

the dawn of a new day. As we celebrate every year the first Advent of Christ into this world, we rejoice daily to welcome his Advent into our lives, circle of trust, and neighborhood.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Church, let us rejoice because Jesus is our Immanuel, he is our Lord of might, Rod of Jesse, he is the Key of David and the Day-spring. May he come to you today!

Hymn: 169 'Come though long expected Jesus'

Activity:

Light, Love, Sin, Hope, Jesus, Key, Advent, Set, Free, Might, Come, Open, Joy, Son, Path, Day, See - Please find these words:

J	F	R	E	E	S	V	K	U	O
O	E	G	E	L	O	V	E	V	P
Y	V	S	I	N	I	O	Y	S	E
D	T	O	U	M	I	G	H	T	N
A	H	N	S	S	M	R	H	R	I
Y	H	O	P	E	B	P	A	T	H
A	D	V	E	N	T	C	O	M	E

Write a prayer for a neighbour in need of God's Advent.

Our Response in Prayer:

1. **Jesus, our Immanuel**, come to our world where greed, self-praise, and competitions for fame and power drive us to degrade our own humanity when we exploit and ignore the misery of our neighbours - **Lord, come! Come, today, we pray.**

2. **Jesus, Lord of might**, we pray for people who feel powerless. Come, give a break-through to displaced people, camping hopelessly, day and night, at nations' borders,

to people caught up in domestic violence and modern human slavery, to people who suffer from diseases for which there is at present no cure - **Lord, come! Come, today, we pray.**

3. **Jesus, Rod of Jesse**, you're the King of kings, come and be the hope of those who live in fear of being killed, exiled, kidnapped, and persecuted for their belief, their political allegiance, and their solidarity with the poor - **Lord, come! Come, today, we pray.**

4. **Jesus, Key of David**, come and open for us doors of endless opportunities to live free from sin. Come, relieve us of our evil thoughts towards our neighbours. Come, melt our cold heart towards you. Come, fill us with your love for the neighbour in need. Come, close before us the path that leads to consumerism and self-destruction - **Lord, come! Come, today, we pray.**

5. **Jesus, the Day-spring**, our light, come to us who live in the darkness of sin. Come, enlighten our world, our life to see more clearly what you're doing. Come, be our Light so that we may be light to others - **Lord, come! Come, today, we pray.**

6. *Other prayer concerns.....*

The Lord's Prayer - Our Father ... Amen!

Blessing - Now may our God our Father and our Lord Jesus direct our way. May the Lord make us increase and abound in love for one another and for all, and may he so strengthen our hearts in holiness that we may be blameless before our God until the coming of our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: 330 'Joy to the world'
By Rev Marcus Torchon

COVENTRY & NUNEATON METHODIST CHURCH

Worship is our Way of Life!

Come, Lord

Jesus

On this



<https://clipground.com/free-clipart-for-first-sunday-in-advent.html>

28th November 2021

Readings:

Psalm 25:1-10, Jeremiah 33:14-16 1

Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

This sheet's content is exclusively for home worship.

Order of Service

Advent 1

Advent candles tell their story as we watch and pray, longing for the Day of Glory, 'Come, Lord, soon,' we say. Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness changed for gladness on that day (165 StF, verse 1).

Invocation: “Jesus, our Hope, our Joy, and our Love – reign in us today at worship!”

Affirmation “I have come so that they may have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

Petition: “Oh, come to my heart, Lord Jesus! There is room in my heart for you” (Ira David Sankey (1840-1908).

Hymn 405 “Great is the darkness”
Prayer:

O Lord, our God, our hope - every breath we take comes from you so that we may be filled with gratitude for life. Being alive brings hope, the hope that you're transforming our life to fit in with your purpose and glory. Our hope may be limited, it increases every moment we are spent in worship. **Lord, come, our worship is for you!**

Lord, we know that in Jesus our sins are forgiven because He is our Redeemer, and for this, we are thankful. You have not only preserved our life to see another Advent Sunday, but you have also filled us with joy that your hope secures – Thank you, Lord. **Lord, come, our worship is for you!**

Hymn 188 “There is a light”

Reflection

A reflection on the Scriptures, on this First Sunday in Advent, invites us to appreciate how and why God comes to us such that when the time was right God sent his son, Jesus, to become human. He came to be our Immanuel, that is ‘God with us’, to save us from sin and demonstrate how to live a saintly life. To aid us with our reflection, I turn to hymn 180 from Singing the Faith: “O come, O come Immanuel”. Let us attend to it, verse by verse.

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear:

The phrase ‘**the Son of God appear**’ translates the true meaning of Advent. Why did he appear then? Jesus, the Son of God, came to free Israel, largely, humanity, from captivity or bondage of sin. One of the effects of sin is isolation. It separated us from each other and from God and drove us into exile. There, God heard and saw our griefs and decided to ‘come’. He came, in Jesus, to Israel. Now he comes to us, to our world, to equally save us from a life of bondage and isolation.

2. O come, O come, O Lord of might,
who to your tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:

Jesus, **Lord of might**, gave the law to his people on Mount Sinai. This law is lived in a triangle of love in which we're inspired to ‘love God’, ‘love the neighbour’ and ‘love ourselves’. God's might is in the power of love.

Advent, therefore, is the manifestation of that love “For God so love the world that He gave his only begotten Son...” (John 3:16).

3. O come, You Rod of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:

In this verse, Jesus is called **Son of Jesse**, another phrase for Son of David. Again, we contemplate here the meaning of Advent as Jesus comes to free his own from Satan's oppression. While sin isolates us from God, Satan oppresses, takes away our freedom. When Satan gives us the false impression that we're free, with God, in time, we can only discover that true freedom is really in Jesus. “If the Son sets you free you will be free indeed” (John 8:36).

4. O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:

Jesus, **Key of David**, comes with authority to open wide the door of freedom that ushers us into our heavenly home. From exile, isolation, oppression, and pain, we can finally be home, free at last. Then, he comes into our life to close the path to misery, the road to suffering, and gives us rest, peace, and security.

5. O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:

Jesus, the **Day-spring**, our light, comes to disperse dark cloud and remove shadows of death in our lives so that his *Advent ushers*