

"Glory in the Highest to God" An Advent Wreath Liturgy

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This Advent wreath liturgy in the traditional Hope, Peace, Joy, Faith pattern is inspired by the Psalms in the [Revised Common Lectionary \(Year B\)](#) and the lyrics "Angels We Have Heard on High." Special care was used to present expansive language for God and inclusive language for humankind.

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OCCASION	ADVENT WREATH CANDLE	PSALM TEXT	CAROL
Advent I	Lighting the Candle of Hope	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	Verse 1
Advent II	Lighting the Candle of Peace	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	Verse 2
Advent III	Lighting the Candle of Joy	Psalm 126	Verse 3
Advent IV	Lighting the Candle of Faith	Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26	Chorus
Christmas Eve	Lighting the Christ Candle	Psalm 97	Chorus

Advent I - The Glory of God in Hope

As the season of Advent bids us to turn to Hope,
The LORD God of hosts draws near.

We hear the messengers from upon high,
and we listen with stirred hearts straining to be saved.
The plains and the mountains echo with sweet song,
and our tears dry at the touch of God's hand.
The LORD God draws near.

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Hope.
We call upon the name of God, and God's holy face shines.
May the God of Hope shine throughout the world. Amen.

Advent II - The Glory of God in Peace

As the season of Advent bids us to make paths of Peace,
God the LORD who gives draws near.

We are filled with joyful strains of jubilee,
for the LORD is forgiving and filled with salvation.
These gladsome tidings inspire our every song,
for faithfulness and righteousness dwell in the lands.
God the LORD draws near.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Peace.
We hear the voice of God, and God's holy voice speaks.
May the God of Peace speak throughout the world. Amen.

Advent III - The Glory of God in Joy

As the season of Advent bids us to shout with Joy,
The LORD who does great things draws near.

We come to the House of Bread to see,
while we sowed with tears, we shall reap with joy.
We come with newborn adoration,
While fortunes are restored among the nations.
The LORD draws near.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Joy.
We laugh and rejoice, and God's holy greatness restores.
May the God of Joy restore throughout the world. Amen.

If Advent IV falls on Christmas Eve, consider using both in the same service: Advent IV early and Christmas Eve later, after reading Luke 2:1-7. For reference, Christmas Eve is on a Sunday in 2023, 2028, 2034, and 2045, while Christmas Day is on a Sunday in 2033, 2039, 2044, 2050, and 2055.

Advent IV - The Glory of God in Faith

As the season of Advent bids us to proclaim in Faith,
The LORD of covenant draws near.

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
in steadfast love for all generations.
Glory in the highest to God,
in faithfulness firm as forever.
The LORD draws near.

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Faith.
We declare our devotion to God, and God establishes a holy vision.
May the God of Faith establish holy vision throughout the world. Amen.

Christmas Eve - The Glory of God in Christ

As the arrival of Christmas bids us to exalt the Christ,
The LORD is here.

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Glory in the highest to God,
with clouds and lightning comes the heavens.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Glory in the highest to God,
with fire and light dawns righteousness.
The LORD is here.

For Christmas, we light the Christ Candle.
We rejoice with God, and God is the holy guard.
May Jesus the Christ guard throughout the world. Let us rejoice! Amen.