



First Week of Worship in the Season of Advent

OPENING SENTENCES FOR ADVENT

M: Lord Jesus, You are the light of the world,

C: The light no darkness can overcome.

M: Guide our steps by the light of Your Word.

C: Shield us from harm and keep us from evil.

M: Let Your light shatter the darkness.

C: Let it shine in our hearts and lives. Amen.

HYMN

The Advent of Our King (CW#1)

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749;
tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.

- 1 The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.*
- 2 The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on To set his servants free.*
- 3 O Zion's Daughter, rise To meet your lowly King,
Nor let a faithless heart despise The peace he comes to bring.*
- 4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And his true members all unite With him in heav'n to reign.*
- 5 Before the dawning Day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.*
- 6 All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.*

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good, For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God our Heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for all of our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 63:16b-17 & 64:1-8

You, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name. ¹⁷ Why, O LORD, do you make us wander from your ways and harden our hearts so we do not revere you? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes that are your inheritance. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and

come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! ² As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! ³ For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. ⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. ⁵ You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? ⁶ All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. ⁷ No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and made us waste away because of our sins. ⁸ Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

PSALM OF THE DAY (Psalm 24)

Rise, Arise! (CW#30:1,3)

Text: Anna B. D. Hoppe, 1889-1941, abr., alt.

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- 1 Rise, arise! Rise, arise! Christians, rise to greet your King.
Open wide the gates before him; Let the glad hosannas ring;
Haste to worship and adore him.
Hark! The watchman on the mountain cries:
Rise, arise! Rise, arise!***
- 3 Crown him King! Crown him King! His exalted name confess.
From his heav'nly throne descending, Jesus, Lord our righteousness,
Brings us joy and peace unending.
Oh, let heart and tongue his praises sing!
Crown him King! Crown him King!***

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴
I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.
⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way -- in all your speaking

and in all your knowledge -- ⁶ because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸ He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

VERSE OF THE DAY

ALL: Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come Lord Jesus. Alleluia. (Revelation 22:20)

GOSPEL

Mark 13:32-37

"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. ³⁴ It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. ³⁵ "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back-whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. ³⁶ If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'"

HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come (CW# 2:1-4)

Text: Ambrose, 340-97, abr.; German ver., Martin Luther, 1483-1546, abr.;
tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812-76, alt.

- 1 Savior of the nations, come; Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.***
- 2 Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God
Was the Word of God made flesh, Woman's offspring, pure & fresh.***
- 3 Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child Of the virgin undefiled,
Though by all the world disowned, Yet to be in heav'n enthroned!***

*4 From the Father's throne he came And ascended to the same,
Captive leading death and hell High the song of triumph swell!*

SERMON

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From
there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion
of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the
life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN

As Angels Joyed with One Accord (CW# 5:1,4,7)

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905-96, abr., alt. © 1993 same

- 1 As angels joyed with one accord Upon the advent of our Lord,
So laud we all and bless the name Of him who from the Father came.*
- 4 In ev'ry age-let praise abound-He comes; we hear his voice resound.
His glorious gospel does not cease To bring us comfort, joy, & peace.*
- 7 Lift up your heads! All grief and pain Shall vanish when he comes again.
Where we shall see him face to face, There joy alone shall have a place.*

PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER

**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
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
C: Amen.

HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates (CW#3:1,5)

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635;
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

- 1 Lift up your heads, you mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation he will bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.*
- 5 Redeemer, come! O open wide My heart to you; here, Lord, abide!
Oh, enter through your means of grace;
Show me forgiveness on your face.
Then Holy Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame We offer to your name.*

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