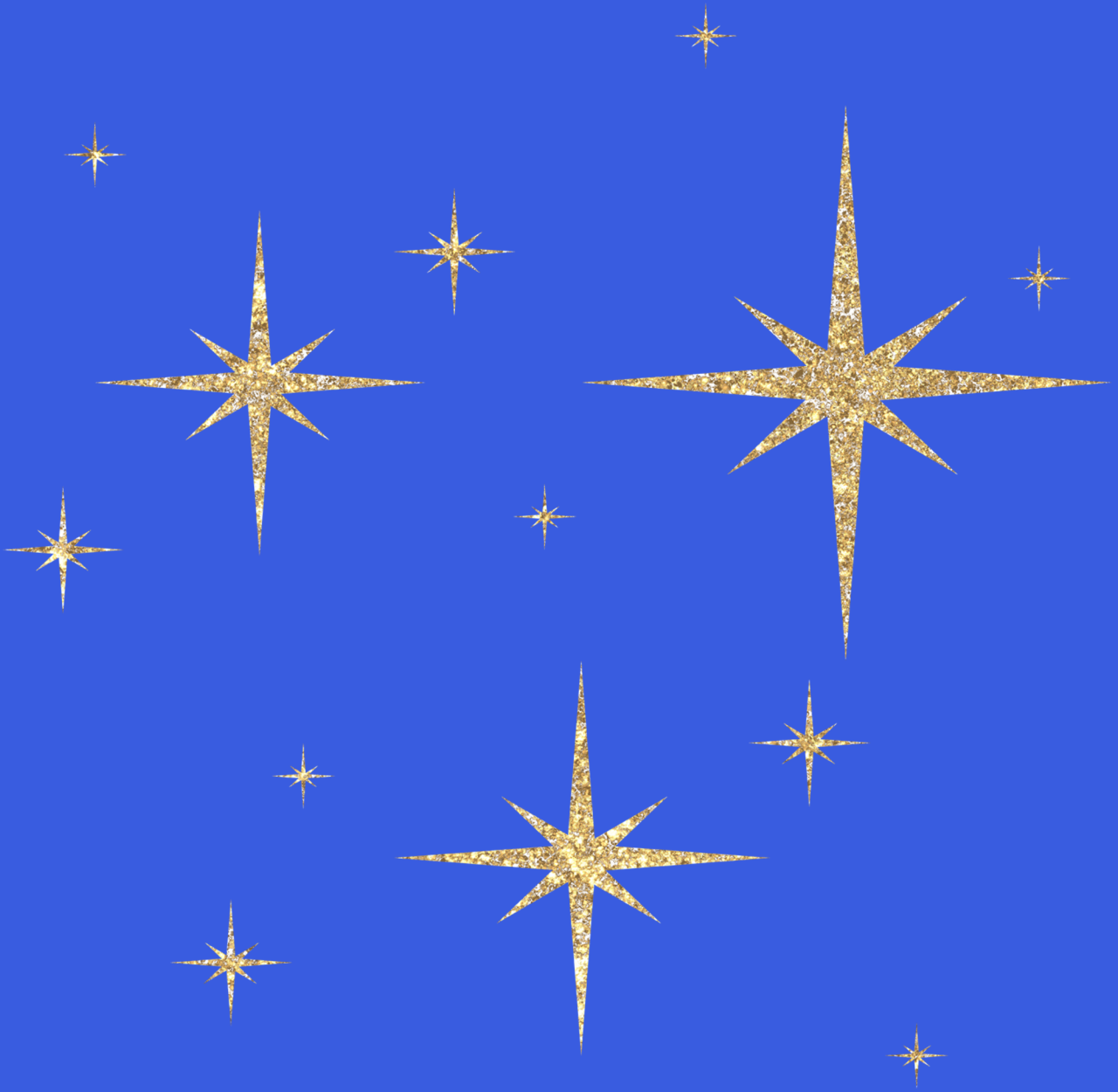


# Home Prayers for Advent



# *Advent Wreath Prayers*

*- from the Church of England*

## **Advent 1 - The Patriarchs**

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith  
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.  
May we be obedient to your call  
and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,  
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;  
for you are our light and our salvation.  
Blessed be God for ever.

