

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty saviour, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Refrain as above.

Prayer based on The Advent of Christ *Let us turn our eyes to the Lord of glory and enthrone him on our praises saying Come Lord Jesus.*

Come Lord Jesus.

Jesus, servant of God, You bring justice to the peoples **Come Lord Jesus.**

You love your people with a faithful love **Come Lord Jesus.**

You were lifted up on the cross that you might draw all people to yourself

Come Lord Jesus.

You bring hope and joy to those who walk in the valley of the shadow of death

Come Lord Jesus.

You have liberated us so that we might be free forever **Come Lord Jesus.**

You, O Christ, are our justice, Our peace and our redemption **Come Lord Jesus.**

Intercessions end with this collect or another collect for the day

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Morning Prayer in Advent 2020

O Lord open our lips **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Reveal among us the light of your presence **that we may behold your power and glory.**

Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy, To you be praise and glory for ever. In the darkness of our sin, your light shines forth like the dawn and your healing springs up for deliverance. As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help, sustain us with your bountiful spirit and open our lips to sing your praise, Father, Son, Holy Spirit; **Blessed be God forever!**

Or

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all, To you be praise and glory for ever.

In your tender compassion the dawn from on high is breaking upon us to dispel the lingering shadows of night. As we look for your coming among us this day, open our eyes to behold your presence and strengthen our hands to do your will, that the world may rejoice and give you praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Opening canticle - A Song of the Spirit

Surely I am coming soon! ♦ Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

- 1 'Behold, I am coming soon', says the Lord, 'and bringing my reward with me, ♦ to give to everyone according to their deeds.
- 2 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, ♦ the beginning and the end.'
- 3 Blessed are those who do God's commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, ♦ and may enter into the city through the gates.
- 4 'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, ♦ with this testimony for all the churches.
- 5 'I am the root and the offspring of David, ♦ I am the bright morning star.'
- 6 'Come!' say the Spirit and the Bride; ♦ 'Come!' let each hearer reply!
- 7 Come forward, you who are thirsty, ♦ let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.

Revelation 22.12-14, 16, 17

Surely I am coming soon! ♦ Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind. *Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 42 or an alternative Psalm

1. As a deer longs for flowing streams,* so my soul longs for you, O God.
2. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. * When shall I come and behold the face of God?
3. My tears have been my food day and night,*while people say to me continually, “Where is your God?”
4. These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng, * and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.
5. Why are you cast down, O my soul,* and why are you disquieted within me?
6. Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.
7. My soul is cast down within me; * therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.
8. Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; * all your waves and your billows have gone over me.
9. By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,* and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
10. I say to God, my rock, “Why have you forgotten me?* Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?”
11. As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, * while they say to me continually, “Where is your God?”
12. Why are you cast down, O my soul, * and why are you disquieted within me?
13. Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,* my help and my God.

Glory to God, source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit*

As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Reading - Please choose any of the following excerpts of scripture to focus your mind and prayer :

Sir, we wish to see Jesus (John 12 : 20-32)

Amen, Come Lord Jesus (Revelation 22:6-end)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1-8)

The leaves on the tree are for the healing of the nations (Revelation 21:22- 22:5)

God did not call us to impurity but to holiness (Thessalonians 4:1-12)

Become participants in the Divine nature (2 Peter 1:1-15) until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts (2 Peter 1:16 -2:3)

Canticle based on Isaiah 55:6-11

1. Seek the LORD while he may be found, * call upon him while he is near;
2. Let the wicked forsake their way,* and the unrighteous their thoughts;
3. Let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,* and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
4. For my thoughts are not your thoughts,* nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
5. For as the heavens are higher than the earth,* so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
6. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth,* making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
7. so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;* it shall not return to me empty,
8. but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,* and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Glory to God, source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit*

As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Reading- another reading may be used here

Silence

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,

for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,

for the night is far spent.

Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light,

for the day is at hand.

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh,

for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

The Benedictus

Refrain: **Look towards the east O Jerusalem, and see the glory that is coming from God.**

Refrain from 17 Dec to Christmas Eve: **Like the sun in the morning sky, the saviour of the world will dawn; like rain upon the meadows, the Christ will come down upon us.**