

**O COME EMMANUEL PRAYER**

**INTRODUCTION**

We celebrate Advent ready for God with us. We light the Advent Wreath. We sing Christmas carols. We bake cookies. We do acts of loving kindness for others.

Today we celebrate God with us by praying the O Antiphons. The Church traditionally prays these seven prayers from December 17 through December 23. The prophecies of Isaiah inspired these prayers of praise for Jesus:

O Wisdom

O Lord

O Root of Jesse

O Key of David

O Rising Sun

O King of Nations

O Emmanuel (God with Us)

**PRAYER**

**L:** Let us pray.

 Come to us, Lord, and bring us peace.

 We will rejoice in your presence and serve you with all our hearts.

 Come to us, Lord, Jesus.

**R: Amen.** *Adapted from the Communion Rite, First week in Advent*

**ADVENT GOSPEL**

**L**: A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

The angel *of the Lord appeared to [Joseph] in a dream and said*, *“Son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet*: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel”, *which means "God is with us."* (Matthew 1: 20-23)

**L:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**R: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**

**O COME O COME EMMANUEL**

We pray the O Antiphons when we sing *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*.

*Leader invites everyone to join in singing the refrain only to O Come, O Come Emmanuel (Ritual Song, #493) as the music ministers sing the verses. Symbol ministers hold up their symbol posters corresponding to each verse and hold them up until the end of the song.*

*O Emmanuel (v. 1)*

*O Wisdom (v. 2)*

*O Lord (v. 3)*

*O Root of Jesse (v. 4)*

*O Key of David (v. 5)*

*O Rising Sun (v. 6)*

*O King of Nations (v. 7)*

**ADVENT LITANY**

**L:** Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness,

 Send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

**R: Come Lord Jesus!**

**L:** We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice

 each day.

**R: Come Lord Jesus!**

**L:** We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming

 among us.

**R: Come Lord Jesus!**

**L:** We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of

 your kingdom.

**R: Come Lord Jesus!**

**L:** We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

**R: Come Lord Jesus!**

**L:** We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

**R: Come Lord Jesus!**

*Adapted from Advent Prayer, Henri J. Nouwen, Catholic Information Network,* [*http://www.cin.org/liter/ad**vnouw.html*](http://www.cin.org/liter/advnouw.html)

**PRAYER**

**L:** Let us pray.

 God of Love,
 Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
 He is a sign of your love.

 Help us walk in that love during these last weeks of Advent,
 As we wait and prepare for his coming.
 We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

**R:** **Amen**

*Adapted from An Advent Family Prayer, Loyola Press*, [*https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/advent/prayers/advent-family-prayer*](https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/advent/prayers/advent-family-prayer)

**Song:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*Ritual Song, #493, refrain only*)