

Bringing our concerns

Advent Lord,

We celebrate your coming as a human being
and the gift of your presence by your Spirit.

With longing for your coming again

when this world will be put to right

and swords shall be beaten into ploughshares,
and nations shall learn war no more,

we pray for signs of your kingdom

as we bring to you our concerns today.

We pray for: World • Church • People

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

Going to love and serve

Engaging in the mission of Christ this day,

open our eyes to see his coming,

and guide our feet to follow in his way.

Amen.

Optional:

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Daily Office – Tuesday Morning and Advent – Coming Lord

Becoming present to God

Through a sign of attentiveness like lighting a candle or

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Ever present God,

In this place and at this time, come to us.

or

Wait for the Lord, his day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart. (from Taizé)

or

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer

our spirits by thine advent here. (from *O come, O come Immanuel*)

Celebrating the presence of God

Generous God,

we come to you, the God who comes to us.

We give you praise that you came in creation,

founding the world and fashioning human beings in your likeness;

calling a people into being

and walking alongside them come what may.

You came in Jesus Christ

in self-giving love and in resurrection life.

You came by your Spirit, making disciples drunk with grace.

And you have come to us,

through friend and stranger,

in joy and in pain,

opening our eyes to the reality of Christ

and playing in ten thousand places.

Help us to celebrate your presence

as we seek to make known your love to the world,

and as we look with hope to the new creation

which will break in when you come again.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

A pause to name any specific thanks or praise

Acknowledging our humanity

God of grace, we acknowledge before you
That we are not the people you want us to be,
nor the people we want to be;

***we have marred your image in us,
and tarnished the image we have of ourselves.***

Come to us with forgiveness
and make whole that which is broken.

***Fill us afresh with your Spirit
that we might serve you and your people
with gratitude and joy. Amen.***

Listening for the Word of God

From The Common Lectionary

Canticle – Optional

Zechariah's Song | Benedictus

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets God promised of old
***to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,***

To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God 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.***

And you, 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 all 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 the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1.68-79

or

Song of Heaven's Joining with Earth

I saw a new heaven and a new earth,

***for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away
and the sea was no more.***

And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
***coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.***

And I heard a great voice from the throne saying,

'Behold, the dwelling of God is among mortals.

'He will dwell with them and they shall be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them.

'He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and death shall be no more.

'Neither shall there be mourning,
nor crying, nor pain any more,

for the former things have passed away.'

And the One who sat upon the throne said,

'Behold, I make all things new.' *Revelation 21.1-5a*

Reflecting on our roots

Living God, enable us this day

to be pilgrims and companions:

committed to the way of Christ,

faithful to the call of Christ,

discerning the mind of Christ,

offering the welcome of Christ,

growing in the likeness of Christ,

engaging in the mission of Christ,

in the world that belongs to Christ.