

Advent Candle Lighting – Jesus Sets us Free from Sin

Advent 1

Christ Candle and first Advent candle are lit as service begins.

Leader: We live in troubled times,
waiting for God's bursts of light in our dark world.

**People: Lift up your eyes!
God's justice is on the way.**

Leader: Liberating God,
sustain us and help us to walk in your ways.

**People: Free us from the chains of prejudice
and the shackles of sin.**

Leader: This is the moment to wake from sleep.
Be ready, Jesus is coming to set us free.

*All: Let us worship God,
whose mercy promises us new life
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

Advent 2

Christ Candle and second Advent candle are lit as service begins.

Leader: We wait for God's light to burst into our dark world.
Open your eyes. Unstop your ears.

**People: As we prepare for your coming,
we recognize that we are in need of change.**

Leader: Like the valleys and hills, the crooked paths and rough places,
we need your mercy to transform us.

**People: We confess that we still live in the shadows of apathy, greed, and prejudice.
Burn away in your refining fire all that keeps us from you.**

*All: Kindle in us your merciful love, so that we may be freed to serve and worship
you in spirit and in truth.*

Advent 3

Christ Candle and third Advent candle are lit as service begins.

Leader: Sing aloud, O people,
Shout out your worship in a loud voice!

**People: God takes away the judgment against us;
There's no need to fear disaster.**

Leader: The Lord our God exults ever us with gladness;
Singing loudly as on a day of celebration.

**People: God delivers us from all that oppresses us,
Changing our shame into praise.**

*All: Rejoice! For God is our strength and our might
And has become our salvation.*

Advent 4

Christ Candle and fourth Advent candle are lit as service begins.

Leader: Our souls magnify you, our God.
Our spirits rejoice in you, our Savior.

**People: You have looked with favor on your lowly servants;
Because of you we are called "blesses."**

Leader: You have scattered the proud
and brought down the mighty.

**People: You have raised up the lowly
and filled the hungry.**

Leader: You have remembered your mercy,
helping those in need and their descendants forever.

*All: Praise.
Praise God's Holy Name.*

Sunday after Christmas

Leader: Praise the Lord,
sing praise all the heights!

**People: Praise God, sun and moon.
Sing praise, all you shining stars!**

Leader: Praise God, all the earth.
Sing praise, all fruit trees and hills!

**People: Praise God, all you animals.
Sing praise, creeping things and flying birds!**

*All: Young men and women alike, old and young together,
Let all that has life and breath praise God!*

Epiphany Sunday

Leader: Arise, shine;
your light has come.

People: God's glory has risen upon us.

Leader: Even if darkness should cover the earth,
deep darkness cover the peoples,

**People: Nations shall come to you light,
kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

Leader: Nothing can hide God's glorious light.

*All: Let us look to God and be radiant.
Let us reflect the brightness of this dawning.*

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