

Prayers for Advent Wreath Family Devotions

Week One

Opening Words

Leader: The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
When I will fulfill my promise to my All .
All: **Justice and righteousness will fill the land
And all will live in peace and safety.**

Lighting of the Advent Candles (*Purple candle opposite the pink candle*)

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of the hope we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.
All: **For the Lord will fulfill his promise
to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
A righteous branch will spring up for David;
And he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Following the lighting, all sing one verse of O Come O Come Emanuel (week 1=verse 1)

Week Two

Opening Words (*Purple candle next to the first candle lit*)

Leader: The Lord is coming to his temple.
All : **We watch and wait for his coming.
Prepare the way of the Lord!**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of the purity of heart only God can bring.
All : **For he shall purify his All like gold
And silver until they shine forth his righteousness.
Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Following the lighting, all sing one verse of O Come O Come Emanuel (week 2=verse 2).

Week Three

Opening Words (*The pink candle is lit*)

Leader: There will be signs in the heavens
and distress among the nations
All : **When Christ returns in power and glory
All will faint with fear.**

Leader: But when you see these things, lift up your heads.
All : **Our redemption is drawing near!**
Leader: Heaven and earth may pass away,
All : **But the Word of God will stand unshaken.**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol God's love for us and of our love for one another.
All : **For the Lord rejoices over us with gladness,
And renews us in his love. He exults over us
With singing and turns our shame to praise.**
All: **Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

Following the lighting, all sing one verse of O Come O Come Emanuel (week 3=verse3).

Week Four

Opening Words (*The remaining purple candle is lit*)

Leader: God-with-us, Immanuel,
comes to give us our own Holy Family,
here with the body of Christ this day.
All : **Rejoice and be glad! Amen!**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of the joy to be found in the kingdom of God on earth.
All : **For the Lord raises up the lowly, releases
the captive, and brings sight to the blind.
We rejoice in his justice and mercy;
faithful to all generations.**
All: **COME, LORD JESUS, COME!**

Following the lighting, all sing one verse of O Come O Come Emanuel (This week use v. 6 "O Dayspring").

Christmas Eve

Opening Words (*If you have a fifth (white) candle, it is lit with these words*)

Leader: Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy.
All : **To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.**
Leader: This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger
All : **Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace!**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: We light the Christ candle to symbolize God's promise fulfilled in our midst.
All : **For a child has been born for us, a son
Given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;
And he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Glory to God in the highest heaven,
And peace to all on whom his favor rests.**
All: **Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

Following the lighting, all sing Hark, the Herald Angels Sing