

## **Litany for Lighting the Advent Candle (week 1)**

**Leader:** We believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Light.

People: For Advent is a time of expecting new light to shine.

**Leader:** We believe that the prophets announced the coming of the Light to the world, even the Messiah, Christ Jesus.

People: For Advent is a time to prepare for the One who is the Light of the World.

**Leader:** We believe in the Holy Spirit who empowers us to shed the Light into all the world.

People: For we long to be transformed by the Light of the Son of the Living God.

**Leader:** Today, on this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Hope.

People: For the One whom we adore is indeed the hope of the world.

## **Litany for Lighting the Advent Candles (week 2)**

**Leader:** I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

People: I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world, in towns both large and small.

**Leader:** I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

People: I believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.

**Leader:** I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible.

People: I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.

**Leader:** I confess my ever-lasting need of God: The need of forgiveness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.

People: I believe in God who gives us the best of himself. I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God, born in Bethlehem for me and for the world.

**Leader:** With this strong belief, we light the candle of love. All praise and thanks to the God of invincible love.

### **Advent Litany (week 3)**

**Leader: We come to praise you, O God, for you are the maker of heaven and earth.**

People: Glory be to God on high; and on earth, peace.

**Leader: We come to praise you, Lord Jesus, who, though You were in the form of God, You allowed Yourself to be born in human likeness.**

People: Glory be to God on high; and on earth, peace.

**Leader: We come to praise you, Holy Spirit, for You are our source of strength in our times of need and our guide through the days of our lives.**

People: Glory be to God on high; and on earth, peace.

**Leader: We come to praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for the awesome mystery of Your being and for the joy that comes from knowing You.**

People: Glory be to God on high; and on earth, peace.

**Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.**

People: O come, O come, Emmanuel!

### **Advent Litany (week 4)**

**Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me all who are weary" –weary of spending more money than you have, weary of feeling no joy, weary of feeling no excitement.**

People: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me all who are weary" –weary of not having enough, weary of not being good enough, weary of being lonely or being sick, or being taken for granted.**

People: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me all who are weary" –weary of being oppressed and oppressing, weary of hearing of violence, weary of being warriors.**

People: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of the Prince of Peace. May the visitation of your Holy Spirit, O God, make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our hope and joy.**

People: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

**Litany for Lighting of the Christ Candle**  
**December 24, 2004**

**Leader: Christ is born; give him Glory:**

People: O God, we give you our thanks and praise!

**Leader: Christ has come down from heaven; receive him!**

People: O God, we give you our thanks and praise!

**Leader: Christ is now on earth; exalt him!**

People: O God, we give you our thanks and praise!

**Leader: Let us dance with delight in the Lord and let our hearts be filled with rejoicing,**

People: For eternal salvation has appeared on the earth.

**Leader: We light this Christ candle on this glorious night. May the light of Christ shine in our lives, and through us, out into the world!**

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!