

touch

living incarnationlly

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 Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining.
Till He appeared and the Spirit felt its worth.

read and pray

Luke 1:46-55 – Mary's Song of Joy

day two

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, the night when Christ was born;
O night, O Holy Night, O night divine!
O night, O Holy Night, O night divine!

read and pray

Luke 1:67-79 – Zechariah's Song of Joy
Pray the Our Father

day three

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
with glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
O'er the world a star is sweetly gleaming,
now come the wise men from out of the Orient land.

read and pray

Luke 2:8-14 – The Angel Song of Joy
Pray the Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth. Lord God heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

day four

The King of kings lay thus lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friends.
He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger,
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!

read and pray

Luke 2:28-32 – Simeon's Song of Joy
Pray the following prayer for those who are brokenhearted and cannot find joy.

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 five

Truly He taught us to love one another,
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains He shall break, for the slave is our brother.
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
With all our hearts we praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! Then ever, ever praise we,
His power and glory ever more proclaim!
His power and glory ever more proclaim!

read and pray

Isaiah 9:6-7