

1 - First Sunday, Hope →

Christmas Carol

Heavenly Father, we enter this Advent season with a song. The time we celebrate the very coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is near! Stir up in us a yearning heart and a hearing ear to discern what the indwelling Spirit might say. And, as we continue to hope not only in the coming Christmas day but your eventual second advent, let us remember that your Holy Spirit lives in each of us in the present, if we but believe.

2

Matthew 24:36-44

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come and are coming; we live between two advents. You have been since the beginning, and you are here with us this very hour through what the Bible calls your Paraclete, Your helper, who is the Holy Spirit. And, in the reading tonight you remind us that there is yet another day and another hour, of which no one knows the moment except the Father. You bid us be ready; we pray earnestly that we are!

Come, Lord Jesus! Come!

3

Romans 13:11-14

We bring before you Holy Spirit all other distractions that would rob us of the joy of Jesus' coming. Let us remember that we are not supposed to simply gratify our earthly desires, but live to make haste your coming! We fearfully invite you to help us rid ourselves of all the temporal and earthly concerns of this season so that we may truly focus on Jesus Christ our Lord, God incarnate, God with us – Immanuel.

4

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descended,
Our full homage to demand

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads
Its vanguard on the way,
As the light of light descending
From the realm of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
And, as with ceaseless voice they cry,

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

- Liturgy of St. James

5

Almighty God, give us and the holy union of saints the grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

6

Is. 2:1-5; Ps 122

How wondrous is the House of the Lord, which manifests in us through Your Presence, the Holy Spirit!

How wondrous it will be to walk fully in the light of your presence where injustice and wars are no more!

7

Blessed are you Lord God King of the Universe who sanctifies us by your Son.

All the earth, seas, and heavens are yours!

Lord, because you have promised to listen to us, we ask that you hear the prayers we have lifted to you today and this week.

In the name of the savior the son of God. Amen.

8

2nd Sunday - peace → John 3:11-21

Father! We believe! Thank you for your incredible love! Thank you for the Light you bring to the world; let us shine brightly, too! Thank you for Salvation! Thank you for Eternal life!

In the name of Jesus, the Messiah

Amen

9

Is. 11:1-10

On this ninth day of December, we see the vision of Isaiah's new world when the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Messiah your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In this kingdom, the wolf and the lamb, the bear and the cow, the child and the snake will be at peace. Give us vision too, that we may continue to have hope in the second advent, the coming consummation of your kingdom, where love and faithfulness will meet and righteousness and peace will kiss each other

10

Rom. 15:1-13

Holy Spirit, on this tenth day of Advent, fill us with expectation, of which Paul speaks in Rom 15. Keep us from pride and selfishness as we seek unity in the body and, ultimately, in the world as we await your second advent and the consummation of your kingdom. Turn us to hope, which, Holy Spirit, we now have in your indwelling, so that we may remember your presence in our every moment of our every day. Let it be so from now until we see the coming of Christ's glory, until we can see the true likeness of his face, and until we dwell with him in the new Jerusalem where we will reign with him forever and ever as has been promised.

11

Lord, You are the God of Justice. Even in trial and hardship, help us understand that you are working all things for good. In the witness of scripture and the holy movement of the Church, we see you loving the poor, we see you ministering to those who languish, and we see you caring for the oppressed. You promise that, through the presence of your indwelling Holy Spirit, we have access to peace in all situations, and that righteousness will flourish both by the unity of your bride and in the coming fullness of your kingdom. Give us the eyes of Christ to see it, and on this eleventh day of advent, let us continue to have hope in the grace you have given us and strive toward sanctification by the work of your Spirit.

12

With joy and thanksgiving we celebrate this twelfth day of Advent. Lord, we know that we have been blessed beyond measure. You love us, You accept us, and though we were once destitute as babes in a manger, born with nothing, we are now your precious adopted children.

13

Today, we pray for those whom you have placed in our lives and our care. We name before you those with special needs including_____. Great Physician, we know that you are already bearing their burdens, whether it be physical, mental, emotional or spiritual. Heal their diseases along with the multitude of others you alone know by name.

14

¡Bendito eres, Señor, Dios del universo! ¡Que nos santificas por tu Hijo!

¡Todo el mundo, los mares, y los cielos son tuyo!

Señor, porque has prometido a nos escuchar, pedimos que escuches a los oraciones que elevamas a ti en este dia y en este tiempo del año cuando celebramos el nacimiento de tu hijo querido.

