

## Lighting the Advent Candles (Psalm Year C)

*This set of readings for the lighting of the Advent candles is based on the Psalms and Canticles of the Revised Common Lectionary in Year C.*

*At each successive lighting of the Advent candles, all texts from the preceding lightings are read in addition to the text introduced that day.*

*On the First Sunday of Advent and following Sundays:*

We light this candle [these candles] as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Blessed are you, O God, *Luke 1*  
for you have looked favorably upon your people.  
**You give light to those who wait in darkness,  
and you guide us in paths of peace.**

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls; *Psalm 25*  
O God, in you we trust.

*And on the Second Sunday of Advent, and at successive lightings:*

By your tender mercy, O God, *Luke 1*  
the dawn from on high will break upon us.

*And on the Third Sunday of Advent, and at successive lightings:*

You are our salvation, O God; *Isaiah 12*  
you are our strength and our might.

*And on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and at successive lightings:*

O Lord, our souls magnify your name; *Luke 1*  
our spirits rejoice in you, O God our Savior.

*And on the eve of Christmas, or on Christmas Day:*

Now your light has dawned upon us, *Psalm 97*  
and our hearts are filled with joy.

*On each occasion the lighting of the candles is concluded with:*

Sing praises to the Lord, who has done glorious things! *Isaiah 12*  
**Shout aloud and sing for joy, for the Holy One is with us.**