



A Brief Advent Devotion for the Family Table

A Brief Devotion for the Family Table For use during Advent 2022

These devotions fix our attention on the three comings of Christ: once in the flesh, now in His Word and Sacraments, and at the Last Day for judgment and the resurrection — all to save us.

An Advent wreath may be lighted, adding the lighting of one candle for each week in Advent. If a rose candle is used, it is lit at the beginning of the third week.

Hymn: “Once He Came in Blessing”

Week 1

1. Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.

Week 2

2. Now He gently leads us;
With Himself He feeds us
Precious food from heaven,
Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish
Souls that they may flourish.

Week 3

3. Soon will come that hour
When with mighty power
Christ will come in splendor
And will judgment render,
With the faithful sharing
Joy beyond comparing.

Week 4

4. Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing,
That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You
Till in heav'n we bless You.

LSB 333

Readings from Holy Scripture

Family members can take turns reading the Scripture passage for each day.

First Week in Advent

Nov. 27 — “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch. ... And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness’” (Jer. 23:5–6).

Nov. 28 — “I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel” (Num. 24:17).

Nov. 29 — “And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven’” (Matt. 9:2).

Nov. 30 — Jesus said, “The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45).

Dec. 1 — Jesus said, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

Dec. 2 — “For in [Christ] all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross” (Col. 1:19–20).

Dec. 3 — Jesus said, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31–32).

Second Week in Advent

Dec. 4 — Jesus said, “Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matt. 28:20).

Dec. 5 — “Thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession” (2 Cor. 2:14).

Dec. 6 — Jesus said, “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever” (John 6:51).

Dec. 7 — “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:7).

Dec. 8 — “As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes” (1 Cor. 11:26).

Dec. 9 — “The life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (Gal. 2:20).

Dec. 10 — “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope” (Rom. 15:13).

Third Week in Advent

Dec. 11 — “Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place, at the wrath of the LORD of hosts in the day of his fierce anger” (Isaiah 13:13).

Dec. 12 — “And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done” (Rev. 20:12).

Dec. 13 — “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world’” (Matt. 25:34).

Dec. 14 — Jesus said, “Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming” (Matt. 24:42).

Dec. 15 — Jesus said, “Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:28).

Dec. 16 — “Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep” (1 Thess. 4:14).

The “O” Antiphons of Advent begin (See LSB 357)

Dec. 17 — “I came forth from the mouth of the Most High and covered the earth” (Ecclesiasticus 24:3).

Fourth Week in Advent

Dec. 18 — “The LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us” (Isaiah 33:22).

Dec. 19 — “In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious” (Isaiah 11:10).

Dec. 20 — “I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open” (Isaiah 22:22).

Dec. 21 — “For you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings” (Mal. 4:2).

Dec. 22 — “I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts” (Hag. 2:7).

Dec. 23 — “The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14).

Dec. 24 — “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given” (Isaiah 9:6).

Grace

All pray together:

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

or

**Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest
And let these gifts to us be blessed. Amen.**

The Advent candles may be extinguished after these prayers or after the meal.

At the conclusion of the meal, the family may return thanks:
We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

or

**O give thanks to the Lord for He is good
And His mercy endures forever.**

More Advent resources for congregations and families can be found at lcms.org/advent.