

ADVENT

# Our Dear CHRIST Enters In

WEEK 1:

Family  
Tree



WEEK 2:

Home



WEEK 3:

Baby  
Names



WEEK 4:

Company  
Comes



Advent 1: December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

Our Dear Christ Enters In...the Family Tree

Theme Verse

Matthew 1:1

*The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.*

Invocation

**P** We worship in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

The Advent of Our King

LSB 331 sts. 1–3, 6



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,  
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,  
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,  
△ 6 All glo - ry to the Son, Who comes to set us free,



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.  
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.  
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.  
With Fa - ther, Spir - it, ev - er one Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.

Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76

Text and tune: Public domain

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**P** Beloved in the Lord, as we draw closer to Christmas, may this wreath remind us that Jesus came to conquer the darkness of our sin and lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom, as the prophet Isaiah declares,

**C** “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.”

*(One purple candle is lit on the Advent wreath.)*

- P** Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, the true Light who comes into the world to enlighten all peoples, bless us as we light the first candle on this wreath in preparation for your coming. Enkindle our hearts with the fire of your love so that we may reflect your love to all—especially to those who are still walking in spiritual darkness around us; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### Confession and Absolution

- P** Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,

**C whose sins are covered.**

- P** Blessed is the man against whom sin the Lord counts no iniquity against him

**C and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

- P** I acknowledged my sin to you,

**C and I did not cover up my iniquity;**

- P** I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord”—

**C and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

- P** King Jesus,

**C we confess that we so often give you lip service with our tongues yet deny you with our thoughts, words and actions. We have not placed you first in every area of our lives, nor have we considered all others as better than ourselves. Hear us as we take this moment to confess our sins, especially those sins that are weighing heavily on our consciences right now:**

*(Silence for personal confession.)*

- P** “‘Comfort, comfort my people,’ says your God. ‘Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and cry to her that her iniquity is pardoned’” (Isaiah 40:1-2). In his tender mercy, God has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore, upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to you. In his stead and by his command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

### The God of Abraham Praise

LSB 798 sts. 1–3



1 The God of A-br'ham praise, Who reigns en-throned a-bove;  
2 The God of A-br'ham praise, At whose su-preme com-mand  
3 The God of A-br'ham praise, Whose all-suf-fi-cient grace

An-cient of ev-er-last-ing days And God of love.  
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.  
Shall guide me all my pil-grim days In all my ways.

Je-ho-vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con-fessed;  
I all on earth for-sake, Its wis-dom, fame, and pow'r,  
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him-self my God.

I bow and bless the sa-cred name For-ev-er blest.  
And Him my on-ly por-tion make, My shield and tow'r.  
And He shall save me to the end Through Je-sus' blood.

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99, alt.

Tune: Hebrew

Text and tune: Public domain

### Prayer of the Day

- P** O God, we prepare our hearts this Advent season for the coming of your Son, who was born into the family tree that began with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, continued through Abraham and then to King David. Help us to see that Jesus is the fulfillment of your promise to save your people and make us all a part of your family through his birth, life, death and resurrection. We are your own in Jesus, and we are grateful. Amen.

Reading

Genesis 15:1–6

God’s Covenant with Abram

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Reading

Romans 1:1–4

Greeting

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Savior of the Nations, Come

LSB 332 sts. 1–4



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it  
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a  
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and

here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,  
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—  
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:  
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,

That the Lord chose such a birth.  
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
God was there up - on His throne.  
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (st. 3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (st. 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001  
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter  
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Sermon - Our Dear Christ Enters in...the Family Tree

Savior of the Nations, Come

LSB 332 sts. 5–8

- 5 God the Father was His source,  
Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down,  
Back then to His throne and crown.
- 6 For You are the Father’s Son  
Who in flesh the vict’ry won.  
By Your mighty pow’r make whole  
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobier, 1973  
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Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Offering

Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord Jesus, we thank you for the family trees you have placed us in. Thank you for parents, brothers, sisters aunts, uncles and cousins, grandparents and grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Help us to grow closer to you and one another through the season of Advent and Christmas. O Jesus Christ, who entered into our human family,

**C bless us in all we do as the family of God.**

**P** Lord Jesus, we thank you for that family of faith that you have place us in. Thank you for pastors and Sunday school teachers, Bible study leaders, council members and elders, the altar guild, acolytes and communion servers. Help us to grow in our faith in you and to deepen our love for one another as we serve you in our church and in our homes. O Jesus Christ, who entered into our human family,

**C bless us in all we do as the family of God.**

**P** Lord Jesus, be with people whose family trees are unknown or fractured in various ways. Ease their pain, work to bring unity where there is brokenness, and assure believers in you that they have a family tree of faith they can turn to if their family tree of human origin is not available to them. Help us to be family to them in any way we can as brothers and sisters in Christ. O Jesus Christ, who entered into our human family,

**C bless us in all we do as the family of God.**

**P** Lord Jesus, just as you have guided families in the past, guide us as families now to worship you and praise you for your goodness and to pass the faith on to the generations to come that they may follow you too. Let your name be spoken and heard in the ever-circling years of time until your return to glory when your name will be shouted from the heavens and you will take us to be with the Father of us all forever. O Jesus Christ, who entered into our human family,

**C bless us in all we do as the family of God.**

**P** Lord Jesus, in this season when we ponder more dearly the relatives we have and the family members who have gone before us or are no longer with us, keep them in our hearts and minds, and let them be remembered and loved in special ways at this time of year. O Jesus Christ, who entered into our human family,

**C bless us in all we do as the family of God.**

**P** Lord Jesus, be with those in our family tree who are sick or dying at home or in the hospital. Let our love for them and our trust in you show forth and give them courage and strength through these difficult day. Bless them with the knowledge that they have a place in your family always. O Jesus Christ, who entered into our human family,  
**C** **ble**ss us in all we do as the family of God.

**P** Lord Jesus, for these and all other things we ask, we give you thanks, trusting in your mercy to make your dwelling place in every dwelling place where your spirit rests. Amen,

**Lord’s Prayer**

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:  
**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,**  
          **hallowed be Thy name,**  
          **Thy kingdom come,**  
          **Thy will be done on earth**  
          **as it is in heaven;**  
          **give us this day our daily bread;**  
          **and forgive us our trespasses**  
          **as we forgive those**  
          **who trespass against us;**  
          **and lead us not into temptation,**  
          **but deliver us from evil.**  
**For Thine is the kingdom**  
          **and the power and the glory**  
          **forever and ever. Amen.**

**Benediction**

**P** Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.  
**C** **Amen.**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357 sts. 1, ref, 4–7

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

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