

# PRAYER IN THE HOME for ADVENT

## GATHERING

Let us light a candle to remember that God is with us.

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.

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

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

## CONFESSION

Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him:

Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.  
We are not worthy to be called your children.  
We turn to you again.  
Have mercy on us,  
bring us back to yourself  
as those who were once dead  
but now have life through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## PSALM

## BIBLE READING

## INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Watchful at all times,  
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence  
before our Maker and Redeemer.  
That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,  
let us pray to the Lord:  
Lord, have mercy.

That God may establish among the nations  
his sceptre of righteousness,  
let us pray to the Lord:  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures  
and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,  
let us pray to the Lord:  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That God may bind up the broken-hearted,  
restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen,  
let us pray to the Lord:  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That the light of God's coming may dawn  
on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,  
let us pray to the Lord:  
**Lord, have mercy.**

That, with all the saints in light,  
we may shine forth as lights for the world,  
let us pray to the Lord:  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray  
to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:

**Merciful Father,**  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,**  
**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Awaiting his coming in glory,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your name,**  
**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**  
**on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins**  
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Lead us not into temptation**  
**but deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power,**  
**and the glory are yours**  
**now and for ever. Amen.**

May Christ, the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us,  
scatter the darkness from before our path,  
and make us ready to meet him when he comes in glory.

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

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