



— THE —
TABLE

Daily Morning Prayer
for Advent
for Christmas 2020

Opening Sentence of Scripture

DURING ADVENT:

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

DURING CHRISTMASTIDE:

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10-11*

Confession of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence is kept. All may kneel. The Officiant and People say

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Grant to your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Invitatory

O Lord, open our lips;

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us;

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

Invitatory Psalm: Venite O Come - Psalm 95:1-7

ADVENT:

Our King & Savior now draws near:

O come, let us adore him.

CHRISTMASTIDE:

Alleluia, to us a child is born:

O come, let us adore him.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *

let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the depths of the earth *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, *

and we are the people of his pasture,

and the sheep of his hand.

ADVENT:

Our King & Savior now draws near:

O come, let us adore him.

CHRISTMASTIDE:

Alleluia, to us a child is born:

O come, let us adore him.

The Psalms

One or more Psalms are read, after which is said:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Selections from Scripture are read, after which is said:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus - Luke 1:68-79*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *

he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old

that he would save us from our enemies, *

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *

holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation *

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God *

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness

and in the shadow of death, *

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the + resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord be with you / **and also with you.** / Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy. / **Christ, have mercy** / Lord, have mercy.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

○ Lord, show your mercy upon us;

And grant us your salvation.

○ Lord, guide those who govern us;

And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

And let your people sing with joy.

○ Lord, save your people;

And bless your inheritance.

Give peace in our time, ○ Lord;

And defend us by your mighty power.

Let not the needy, ○ Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, ○ God;

And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day *(from the previous Sunday)*

First Sunday in Advent *(November 29, 2020 and weekdays after)*

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.**

Feast of Saint Andrew *(November 30, 2020)*

Almighty God, you gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Second Sunday in Advent *(December 6, 2020 and weekdays after)*

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Third Sunday in Advent *(December 13, 2020 and weekdays after)*

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Fourth Sunday in Advent *(December 20, 2020 until Christmas)*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, 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.**

Feast of Saint Thomas *(December 21, 2020)*

Everliving God, you strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Christmas Eve *(December 24, 2020)*

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Christmas Day *(December 25, 2020)*

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Feast of Saint Stephen *(December 26, 2020)*

O Glorious Lord, your servant Stephen looked up to heaven and prayed for his persecutors: Grant that in all our sufferings here upon earth we may love and forgive our enemies, looking steadfastly to Jesus Christ our Lord, who sits at your right hand and intercedes for us; and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Sunday of Christmas *(December 27 and weekdays after)*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, kindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Feast of Saint John the Evangelist *(December 27, 2020)*

Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light; that we, being illumined by the teaching of your apostle and evangelist John, may so walk in the light of your truth, that at length we may attain to the fullness of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Feast of the Holy Innocents *(December 28, 2020)*

Almighty God, out of the mouths of children you manifest your truth, and by the death of the Holy Innocents at the hands of evil tyrants you show your strength in our weakness: We ask you to mortify all that is evil within us, and so strengthen us by your grace, that we may glorify your holy Name by the innocence of our lives and the constancy of our faith even unto death; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who died for us and now lives with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. **Amen.**

Circumcision and Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ *(Jan 1)*

Almighty God, your blessed Son fulfilled the covenant of circumcision for our sake, and was given the Name that is above every name: Give us grace faithfully to bear his Name, and to worship him with pure hearts according to the New Covenant; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Second Sunday of Christmas *(January 3, 2020 until Epiphany)*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Then follows

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day: Defend us by your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor run into any danger; and that, guided by your Spirit, we may do what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Personal Prayer

Intercessions and thanksgivings are offered, after each is said:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

**we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness
 to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,
 and all the blessings of this life;**

**but above all for your immeasurable love
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
 that with truly thankful hearts**

**we may show forth your praise,
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,
 by giving up our selves to your service,
 and by walking before you**

in holiness and righteousness all our days;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

**to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Grace *2 Corinthians 13:14*

The grace of our + Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**