Or

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
born in David's city of Bethlehem,  
born like him to be a king:  
be born in our hearts at Christmas,  
be King of our lives today.  
Amen.**

Or

God of Abraham and Sarah,  
and all the patriarchs of old,  
you are our Father too.  
Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Son of David.  
Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth  
to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit  
to make his home among us.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who is coming into the world.  
**Amen.**



## **Advent 2 - The Prophets**

God,  
you spoke to the prophets of old  
of a Saviour who would bring peace.  
You helped them to spread the joyful message  
of his coming kingdom.  
Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
to share with those around us  
the good news of your power and love.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who is coming into the world.  
**Amen.**

**Or**

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
the prophets said you would bring peace  
and save your people in trouble.  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas  
and show all the world God's love.  
Amen.**

**Or**

People of God: awake!  
The day is coming soon  
when you shall see God face to face.  
Remember the ways and the works of God.  
God calls you out of darkness  
to walk in the light of his coming.  
You are God's children.  
Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ  
today and for ever.  
**Amen.**



## **Advent 3 - John the Baptist**

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth  
as a burning and shining light.  
May we your servants rejoice in his light,  
and so be led to witness to him  
who is the Lord of our coming kingdom,  
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.  
Blessed be God for ever.

**Or**

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
John told the people to prepare,  
for you were very near.  
As Christmas grows closer day by day,  
help us to be ready to welcome you now.  
Amen.**

**Or**

People of God: return!  
You are called to be God's own.  
From the mountains announce the good news.  
God comes in justice and peace,  
to all who follow his ways.  
You are God's children.  
Lord, make us one in the peace of Christ  
today and for ever.  
**Amen.**



## **Advent 4 - Mary**

God our Father,  
the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary  
that she was to be the mother of your Son.  
Though Mary was afraid,  
she responded to your call with joy.  
Help us, whom you call to serve you,  
to share like her in your great work  
of bringing to our world your love and healing.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the light who is coming into the world.  
**Amen.**

**Or**

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news;  
blessed is Mary, your mother and ours.  
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;  
and bless us your children, who long for your coming.  
Amen.**

**Or**

People of God: prepare!  
God, above all, maker of all,  
is one with us in Christ.  
Maranatha!  
**Come, Lord Jesus!**

God, the mighty God,  
bends down in love to earth.  
Maranatha!  
**Come, Lord Jesus!**

God with us, God beside us,  
comes soon to the world he has made.  
Maranatha!  
**Come, Lord Jesus!**

We are God's children,  
we seek the coming Christ.  
Maranatha!  
**Come, Lord Jesus!**



## Christmas

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, King of peace:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
The new light of your incarnate Word  
gives gladness in our sorrow,  
and a presence in our isolation.  
Fill our lives with your light,  
until they overflow with gladness and praise.  
Blessed be God for ever.

**Or**

**Lord Jesus, Light of light,  
you have come among us.  
Help us who live by your light  
to shine as lights in your world.  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Amen.**

**Or**

People of God: shout and sing!  
Tell the good news of peace on earth.  
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.  
All God's people say/shout:  
**Amen!**

Angels dance  
and the bright star shines.  
All creation bows to the Lord of all.  
Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.  
All God's people say/shout:  
**Amen!**

One with us,  
yet born to save,  
he will show us the way to God.  
Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.  
All God's people say/shout:  
Amen!  
People of God: shout and sing:  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Amen.**



## Morning Prayer for Advent

- taken from 'Pray without Ceasing: Morning and Evening Prayer of the Seasons of the Church and Ordinary Time' - Anglican church of Canada

Restore us, O Creator of the stars of night;  
show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.  
Will you not give us life again, so that your people may rejoice in you?  
Show us your mercy, O God, and grant us your salvation.  
Blessed is the Christ who comes in your name!  
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

**Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit.  
Blessed be God for ever.**

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD** - *see the list of readings at the end of this liturgy*

### **The Psalm**

*A Psalm from the Daily Office Lectionary, the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary or the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings is said or sung.*

*At the end of the Psalm the following may be said or sung.*

**Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **The Reading**

*After a period of silent reflection one of the following is said.*

**Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. Thanks be to God.**

*Morning Prayer continues with the Responsory or the Canticle or both. If two Readings are read, then the Responsory follows the first Reading and the Canticle the second.*

