

# Blessing of an Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath is a beloved tradition in both church and home—a simple circle of evergreen and candlelight that marks our journey toward the Birth of Christ. Its blessing is typically celebrated on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before. When used in the home, a parent or another family member may lead the blessing.

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## The Blessing

**All make the Sign of the Cross as the leader says:**

**Leader:** Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**R/.** Who made heaven and earth.

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## Scripture Reading

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.**

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
upon those who lived in a land of gloom  
a light has shone.  
You have brought them abundant joy  
and great rejoicing.

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us;  
upon his shoulder dominion rests.  
They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero,  
Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.  
His dominion is vast and forever peaceful,  
from David's throne, and over his kingdom,  
which he confirms and sustains  
by judgment and justice,  
both now and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

**Reader:** The word of the Lord.

**R/.** Thanks be to God.

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## Blessing Prayer

With hands joined, the leader prays:

**Lord our God,  
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:  
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,  
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,  
he is the Savior of every nation.**

**Lord God,  
let your blessing come upon us  
as we light the candles of this wreath.  
May the wreath and its light  
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.  
May he come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
R/. Amen.**

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## Concluding Verse

A verse from *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* may be sung:

*O come, desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of humankind;  
bid ev'ry sad division cease  
and be thyself our Prince of peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*