

instead. Discussion may follow.

Sunday—Luke 19:29-38

(or the Gospel reading appointed for the Sunday)

Monday—Isaiah 1:1-18 Thursday—Isaiah 6:1-13

Tuesday—Isaiah 2:1-18 Friday—Isaiah 7:10-14

Wednesday—Isaiah 5:1-16 Saturday—Isaiah 8:16-9:2

READING FROM A DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

Someone may read from an Advent devotional booklet, or another Advent activity may be done. Discussion may follow.

PRAYERS

Special prayers may be offered by the leader or by others in the family as appropriate. The prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

BLESSING

The Lord Almighty order our days and our deeds in His peace.
Amen.

The Second Week of Advent

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross α may be made in remembrance of Holy Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Spirit and the Church cry out:

Come, Lord Jesus.

All those who await His appearance pray:

Come, Lord Jesus.

The whole creation pleads:

Come, Lord Jesus.

ADVENT HYMN

The appropriate candle(s) on the family Advent wreath may be lit as the following stanza is sung:

**Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.**

**He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.**

(LW 24; TLH 66)

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only begotten Son, that at His second coming we may worship Him in purity; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

One of the following readings may be read, or another reading appointed to go with an Advent devotional booklet may be read instead. Discussion may follow.

Sunday—Mark 13:19-21

(or the Gospel reading appointed for the Sunday)

Monday—Isaiah 11:1-10 Thursday—Isaiah 26:1-13

Tuesday—Isaiah 13:1-13 Friday—Isaiah 28:5-19

Wednesday—Isaiah 25:1-9 Saturday—Isaiah 30:8-18

READING FROM A DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

Someone may read from an Advent devotional booklet, or another Advent activity may be done. Discussion may follow.

PRAYERS

Special prayers may be offered by the leader or by others in the family as appropriate. The prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

BLESSING

The Lord Almighty order our days and our deeds in His peace.
Amen.

The Third Week of Advent

Praying the Great "O" Antiphons of Advent

The seven "O" Antiphons of Advent are ancient prayers (8th century) prayed throughout the world from Dec. 17–24. Each petition focuses on a biblical title given to Christ and asks Him to come and fulfill a scriptural promise or prophecy. Found in Lutheran Worship, pp. 288-289 or on an adjoining leaflet, these prayers may be used on the appropriate days immediately before the Advent Hymn. The seven stanzas of the hymn, "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" (Lutheran Worship #31) were patterned after these prayers and may be used with these devotions as well.

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross α may be made in remembrance of Holy Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

(The appropriate "O Antiphon" may be prayed before the Advent Hymn on the day corresponding to its traditional use.)

ADVENT HYMN

The appropriate candle(s) on the family Advent wreath may be lit as the following stanza is sung:

**Arise, sons of the Kingdom!
The King is drawing night;
Arise and hail with gladness
the Ruler from on high.
Ye Christians, hasten forth!
Your praise and homage bring Him
And glad hosannas sing Him;
Naught else your love is worth.**

(LW 25; TLH 69)

PRAYER OF WEEK

Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, you once proclaimed salvation; now grant that we may know this salvation and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

One of the following readings may be read, or another reading appointed to go with an Advent devotional booklet may be read instead. Discussion may follow.

Sunday—Matthew 3:1-12

(or the Gospel reading appointed for the Sunday)

Monday—Isaiah 32:1-8 Thursday—Isaiah 40:21-31

Tuesday—Isaiah 35:1-10 Friday—Isaiah 42:1-12

Wednesday—Isaiah 40:1-18 Saturday—Isaiah 43:1-13

READING FROM A DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

Someone may read from an Advent devotional booklet, or another Advent activity may be done. Discussion may follow.

PRAYERS

Special prayers may be offered by the leader or by others in the family as appropriate. The prayers conclude with the

Lord's Prayer.

BLESSING

The Lord Almighty order our days and our deeds in His peace.
Amen.

The Fourth Week of Advent

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross α may be made
in remembrance of Holy Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

*(The appropriate "O Antiphon" may be prayed before the
Advent Hymn on the day corresponding to its traditional use.)*

ADVENT HYMN

*The appropriate candle(s) on the family Advent wreath may be
lit as the following stanza is sung:*

**Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

(LW 31; TLH 62)

PRAYER OF DAY

Days leading up to Christmas Eve

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come among us with great
might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted
by Your grace and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who
lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

Amen.

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th)

O God, because you once caused this holy night to shine with
the brightness of the true Light, grant that we who have known
the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full
measure of its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

*One of the following readings may be read (skipping ahead to
the appointed reading for Christmas Eve on Dec. 24th), or*

*another reading appointed to go with an Advent devotional
booklet may be read instead. Discussion may follow.*

Sunday—Luke 1:39-55 [the Magnificat]

(or the Gospel reading appointed for the Sunday)

Monday—Isaiah 43:16-25 Thursday—Isaiah 45:18-25

Tuesday—Isaiah 44:1-22 Friday—Isaiah 46:1-13

Wednesday—Isaiah 45:1-8

Christmas Eve—Zechariah 2:10-13

READING FROM A DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

*Someone may read from an Advent devotional booklet, or
another Advent activity may be done. Discussion may follow.*

PRAYERS

*Special prayers may be offered by the leader or by others in
the family as appropriate. The prayers conclude with the
Lord's Prayer.*

BLESSING

The Lord Almighty order our days and our deeds in His peace.
Amen.

A Scripture Reading for Christmas (Dec. 25): John 1:1-18

A Prayer for Christmas

O God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth
of Your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, grant that we, who
joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure
confidence behold Him when He comes to be our judge, who
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

Amen.

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www.GoodShepherd.nb.ca/Seasonal for help with hymn melodies, Bible
readings, "O Antiphons", Advent Wreaths, and other resources.

A BRIEF ORDER FOR FAMILY DEVOTIONS

for each day in Advent

“ISAIAH”

The First Week of Advent *

(Advent begins each year on the Sunday nearest to Nov. 30th)*

INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross α may be made
in remembrance of Holy Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Spirit and the Church cry out:

Come, Lord Jesus.

All those who await His appearance pray:

Come, Lord Jesus.

The whole creation pleads:

Come, Lord Jesus.

ADVENT HYMN

*The appropriate candle(s) on the family Advent wreath may be
lit as the following stanza is sung:*

**Savior of the nations, come,
Show yourself the virgin's son.
Marvel, heaven, wonder, earth,
That our God chose such a birth.
No man's pow'r of mind or blood
But the Spirit of our God
Made the Word of God be flesh,
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.**

(LW 13/TLH 95)

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Stir up, we implore you, Your power, O Lord, and come, that by
Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of
our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

*One of the following readings may be read, or another reading
appointed to go with an Advent devotional booklet may be read*