

Daily Prayer for the Season of Advent and Christmas (December 2020-January 2021)

Opening

We are called each day to turn our hearts to you, O Holy Wisdom; direct us on your path. Make us worthy of your teachings and open our hearts to accept your embrace, that we may serve you in peace and grace. Amen.

The Song of Zechariah (*Luke 1:68-79*)

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 ancestor Abraham,
To set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship God 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 the All-Holy Trinity: Source of all Being, the Eternal Word, and the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

Psalm

from <https://lectionary.anglican.ca> or from the provided table

At the end of the Psalm:

Glory to the Source of all Being, the Eternal Word, and the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

Reading

from <https://lectionary.anglican.ca> or from the provided table (for shorter readings drawn from Isaiah)

*Take a moment in silence and allow the words of Scripture to settle into your heart.
Which words will stay with you this day and turn your heart once more to God?
What might be the Spirit be saying to you and how might you respond?*

Prayers

Come, Holy Spirit, creator, counsellor, power from on high, breath of God, and wisdom and truth...

Renew the face of the earth...

Touch our lips that we may proclaim your word...

Make us agents of peace and ministers of wholeness...

Give life to the dry bones of this exiled age, and make us a living people, holy and free...

Strengthen us in the risk of faith...

Through your power we pray (*add your own intercessions or thanksgivings*)

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Mother/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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Closing

Grant us, Lord, your wisdom as we face the questions of this day. Reveal to us the faithful path, and, O Holy Wisdom, may we make you our heart's illumination. We are called each day to turn our hearts to you. Amen.

Day	Psalm	Reading
December 1	107:1-32	Isaiah 5:8-23
December 2	107:33-43	Isaiah 6
December 3	108	Isaiah 9:1-7
December 4	109:1-19	Isaiah 9:8-21
December 5	109:20-30	Isaiah 10:12-19
December 6	110	Isaiah 10:20-34
December 7	111	Isaiah 11:1-9
December 8	112	Isaiah 11:10-16
December 9	113	Isaiah 12
December 10	114	Isaiah 14:1-9
December 11	115	Isaiah 16:1-11
December 12	116	Isaiah 22:15-25
December 13	117-118:1-18	Isaiah 29:11-24
December 14	118:19-29	Isaiah 40:1-17
December 15	119:1-16	Isaiah 40:18-31
December 16	119:17-32	Isaiah 41:1-13
December 17	119:33-48	Isaiah 42:1-9
December 18	119:49-64	Isaiah 42:10-20
December 19	119:65-80	Isaiah 48
December 20	119:81-96	Isaiah 52
December 21	119:97-112	Isaiah 53
December 22	119:113-128	Isaiah 54
December 23	119:129-144	Isaiah 55
December 24	119:145-160	Zechariah 2:10-13
December 25	119:161-176	Isaiah 7:10-14
December 26	120-121	Isaiah 56:1-8
December 27	122-123	Isaiah 60
December 28	124-125	Matthew 2:13-21
December 29	126-127	Isaiah 61
December 30	128-129	Isaiah 62
December 31	130-131	Isaiah 63:7-14
January 1	132	Isaiah 63:15-19
January 2	133-134	Isaiah 64
January 3	135	Isaiah 65:17-25
January 4	136	Isaiah 66:1-4
January 5	137	Isaiah 66:5-13

Nightly Prayer with Examen

Opening

What we offer is enough; God's love covers all.

O God, as the showers renew the earth, bathe us in your healing power. Stretch out your hand, that we may live and know that you alone are God, in whose faithfulness we have life all our days. Amen.

Reflect on your day.

You, O God, are present in each moment.

When were you aware of God's presence today? When did you see God at work in the world today? What did God teach you or remind you about today?

You, O God, know the sorrows of the world and the failings of our own hearts.

When did you feel far from God? When did you feel let down by yourself or by others or by God?

You, O God, bring new life each day and welcome us with unceasing love.

What do you want to hold on to from this day? What do you want to release from this day? What do you hope for tomorrow?

Spirit of comfort and longing, enfold my fear, unclothe my pride, unweave my thoughts, uncomplicate my heart, and give me surrender: that I may tell my wounds, lay down my work, and greet the dark. Amen.

Scripture – John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Silence

Song of Simeon

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Source of all Being, the Eternal Word, and the Holy Spirit
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

Closing

Grant, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through your grace, be grafted inwardly on our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honour and praise of your Name; through Jesus Christ we pray.
Amen.*

Adapted from *Daily Prayer for all Seasons*, Church Publishing Inc (2014) and the Church of England's service of *Night Prayer* (<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/daily-prayer/night-prayer-compline#mm9c>). Additional material created by the Rev'd Rhonda Waters

*Adapted from *The (Online) Book of Common Prayer According to the use of The Episcopal Church* (bcponline.org)