

touch

the incarnation

This is the season of Advent. It marks the weeks before Christmas and is meant to be a time of anticipation and longing, not only for the celebration of the birth of Jesus and the incarnation, but also of longing for the return of Christ and the complete healing and salvation for ourselves, our family and the entire creation. This week's devotions are meant to be prayers to help us to experience the longing of Advent and the true meaning of Christmas. You are encouraged not only to read the scriptures, but make them your own by praying the scriptures.

day one

O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

read and pray

Psalm 111:1
Psalms 80:1-7

day two

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell Thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

read and pray

Psalm 5:1-7
Pray the Our Father (Matthew 6:9-13)

day three

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

read and pray

Psalms 127:1-7
Psalm 127:11-12

Pray the following prayer for those who are brokenhearted and have lost hope.

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake or watch or weep tonight, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend Your sick ones, O Lord Christ. Rest Your weary ones. Bless Your dying ones. Soothe Your suffering ones. Shield Your joyous ones, and all for Your love's sake. Amen. §

day four

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

read and pray

Psalm 95:1-2

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: look favorably on Your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of Your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which are cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by Him through whom all things were made, Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. †

day five

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times did'st give the Law, in cloud, and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

read and pray

Luke 1:46-55