**CONCERNING THE ADVENT WREATH**

*The following prayers are intended for use at the regular lighting of the Advent Wreath. They may be used in the context of public worship, or in private houses. A short antiphon is said, after which the appropriate candle or candles are lit. The office concludes with the Advent Collect.*

**Advent 1**

Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with the Lord:

**Behold, you will conceive, and bring forth a son, alleluia.**

**Advent 2**

The Lord shall sit upon the throne of David,

 **and of his kingdom there shall be no end, alleluia.**

**Advent 3**

Drop down, O heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness:

**let the earth open, and let it bring forth salvation.**

**Advent 4**

December 16 - *O Sapientia*

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;

**to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.**

*or*
O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High,

you order all things with tenderness and might;

**Come and teach us the way of your salvation.**

December 17 - *O Adonai*

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai’s height

**in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.**

*or*

O Lord of Lords and leader of the house of Israel,

you appeared to Moses in a flame of fire and gave him the law on Sinai;

 **Come and redeem us with your outstretched arm.**

December 18 - *O Radix Jesse*

O come, O come, thou Branch of Jesse’s tree, free them from Satan’s tyranny

**that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory over the grave.**

*or*

O Root of Jesse, you stand as a sign for all peoples,

and before you kings will shut their mouths

and the nations of the earth shall bow down;

 **Come and deliver us, and do not tarry.**

December 19 - *O Clavis David*

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
 **make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.**

*or*

O Key of David, scepter over Israel,

and guardian of Jerusalem’s gate,

what you open, none can close,

and what you close, none can open;

 **Come and release us prisoners**

 **sitting in darkness and the shadow of death.**

December 20 - *O Oriens*

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;

**disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadow put to light.**

*or*

O Radiant Dawn, brightness of the light everlasting

and sun of righteousness;

 **Come and shine on those who dwell in darkness**

 **and the shadow of death.**

December 21 - *O Rex gentium*

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;

**bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.**

*or*

O King of all the nations, desire of all peoples

O keystone in whom we stand as one;

 **Come and save mankind**

 **whom you formed from the clay.**

December 22 - *O Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,

**that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

*or*

O Immanuel, our king and lawgiver,

the desire of all nations and their salvation;

 **Come and save us,**

**O Lord our God.**

December 23 - *O Virgo virginum*

O Virgin of all Virgins blest, beholdest thou the wonder best.

**Before thee was but none like thee; Zion’s Daughters, see the mystery!**

*or*

O Virgin of Virgins, how shall this be?
For neither before you was there seen like you;

nor shall there be after.

 **Daughters of Jerusalem, why do you marvel at me?**

 **The thing which you behold is a divine mystery.**

*After the Antiphon, the Officiant says*

*Officiant* Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts;

*People* **Show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be whole.**

*The following Collect is said.*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**