



## Advent Prayers

### Daily Prayer to Prepare for Christmas

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

### Prayer Before Meals During Advent

Leader: Father, we thank you for all you have given us. The gift of life, of family and friends and food that strengthens and nourishes us. You loved us so much that you sent your Son, Jesus, to become part of our lives, to forgive us and save us and show us your care for us. Help us live kind, just and holy lives as we get ready for the coming of Jesus.

Together: Bless us O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ Our Lord Amen.

### Blessing of the Christmas Tree

*Read from the Letter of Paul to Titus, 3:4-7*

Leader: Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, and the prophets and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen. [*Light the tree.*]

### Blessing Of The Nativity Scene

*Read from the Gospel of Luke, 2:1-8*

Leader: God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made known your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

### Prayer Before Christmas Dinner

Leader: Lord Jesus, in the peace of this season our spirits are joyful: With the beasts and angels, the shepherds and stars, with Mary and Joseph we sing God's praise. By your coming may the hungry be filled with good things, and may our table and home be blessed.

Together: Bless us O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty through Christ our Lord. Amen.