

## FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: LOVE

The first Advent Candle has been associated with the theme of LOVE. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah announced this theme of love in predicting the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Hear the words of Isaiah:

"Thus says the Lord: In love a throne will be established; in faithfulness a man will sit on it -- one from the house of David -- one who in judging seeks justice and speeds the cause of righteousness. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. In my love and mercy I will redeem you. My unfailing love for you will not be shaken. Thus says the Lord."

We now light this first Advent Candle, symbolizing to us the love of God in our Lord Jesus Christ.

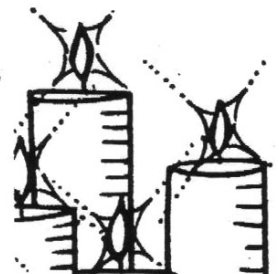
-- HERE THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE IS LIT --

In the New Testament, we see Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of this prophecy of love. Hear the Word of the Lord:

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent us his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

Let us sing together of God's gracious love:

*Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.*



## SECOND ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

The second Advent Candle has been associated with the theme of HOPE. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah announced this theme of hope in predicting the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Hear the words of Isaiah:

"Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant, whom I uphold; my chosen one, in whom I delight. I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. In his law all the lands will put their hope. Thus says the Lord."

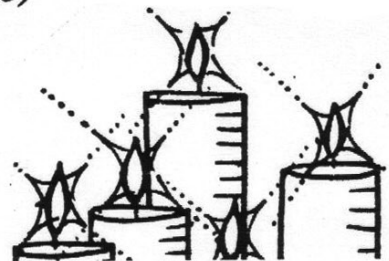
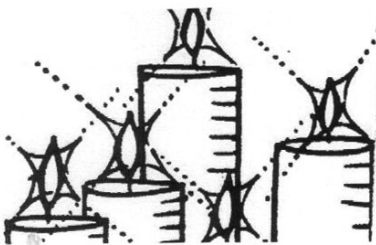
### -- HERE THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE IS LIT --

In the New Testament, we see Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of this prophecy of hope. Hear the Word of the Lord:

"To the saints, God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. And still we wait for the blessed hope -- the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. We who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. The Lord Jesus has become our high priest forever."

Let us sing together of our hope, Jesus Christ.

*O holy child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in;  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord, Emmanuel!*



### THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

The third Advent Candle has been associated with the theme of JOY. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah announced this theme of joy in predicting the coming of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Hear the words of Isaiah:

"This says the Lord: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the shadow of death a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest. Be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create. Thus says the Lord."

We now light this third Advent Candle, symbolizing to us the joy that is given to us in the coming of Jesus Christ.

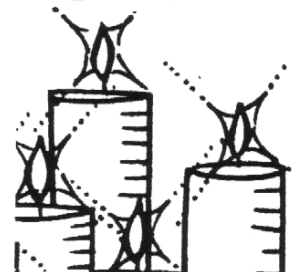
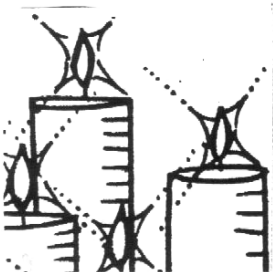
-- HERE THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE IS LIT --

In the New Testament, we see Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of this prophecy of joy. Hear the Word of the Lord:

"The angel said to them, Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Let us sing together of our joy, Jesus Christ.

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come,  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*



#### FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE: PEACE

The fourth Advent Candle has been associated with the theme of PEACE. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah announced this theme of peace in predicting the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Hear the words of Isaiah:

"Thus says the Lord: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. Thus says the Lord."

Let us now light this fourth Advent Candle, symbolizing to us the peace that is found in our Lord Jesus Christ.

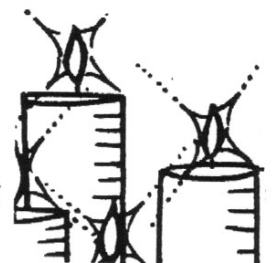
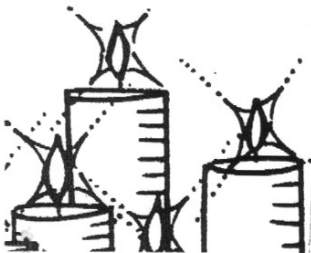
-- HERE THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE IS LIT --

In the New Testament, we see Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of this prophecy of peace. Hear the Word of the Lord:

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Christ, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace."

Let us sing together of our peace, Jesus Christ.

*For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophet seen of old,  
When with the ever circling years,  
shall come the time foretold.  
When peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world send back the song  
which now the angels sing.*



## CHRIST CANDLE: LIGHT

The Christ Candle has been associated with the theme of LIGHT. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah announced this theme of light in predicting the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Hear the words of Isaiah:

"Thus says the Lord: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the shadow of death a light has dawned. It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth. Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. For the Lord will be your everlasting light. Thus says the Lord."

We now light this Christ Candle, symbolizing to us the light of Jesus Christ.

### -- HERE THE CHRIST CANDLE IS LIT --

In the New Testament, we see Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of this prophecy of light. Hear the Word of the Lord:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not understood it. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Let us sing together of our light, Jesus Christ.

*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace,  
Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings,  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.  
Hark, the herald angels sing:  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

