

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Based on the Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship*, 165-166

*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:*

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.  
Advent means coming.

We are preparing ourselves for the days  
when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, *Isa. 2:4*  
and their spears into pruning hooks;

**All: nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.**

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

Leader: The wolf shall lie down with the lamb, *Isa. 11:6*  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

**All: the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.**

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

Leader: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *Isa. 35:1*  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

**All: like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.**

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

Leader: The Lord will give you a sign. *Isa. 7:14*

**All: Look, the young woman is with child  
and shall bear a son,  
and shall name him Immanuel: God is with us.**

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

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; *Isa. 9:2*

**All: those who lived in a land of deep darkness,  
on them light has shined.**

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

Leader: Come, people of God:

**All: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**