

Week 1 – Prophecy Candle

Key Verses: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

“The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.....For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.”

Prophecy Candle – What is it all about?

The Prophecy Candle is traditionally purple. It is lit during the first week of Advent. This candle reminds us of the coming of Christ and also helps us see how we can be waiting excitedly for Jesus!

The coming of Jesus as told in Scripture takes place in two ways:

In History: Jesus came as a baby, fully God and fully man, born of Mary. (Galatians 4:4, Isaiah 9:2, 6-7)

In Majesty: There is also His second coming when He will return victorious to “reconcile all things unto Himself” and takes His seat on the throne as the “King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” (Colossians 1:19-20, Revelation 19:11-16)

This Week’s Advent Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

During week one, we will be singing O Come, O Come Emmanuel. You can sing one verse each day, since there are seven verses!

This song was written in the 12th century, and was translated in 1818 by John Mason Neale.

The text for "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" comes from a seven verse poem that dates back to the 8th century. It was used in a call and response fashion during the vespers (evening) service celebrated by monks.

If you are **unfamiliar with the tune**, you can **find a YouTube video** of this Advent Carol by clicking [HERE](#).

Find the words for the verses here: [O Come, O Come, Emmanuel](#).

***I have also provided *song sheets with the verses that you can print out*, found at the end of the devotional.

If you'd like to play along as you sing, or need the tune, you can find a **very simple piano arrangement** for free, here: [O Come, O Come Emmanuel Piano Music](#) and a **very simple arrangement** here: [O Come, O Come Emmanuel Sheet Music](#)

Day 1 – Prophecy Candle

Light Your Candle

Light the Prophecy Candle on your Advent Wreath and leave it lit during your devotion/activity time!

Daily Verses

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Read the verses with your family in your preferred translation!

Advent Reflection: Jesus is Coming

Have you ever found yourself looking forward to something with great anticipation? Maybe it's an event (like your birthday!), an experience (going on a plane for the first time), or even something as simple as a new movie coming out that you just can't wait to see!

The excitement you feel about these things is a small example of the excitement and anticipation the people of Israel felt when they heard news about a Messiah who would save them!

The Jews had been persecuted, held in captivity, driven out of their homes and made to be slaves to the Egyptians. They were ready for someone to deliver them from their troubles.

Yet, the people of Israel struggled to understand that the Messiah wouldn't be a political savior or a king on earth, but rather the Savior and King of their souls.

Digging Deeper:

One of the reasons the Old Testament is so important to Christians is that it contains over 300 prophecies about Jesus. And the chance of any ONE person fulfilling these prophecies, even in our present day, is 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000 (10 to the 17th power)! ([source](#))

We can be thankful that Jesus is the Savior of the world and that He fulfilled all the prophecies written about him thousands of years ago!

Cultivating Conversation:

Take turns sharing who Jesus is, according to the key verses for this week in Isaiah 9:2, 6-7.

(Example answers: Mighty God, Prince of Peace, Righteous, full of Justice, etc)

Carol Singing:

Sing the first verse of O Come, O Come Emmanuel (refer to the links in the "Week 1 Introduction" if you need help on the song!)

If someone plays guitar or piano, etc, use those gifts in your singing time!