoice with Jesus forever.

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LIGHTING OF CANDLES *light two purple + one pink*

SCRIPTURE READING

16 / Sunday: Isaiah 52:8-9

17 / Monday: Zephaniah 3:14-16

18 / Tuesday: John 1:5-9

19 / Wednesday: Luke 2:4-7

20 / Thursday: Luke 2:8-12

21 / Friday: Luke 2:13-14

22 / Saturday: Luke 2:15-18

PRAYER

O Jesus Christ, joy of every longing heart,
whose first coming caused both earth and heaven to rejoice:
Fill us with abiding joy as we anticipate your return, that even in the darkness our
hearts would sing your song;
and prepare us, along with all creation, for the everlasting joy
of your Kingdom as we await the marriage of heaven and earth;
in your strong name we pray,
Amen.



W E E K 4 / **L O V E**

Today we celebrate the love of God made known to us in Jesus Christ his Son; the gift of Emmanuel, God with us.

It was for love that God took on flesh and came among us. It was for love that Jesus went to the cross. It was for love that God poured out his Spirit on the church. And it is for love that he will one day return. During Advent, and today on Christmas Eve, we give thanks for the love of God that hears our cries and does not remain far off, but draws near to rescue and redeem.

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SCRIPTURE READING

23 / Sunday: John 3:16

24 / Monday: 1 John 4:10

PRAYER

Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
As Mary waited and labored for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see our great salvation,
give to the earth the peace that we long for,
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.**

*From the Church of England's *Common Worship*



C H R I S T M A S D A Y

Today we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the day that God became one of us.

On Christmas Day, the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. The eternal, all-knowing, all-powerful God humbled himself to become a helpless child so that the world might know what God is like and be restored to relationship with him. In this first coming, Jesus reveals the love and humility of God. Though the season of Advent draws to a close today, its ultimate purpose is to remind us that we are still waiting. Until he comes again in glory, we joyfully anticipate the day when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

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SCRIPTURE READING

25 / Tuesday: Luke 2:1-20

PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you today,
our Savior and our eternal God.

*Amen.**

*From the Church of England's *Common Worship*



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