

# **Household Prayer for Advent**

## ***A guide to praying at home during the Advent Season***

*This prayer guide can be used by an individual, a small group, or a family, whether or not you have an Advent wreath. You can light any candle as part of this devotion, or pray without a candle.*

*When used with more than one person, take turns with the leader roles. Read from an adult Bible, or choose children's Bible stories to read. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel is suggested (and provided) for singing, but you can certainly sing other Advent or Christmas songs as part of your Advent evening devotion.*

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*The devotion may begin by singing one or more verses of  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (see below)*

*Light the appropriate number of candles for the given week in the season. When more than one are praying together, invite someone to lead the prayer (light font) with others saying the response (bold font). When praying on your own, say both lines in the promised company of the Holy Spirit and the communion of saints.*

Jesus Christ, Light of the World,  
**come and brighten the darkness.**

*Continue with the litany below*

As the season turns dark we dare to shine light.  
**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come!**

Isolated and disrupted by the pandemic and human divisions of all kinds, we seek your holy presence.  
**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come!**

We wait in hope for the fulfillment of God's promise.  
**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come!**

Renew this weary world, and we your weary people, with your mercy and love.  
**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come!**

*Say the prayer and read the Psalm for the day, and/or read any seasonally appropriate children's Bible reading. Each week has two psalms assigned, repeating for several days.*

### **First Week of Advent**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sunday, November 29 – Wednesday December 2: Psalm 79

Thursday, December 3 – Saturday, December 5: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

### **Second Week of Advent**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Sunday, December 6 – Wednesday, December 9: Psalm 27*

*Thursday, December 10 – Saturday, December 12: Psalm 126*

### **Third Week of Advent**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Sunday, December 13 – Wednesday, December 16: Psalm 125*

*Thursday, December 17 – Saturday, December 19: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26*

### **Fourth Week of Advent**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Sunday, December 20 – Tuesday, December 24: Luke 1:46b-55*

### **Christmas Day**

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace, Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Christmas Day: Psalm 98*

**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.**

We look with hope to the advent of our Lord.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come!**

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen**

*The devotion can conclude by singing one or more verses of  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O 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*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
 O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
 refresh the hearts that long for you;  
 restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
 and ransom captive Israel,  
 that mourns in lonely exile here  
 until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*