### **The Responsory**

*The Responsory is said or sung.*

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,  
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.  
Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,  
for the night is far spent.  
Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light,  
for the day is at hand.  
Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh,  
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

*Morning Prayer continues with [the Second Reading or] the Canticle or an Affirmation of Faith.*

## **The Canticle**

*'The Song of Zechariah', 'A Song of the Wilderness' or 'A Song of Baruch' may be said or sung.*

### **The Song of Zechariah (Luke 1.68-79)**

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, \*  
you have come to your people and set them free.  
You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, \*  
born of the house of your servant David.  
Through your holy prophets, \*  
you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us, \*  
to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant. This was the oath you  
swore to our father Abraham: \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship you without fear, \*  
holy and righteous before you, 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 the way,  
to give God's 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 the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Or**

### **A Song of the Wilderness (Isaiah 35.1, 2b-4a, 4c-6, 10)**

The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice, \*  
the desert shall blossom and burst into song.  
They shall see the glory of the Lord, \*  
the majesty of our God.  
Strengthen the weary hands, \*  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
Say to the anxious, 'Be strong, fear not, your God is coming with judgement\*  
coming with judgement to save you.'  
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, \*  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then shall the lame leap like a hart, \*  
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, \*  
and streams in the desert;  
the ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing, \*  
with everlasting joy upon their heads.  
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, \*  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.



**Or**

**A Song of Baruch (Baruch 5.5, 6c, 7-9)**

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height: \*

look to the east and see your children,  
gathered from the west and the east \*

at the word of the Holy One.

They rejoice that God has remembered them \*

and has brought them back to you.

For God has ordered that every high mountain \*

and the everlasting hills be made low,

and the valleys filled up to make level ground \*

so that they may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree \*

have shaded them at God's command.

For God will lead this people with joy in the light of the divine glory \*

with the mercy and righteousness that comes from God.

*At the end of the Canticle one of the following may be said or sung.*

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

**Affirmation of Faith**

*One of the following Affirmations of Faith may be said or sung.*

**The Apostles' Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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

**Or**

**Hear, O Israel**

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

### The Litany

In joyful expectation let us pray to God, our Saviour and Redeemer.

O Wisdom from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live. **Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Head of the house of Israel, you appeared in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us. **Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Branch of Jesse standing as a sign among the nations, all rulers will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more. **Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison. **Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Morning Star, bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. **Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations: come and save us, O Anointed One. **Lord Jesus, come soon.**

*Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud. Among these concerns it is appropriate to remember*

*After a period of silence either the Collect of the Day or one of the following collects may be said or sung.*

### Advent 1

God of justice and peace, from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness, so that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder before your marvellous deeds. Raise our heads in expectation, so that we may yearn for the coming of your Christ and stand without blame before him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Advent 2

God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation. Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, so that with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await the coming of your Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Advent 3

Merciful God, your word, spoken by the prophets, restores your people's life and hope. Fill our hearts with the joy of your saving grace, so that we may hold fast to your great goodness and in our lives proclaim your justice in all the world, through your Christ who comes among us. **Amen**

## Advent 4

O God of Elizabeth and Mary, you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Saviour. Make our hearts leap with joy and fill our mouths with songs of praise, so that we may announce glad tidings of peace and welcome the Christ in our midst.

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**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. 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.**

## THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

May Christ, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**



## Evening Prayer for Advent

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of light and darkness, to you be glory and praise for ever. As evening falls, you renew your promise to reveal among us the light of your presence. May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path so that we may behold your coming among us. Strengthen us in our stumbling weakness and free our tongues to sing your praise.

Blessed be the holy and undivided Trinity, one God. Blessed be God for ever.

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

#### **The Psalm**

*A Psalm from the Daily Office Lectionary, the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary or the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings is said or sung.*

*At the end of the Psalm the following may be said or sung.*

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word, and Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

#### **The Reading**

*A Reading from the Daily Office Lectionary, see the list of daily readings at the end of the liturgy*

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

## The Responsory

My soul is waiting for you, Light of my salvation: in your word is my hope.

**My soul is waiting for you, Light of my salvation: in your word is my hope.**

There is forgiveness with you, so that you shall be held in awe.

