

## Prayers for the Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**1<sup>st</sup> week: HOPE:** the prophets candle reminds us that Jesus is coming.

“All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. Amen.”

**2<sup>nd</sup> week: FAITH:** this candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem

“God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.”

**3<sup>rd</sup> week: JOY:** this Shepherd’s candle reminds us of the joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus

“Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

**4<sup>th</sup> week: PEACE:** this Angel’s candle reminds us of the angel’s message: “Peace on Earth, good will to all.”

“Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

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