Oramos todo de esto en el fuerte nombre de Jesu Christo, el Salvador del mundo!

15

Matthew 11:2-11

Jesus, in the reading tonight, we see John the Baptist doubting your identity and authority, and you respond by telling him of the miraculous works done through your ministry. Today, Jesus, we have the same examples through the holy work of your church and through the work of the

priesthood of believers. Give us eyes to see your movement in and through us and our brothers and sisters; let us see the lame walking, diseases healed, and hope rising as your gospel is preached. And, when doubt might creep in to our lives, let us remember the evidence of your presence among us; we believe, Jesus, help us in our unbelief.

16

Is. 35: 1-10

Dearest Father, Your glory is made manifest by the strength you give us as your believing people. We follow the spiritual way Isaiah speaks of. In this, fear dissipates when You are near; Weak knees no longer tremble; We want to sing, and we want to remember that joy replaces doubt. We reach for you with our feeble hands, but with your strong hand you hold us fast.

17

James 5:7-10

Holy Spirit, we need your continual counsel. We do not wait well. Like farmers waiting for crops, help us remember that your presence saturates all of our days even when they seem drab or dull and especially when the burdens of this life seem too great for us. Lord, help us remember that you make our lives and vocation, like the coming of your kingdom, bloom in due season.

18

Ps 146: 5-10

We remember, Triune God, that even when we were yet sinners, you set us free from spiritual captivity, and you give justice to the wronged. Let us, your hands and your feet, your heart and your voice, care for the parent-less and the widow in a world that does not see or care for loneliness or suffering. Be present through us as we seek to attend to all in need.

19

As we name those whom we know have special needs for healing, remind us of our own need to be prayed for by the faithful. Hear us as we speak aloud or in our hearts, the names of those who need you, even as we speak our very own names. Tonight, we pray for _____.

20

Soon, Jesus, comes the day of Christmas, the day we celebrate your incarnation when you were born of a virgin through the Holy Spirit. Help us, like children, to feel the excitement of this coming day. For, we are (by your tremendous love and through the incredible sacrifice you have given) the children of our Heavenly Father.

21

Blessed are you Lord God King of the Universe who sanctifies us by your Son.

All the earth, seas, and heavens are yours!

Lord, because you have promised to listen to us, we ask that you hear the prayers we have lifted to you today and this week.

In the name of the savior the son of God. Amen.

Ps. 80:1-7,17-19

With the Psalmist, Heavenly Father, we dare pray “stir up your might”!
 And, we fervently pray to be restored through the process of sanctification.
 Lord, we want to see your face shine, that we may know that you are our
 God, and we are your people. The celebration of your Son’s birth on earth is
 near!

The Gloria – Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to men and
 good will. We praise you. We bless you. We adore you. We glorify you. We
 give thanks for Your great glory. O Lord God, Son of the Father: You who
 take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You who take away the
 sins of the world, receive our prayer. You who sits at the right hand of the
 Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are holy. You alone are Lord. You
 alone, O Jesus Christ, are most high. Together with the Holy Spirit in the
 glory of God the Father.

Glory be to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. As it was
 in the beginning, so it is now, and so it shall ever be. World without end!
 Amen

1 John 4:7-17

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only 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. Until

then, let us have a full measure of the knowledge of Your love by loving one to another in the way you love us.

In the name Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit both now and forever

24

Ps 98

Matthew 1:18 - 2:18

Lord Jesus, Son of God, You became a human being. Stepping down from heaven's glory, you put on our flesh. No person can match what you have given. We are eternally grateful, and we ask you to help us imitate you in our thinking, in our speaking, and through our deeds.

The fulfillment of the expectation of this season is upon us, and there will be joy as we remember the struggle of Joseph, the pain of Mary and the counsel you give us: "Do not be afraid."

25

Luke 1:5-2: 40; Ps. 16: 5-11

The Lord's Prayer

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten son to take on our nature and be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; to whom, with you and the same Spirit, be honor and glory now and forever!

Oh God, you have caused the holy night to shine with the brightness of true light. Grant also that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy Him perfectly in the new heavens and new earth – the consummation of your kingdom. Yet, remind us that even now He reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

The Gloria – Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to men and good will. We praise you. We bless you. We adore you. We glorify you. We give thanks for Your great glory. O Lord God, Son of the Father: You who take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You who take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You who sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are holy. You alone are Lord. You alone, O Jesus Christ, are most high. Together with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

Glory be to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, so it is now, and so it shall ever be. World without end! Alleluia!