



Unwrapping the *Gifts*

A Brief Advent Devotion for the Family Table

The Advent wreath is lighted, adding the lighting of one candle for each week of holy Advent.

Hymn

Week 1:

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear (LSB 357:1).

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel
Shall come to thee,
O Israel!

Week 2:

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave (LSB 357:4).

Refrain.

Week 3:

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery (LSB 357:5).

Refrain.

Week 4:

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight (LSB 357:6).

Refrain

Prophecy

Family members can take turns reading the prophecy for each day.

Nov. 29—"He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Gen. 3:15).

Nov. 30—"In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Gen. 12:3).

Dec. 1—"And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness" (Gen. 15:6).

Dec. 2—"In you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 28:14).

Dec. 3—"The scepter shall not depart from Judah" (Gen. 49:10).

Dec. 4—"A star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel" (Num. 24:17).

Dec. 5—"I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers" (Deut. 18:18).

Dec. 6—"He shall build a house for my name" (2 Sam. 7:13).

Dec. 7—"Your throne shall be established forever" (2 Sam. 7:16).

Dec. 8—"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Is. 7:14).

Dec. 9—"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given" (Is. 9:6).

Dec. 10—“And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Is. 9:6).

Dec. 11—“Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end” (Is. 9:7).

Dec. 12—“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse” (Is. 11:1).

Dec. 13—“The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him” (Is. 11:2).

Dec. 14—“The wolf shall dwell with the lamb” (Is. 11:6).

Dec. 15—“And a little child shall lead them” (Is. 11:6).

Dec. 16—“In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples” (Is. 11:10).

Dec. 17—“The Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you” (Is. 60:2).

Dec. 18—“Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down” (Is. 64:1).

Dec. 19—“I will raise up for David a righteous Branch” (Jer. 23:5).

Dec. 20—“And this is the name by which he will be called: The Lord is our righteousness” (Jer. 23:6).

Dec. 21—“The sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings” (Mal. 4:2).

Dec. 22—“O Bethlehem ... from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel” (Micah 5:2).

Dec. 23—“Whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days” (Micah 5:2).

Grace

All pray or sing together (LSB 776):

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blest. Amen.

The candle or candles are extinguished following the meal.