



# Unwrapping the

# Gifts

## A Brief Advent Devotion for the Family Table

The Advent wreath is 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

#### Week 1

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

#### Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee,  
O Israel!

#### Week 2

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

#### Week 3

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

#### Week 4 (Sunday only)

O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

#### Week 4

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*  
*LSB 357:4-6,1*

### Prophecy

Family members can take turns reading the prophecy for each day.

**Nov. 29** – “Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.” (Ps. 25:4)

**Nov. 30** – “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. 1** – “The scepter shall not depart from Judah” (Gen. 49:10).

**Dec. 2** – “I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers” (Deut. 18:18).

**Dec. 3** – “He shall build a house for my name” (2 Sam. 7:13).

**Dec. 4** – “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given” (Is. 9:6).

**Dec. 5** – “And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Is. 9:6).

**Dec. 6** – Say to the daughter of Zion, “Behold, your salvation comes” (Is. 62:11).

**Dec. 7** – “Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end” (Is. 9:7).

**Dec. 8** – “There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse” (Is. 11:1).

**Dec. 9** – “The wolf shall dwell with the lamb...and a little child shall lead them” (Is. 11:6).

**Dec. 10** – “The LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you” (Is. 60:2).

**Dec. 11** – “Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down” (Is. 64:1).

**Dec. 12** – “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch” (Jer. 23:5).

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

**Dec. 14** – “In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.” (Jer. 23:6).

**Dec. 15** – “And this is the name by which he will be called: The LORD is our righteousness” (Jer. 23:6).

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

*The O Antiphons of Advent (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.” (Is. 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.” (Is. 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.” (Is. 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** – “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Is. 7:14)

**Dec. 24** – “When all was still and it was midnight, Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne” (Wis. 18:14,15). (See Introit for Christmas Midnight.)

## Grace

*All pray together:*

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

*or*

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

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

*or*

**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.**