

Advent Wreath Blessing

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R/.): Who made heaven and earth.

Reader: A reading from the book of 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; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at harvest, as they exult when dividing the spoils... 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, upon David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever.

The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

Leader: 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.

The blessing may conclude with a verse from O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.

Make safe for us the heavenward road
and bar the way to death's abode.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.