The ADVENT WREATH PRAYER for the First Sunday of Advent

Leader: We gather around our wreath to begin the celebration of Advent.

Let us ask our Father in heaven to fill our hearts with grace.

On the First Sunday of Advent, we light **THE CANDLE OF HOPE**.

We have hope because God is ever faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our HOPE comes from God.

(A reading from the book of Romans) "And again, Isaiah says, 'The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:12-13)

<u>ALL:</u> Heavenly Father, bless this Advent wreath and bless all of us. Fill us with your Spirit and the spirit of Hope so that we may be strengthened in our daily tasks. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The ADVENT WREATH PRAYER for the Second Sunday of Advent

Leader: On the Second Sunday of Advent, we light **THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION**.

God kept his promise of sending us a Savior.

Preparation means to "get ready." Help us to be ready to welcome you, o God!

(A reading from the Gospel of Luke) "As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: 'A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation." (Luke 3:4-6)

<u>ALL:</u> Heavenly Father, inspire us to follow in the steps of John the Baptist and PREPARE for the coming of your Son. Help us to look honestly into our hearts and see our faults. Give us the strength we need to overcome our weaknesses and help us to stay true to your commandments. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The ADVENT WREATH PRAYER for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Leader: On the Third Sunday of Advent, we light THE CANDLE OF JOY

The night Christ was born the angels sang a message of JOY to the shepherds!

(A reading from the Gospel of Luke) "...And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.'" (Luke 2:7-14)

<u>ALL:</u> Lord God, keep us aware of your presence in all we do. Fill our hearts with JOY so that we might live each day serving others, and in so doing, praising you. Enlighten us by your grace, so that peace reigns in our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The ADVENT WREATH PRAYER for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

<u>Leader:</u> On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we light **THE CANDLE OF LOVE.**

The angels announced the good news of a Savior.

God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us!

(A reading from the Gospel of John) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:16-17)

<u>ALL:</u> Lord Jesus, we approach that holy moment when Your coming as man is renewed in our hearts. Fill our hearts with LOVE so that everything we do will be a reflection of your love for us. Remind us to always listen to others sincerely, speak to them kindly, and see your face in everyone we meet. We ask this of You, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as One God, now and forever. Amen.



