

For use in the early evening, before or after an evening meal.
Light candle(s), one for each week.*

O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times
to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Scripture Reading – *see list to the right*

Prayers

Offer God prayers of gratitude, and petitions for yourself and others

The Lord's Prayer

Advent Collect – *to the right*

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.

*Candles may be assembled in a wreath form, or simply set in a circle on a table (or even lined-up on a mantle or shelf). Use votives, tapers, or pillars; adorn with seasonal greens, ribbons, and so on, or leave it plain. Blue and purple are traditional colors, with white for Christmas. Light one candle for the first week, two the second week, and so on. Remember that what's most important is the devotion of your heart.

The First Sunday of Advent – *December 3 – Mark 13:24-37*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Second Sunday of Advent – *December 10 – Mark 1:1-8*

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Third Sunday of Advent – *December 17 – John 1:6-8,19-28*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent – *December 24 – Luke 1:26-38*

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Feast of Christmas – *December 25 – Luke 2:1-14(15-20)*

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.