





PSALM 146:1-2



Introduction

The season of Advent, the four weeks before Christmas, is a season of preparation, a busy time of cooking, cleaning and gift-wrapping. During Advent, we also prepare through worship as we join the psalmist in glorifying God: "Praise the LORD, O my soul!" (Psalm 146:1). Down through the centuries, God sent his prophets to speak words of hope and promise. The Messiah, the Savior, was coming! When the time was right, the prophecies were fulfilled, and the promise was kept. Now we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. With these Advent prayers we praise God for the gift of his Son!



From Afar

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar.

HEBREWS 11:13 (ESV)

Heavenly Father, children wait eagerly for Christmas, wondering if the day will ever come. I sometimes hope the special day does not come too soon because of all the cleaning, decorating and shopping that I must do. Your saints of old, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac, Jacob and many others, waited for generations for the fulfillment of your promise to send the Messiah. They longed for a day they did not live to see, but they died in faith, knowing that you would one day keep your Word. They greeted the arrival of the promised Savior "from afar." Accept my grateful praise for the fulfillment of your wonderful promise! Amen.



Monday, the First Week of Advent

Soon

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

REVELATION 22:20

Lord Jesus, long ago, the people of Israel hoped and prayed that you, the Messiah, would come. Very soon I will celebrate the fulfillment of the ancient promise on the night when angels announced your birth. Yet, as I praise you for the promise kept in your First Advent, your birth in Bethlehem, I look forward to your Second Advent, your glorious return on the Last Day. On that day, a day that will be better than the very best Christmas, you will raise me up from death to live in your presence forever. Help me to live in love and service to others as I wait, knowing that you, Lord, will soon keep your promise. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Week 1

Praise for the PROMISE



Tuesday, the First Week of Advent

My Words

I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command him.

DEUTERONOMY 18:18

Almighty God, Moses was a prophet with whom you spoke "face to face, as one speaks to a friend" (Exodus 33:11). Through Moses, you foretold the coming of a greater prophet. You would put your words in the mouth of this teacher to come, and he would proclaim your Word as never before. I praise you, Lord God, for the fulfillment of that prophecy in the birth of your Son. Jesus is the great prophet who spoke your Word with authority, but he is much more than a prophet. He is the Savior of the world! He is my Savior! Lead me each day to listen to my Savior's voice in your holy Word. Amen.



Wednesday, the First Week of Advent

Abiding

If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

JOHN 8:31-32 (ESV)

Dear Savior, I am your disciple, and you graciously teach me to walk in your ways. You want me to abide in your Word. That is what disciples do. I want to live in your Word, breathing it like air and abiding, dwelling, within the sacred Scriptures. You want me to love your Word and to find comfort in your promises. Through your Word, I have learned that you are the living Truth of my salvation, the Truth in the face of the lies told by Satan and this fallen world. I know and believe in you. You came to set me free. Accept my praise, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Week 1

Praise for the PROMISE



Praise the LORD ONY Soul

Advent is a season of praise and preparation as we look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth. It is also a very busy time of year, so with these prayers you are invited to take a quiet moment each day to praise God for the gift of his Son, Jesus our Savior, the Prince of Peace. In this season of joy and throughout the year, we rejoice with the words of the psalm: "Praise the Lord, O my soul!" (Psalm 146:1).