**My soul is waiting for you, Light of my salvation in your word is my hope.**

Reveal among us the light of your presence, so that we may behold your power and glory.

**My soul is waiting for you, Light of my salvation: in your word is my hope.**

## The Canticle

*The Song of Mary (Luke 1:46–55)*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, \*

for you, Lord, have looked with favour on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*

you, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name. You have mercy on those who fear you, \*

from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm \*

and scattered the proud in their conceit,

casting down the mighty from their thrones \*

and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things \*

and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, \*

to remember the promise of mercy,

the promise made to our ancestors, \*

to Abraham and his children for ever.

Or



*A Song of the Spirit (Revelation 22:12–14, 16, 17)*

“Behold, I am coming soon,” says the Lord,  
“and bringing my reward with me, \*  
to give everyone according to their deeds.  
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, \*  
the beginning and the end.”

Blessed are those who do God’s commandments,  
that they may have the right to the tree of life, \*  
and may enter into the city through the gates.

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, \*  
with this testimony for all the churches  
I am the root and the offspring of David, \*  
I am the bright morning star.”

“Come!” say the Spirit and the Bride; \*

“Come!” let each hearer reply.

Come forward, you who are thirsty, \*  
let those who desire take the water of life as a gift

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word, and Holy Spirit:  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

*One of the following Affirmations of Faith may be said or sung.*

### **The Apostles’ Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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

**Or**

### **Hear, O Israel**

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

### The Litany

Watchful at all times, let us pray to God for strength to stand with confidence. God, our Maker and Redeemer, fill the earth with justice and compassion.

**God of Mary and Joseph, hear and have mercy.**

Establish righteousness in the nations.

**God of Mary and Joseph, hear and have mercy.**

Bind up the broken-hearted, restore the sick, and raise up all who have fallen.

**God of Mary and Joseph, hear and have mercy**

Shine the light of Christ on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

**God of Mary and Joseph, hear and have mercy.**

Empower us, with all the saints in light, to be your witnesses in the world.

**God of Mary and Joseph, hear and have mercy**

*Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud.*

*After a period of silence either the Collect of the Day or one of the following collects may be said or sung.*

### **Advent 1**

God of justice and peace, from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness, so that all on earth may stand in awe and wonder before your marvellous deeds. Raise our heads in expectation, so that we may yearn for the coming of your Christ and stand without blame before him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Advent 2**

God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation. Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, so that with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await the coming of your Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Advent 3**

Merciful God, your word, spoken by the prophets, restores your people's life and hope. Fill our hearts with the joy of your saving grace, so that we may hold fast to your great goodness and in our lives proclaim your justice in all the world, through your Christ who comes among us. **Amen.**

## Advent 4

O God of Elizabeth and Mary, you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Saviour. Make our hearts leap with joy and fill our mouths with songs of praise, so that we may announce glad tidings of peace and welcome the Christ in our midst. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**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. 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.**

## THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

### The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Evening**

*Prayer may conclude with the following Sentence.*

May Christ, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**





## **Readings for Morning and Evening Prayer through Advent**

### **December 1**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 146, 147; 2Peter.3-1-10  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 111, 112, 113; Matthew 25.1-13

### **December 2**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 1, 2, 3; 1Thessalonians 1.1-10  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 4, 7; Luke 20.1-8

### **December 3**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 5, 6; 1Thessalonians 2.1-12  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 10, 11; Luke 20.9-18

### **December 4**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 119.1-24; 1Thessalonians 2.13-20  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 12, 13, 14; Luke 20.19-26

### **December 5**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 18.1-20; 1Thessalonians 3.1-13  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 18.21-50; Luke 20.27-40

### **December 6**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 16, 17; 1Thessalonians 4.1-12  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 22; Luke 20.41-21.4

### **December 7**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 20, 21.1-7; 1Thessalonians 4.13-18  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 110.1-5, 116, 117; Luke 21.5-19

### **December 8**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 148, 149; 2Peter 3.11-18  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 114, 115; Luke 7.28-35

### **December 9**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 25; 1Thessalonians 5.1-11  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 9, 15; Luke 21.20-28

### **December 10**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 26, 28; 1Thessalonians 5.12-28  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 36, 39; Luke 21.29-38

