

Lighting of the Advent Candles (Psalm Year A)

At each successive lighting of the Advent candles, all texts from the preceding lightings are read in addition to the text introduced that day.

On the First Sunday of Advent and following Sundays:

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice before the Lord,
for Christ is coming to judge the world with righteousness and truth.

Psalm 96

Let us go to the house of the Lord, giving thanks to God.
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

Psalm 122

And on the Second Sunday of Advent, and at successive lightings:

Blessed be the Lord, who alone does wondrous things.
May the glory of God fill the whole earth.

Psalm 72

And on the Third Sunday of Advent, and at successive lightings:

Happy are those whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth; who keeps faith forever.

Psalm 146

And on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and at successive lightings:

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, and restore us;
let your face shine, so that we may be saved.

Psalm 80

And on the eve of Christmas, or on Christmas Day:

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth,
for great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Psalm 96

On each occasion the lighting of the candles is concluded with:

Prepare the way of the Lord.