



Advent Devotions for the Family Table

For use during Advent 2023

This simple form can be easily expanded to include local congregation resources or other Advent devotionals.

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: "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

Week 1

- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet You,
How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You,
My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please You best.

Week 2

- 3 I lay in fetters, groaning;
You came to set me free.
I stood, my shame bemoaning;
You came to honor me.
A glorious crown You give me,
A treasure safe on high
That will not fail or leave me
As earthly riches fly.

Week 3

- 4 Love caused Your incarnation;
Love brought You down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling,
That led You to embrace
In love, all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race.

LSB 334

Prophecies of Christ from Holy Scripture

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

First Week in Advent

Dec. 3 — "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).

Dec. 4 — "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Gen. 3:15).

Dec. 5 — "The scepter shall not depart from Judah" (Gen. 49:10).

Dec. 6 — "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).

Dec. 7 — "I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers" (Deut. 18:18).

Dec. 8 — "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6).

Dec. 9 — "And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

Second Week in Advent

Dec. 10 — 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. 11 — "The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, . . . and a little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6).

Dec. 12 — "The LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you" (Isaiah 60:2).

Dec. 13 — “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your salvation comes’” (Isaiah 62:11).

Dec. 14 — “Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down” (Isaiah 64:1).

Dec. 15 — “[Rejoice,] O heavens, and exult, O earth; ... for the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted” (Isaiah 49:13).

Dec. 16 — “[His] coming forth is from of old, from ancient days” (Micah 5:2).

Third Week in Advent
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” (Eccl. 24:3).

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 — “You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21)

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](https://www.lcms.org/advent).

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.