### **December 11**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 38; 2Thessalonians 1.1-12  
Evening Prayer: Psalm 119.25-48; John 7.53-8.11

### **December 12**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 37.1-18; 2Thessalonians 2.1-12

Evening Prayer: Psalm 37.19-42; Luke 22.1-13

### **December 13**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 31; 2Thessalonians 2.13-3.5

Evening Prayer: Psalm 35; Luke 22.14-30

### **December 14**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 30, 32; 2Thessalonians 3.6-18

Evening Prayer: Psalm 42, 43; Luke 22.31-38

### **December 15**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 63.1-8, Hebrews 12.18-29

Evening Prayer: Psalm 103; John 3.22-30

### **December 16**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 41, 52; 2Peter1.1-11

Evening Prayer: Psalm 44; Luke 22.39-53

### **December 17**

Morning Prayer: Psalm45; 2Peter 1.12-21

Evening Prayer: Psalm 47, 28; Luke 22.54-69

### **December 18**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 24, 29; Ephesians 6.10-20

Evening Prayer: Psalm 8, 84; John 3.16-21

### **December 19**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 61, 61; Revelation 20.1-10

Evening Prayer: Psalm 112, 115; John 5.30-47

### **December 20**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 66, 67; Revelation 20.11-21.8

Evening Prayer: Psalm 116, 117; Luke 1.5-25

### **December 21**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 72, Revelation 21.9-21

Evening Prayer: Psalm 111, 113; Luke 1.26-38

### **December 22**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 80, Revelation 21.22-22.5

Evening Prayer: Psalm 146, 147; Luke 1.39-48a

### **December 23**

Morning Prayer: Psalm 93, 96; Revelation 22.6-11, 18-20

Evening Prayer: Psalm 148, 150; Luke 1.57-66

## *Nature Poems for Advent*

### **Creation**

*The kids of St. Anne's, and Daniel Melvill Jones*

“Chee-chee!” cries the squirrel, dashing up a trunk.  
“Roar!” went the T-Rex, all those years ago.  
Entering their forest, I smell its earthy loam;  
Alder, oak, maple and elderberry leaves  
Tumble from above.  
I peer up, so high, and wonder,  
On this October day  
Nestled among the trees,  
How I fit into  
God's Creation.

### **Rosehip**

*Daniel Melvill Jones*

Red is not a colour you would expect  
to find in winter.  
Or at least, not here:  
not in this land  
So swept by winds that endless brown and  
white are all one ever sees.  
Except if you turn from the path  
you've been trudging on.  
Hidden in that snow-covered  
tangle of branches  
Is a bush whose berries  
—though wrinkled and withered—  
Provide a small part  
of what you've been longing for:  
A glimpse and glimmer of joy.



The following Robert Macfarlane poems are excerpted from *The Lost Spells* by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris (House of Anansi Press Inc., 2020).

## **Jay**

*Robert Macfarlane*

Jay, Jay, plant me an acorn.  
I will plant you a thousand acorns.  
Acorn, acorn, grown me an oak.  
I will grow you an oak that will live  
for a thousand years.  
Year, year, fledge me a Jay.  
I will fledge you a Jay that will plant  
you a thousand acorns that will each  
grow a thousand oaks that will each  
live a thousand years that will each  
fledge a bright-backed, blue-winged,  
forest-making Jay.

## **Goldfinch**

*Robert Macfarlane*

God know the world needs all  
the good it can get right now —  
Out in the gardens and fields,  
Goldfinches are gilding the land for free,  
Leaving little gifts of light:  
a gleam for the teasel,  
a glint for the tree.  
Did you hear their high scattered song,  
their bright wings' flutter,  
Falling around you as flecks,  
as grains, as glitter?  
Imagine the loss of their lustre,  
the lack of their sheen:  
No more shimmer,  
a worrying absence of gilt.  
Charm on, Goldfinch, charm on —  
Heaven help us when  
all your gold is gone.





**Hope**

**Peace**

**Joy**

**Love**







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Bishop  The Right Reverend John Stephens

Rector  The Reverend Marnie Peterson

Music Director  Jonathan Der

*We gather and worship on the ancestral and unceded territories  
of the Coast Salish Peoples.*