

Advent Wreath Lighting - Week 2

Opening Song

ON JORDAN'S BANK

WINCHESTER NEW



1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An -
2. Then cleansed be ev - 'ry soul from sin; Make
3. For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, Our
4. All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee Whose



1. nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and heark - en,
2. straight the way of God with - in, Pre - pare we in our
3. ref - uge and our sure re - ward; Shine forth, and let thy
4. ad - vent set thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



Lighting of the Wreath

The family comes forward and lights the wreath as the leader prays:

Lord our God,

We praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:

He is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ' promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!

Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!

Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice,

Jerusalem, herald of good news!

Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God!

Here comes with power

the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him.

Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

Psalm 85



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Blessing of a Christmas Tree

A Christmas tree is a blessing to our home. It reminds us of all that is beautiful, all that is filled with gentleness and the promise of God. It stands in our midst as a tree of light that we might promise such beauty to one another and to our world. It stands like that tree of paradise that God made into the tree of life, the cross of Jesus.

God of all creation, we praise you for this tree which brings beauty and memories and the promise of life to our home. May your blessing be upon all who gather around this tree, all who keep the Christmas festival by its lights. We wait for the coming of the Christ, the days of everlasting justice and of peace. You are our God, living and reigning, for ever and ever. AMEN.

Advent Litany

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

You are light in our darkness. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Son of God, save us from our sins. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Son of Mary, deepen our love. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Bring hope into the lives of all people. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Give your peace to all nations. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Be the joy of all who love you. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Bring unity among all who believe in you. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Bless us as we gather here in your name. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Lord Jesus, stay with us always. ***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Let us pray:

May Christ give us his peace and joy, and let us share them with others. All peace and glory are his forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer – Collect of the Day from the Roman Missal

Let us pray:

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Blessing and Dismissal

May the light of Christ lead you to the joy of his kingdom, now and forever. **AMEN**

And may almighty God bless you all, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.