

## **C5706 God with Us, Emmanuel Litany**

### **First Sunday – He Will Be Called *Wonderful Counselor***

#### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Wonderful Counselor.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who hears our prayers.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who heals our infirmities.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who renews our faith.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who ignites our hope.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

Today we light the **first candle**. The first candle reminds us that Jesus is our Wonderful Counselor who brings hope to a hurting world. As our counselor, Jesus brings hope in times of despair, compassion in times of sorrow, and healing in times of brokenness. As we begin the season of Advent, let our hope reside in the One who cares about our needs and sustains our faith.

#### **Closing prayer (First Sunday)**

Gracious Lord, we thank you for being our Wonderful Counselor. As we begin our Advent journey, help us to know the abiding hope that comes from knowing you. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Second Sunday - He Will be Called *Mighty God***

#### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Mighty God.

**You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

We look to the One in whom we find redemption.

**You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

We look to the One who forgives our sins.

**You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

We look to the One who overcomes the darkness.

**You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

We look to the One who has come to set us free.

**You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

Today we light two candles. The **first candle** reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The **second candle** reminds us of our joy, knowing that Jesus is our Mighty God. As we light the second candle we remember that even when we face trials, hardships and difficulties – our strength is found in what Christ has done. As we continue our Advent journey, let us rejoice in the One in who gives strength to the weary and power to the weak.

### **Closing prayer (Second Sunday)**

Gracious Lord, remind us of your power throughout this Advent season. In times of weakness, remind us that you are the One who gives strength. In times of confusion, remind us that you are the One who reveals truth. In times of doubt, remind us that you are the One who gives hope. We thank you for being our Mighty God. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### **Third Sunday – He Will be Called *Prince of Peace***

#### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Prince of Peace.

**The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.**

In the midst of conflict, we look to the One who brings harmony.

**The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.**

In the midst of confusion, we look to the One who brings clarity.

**The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.**

In the midst of division, we look to the One who brings unity.

**The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.**

In the midst of separation, we look to the One who restores the broken.

**The Lord gives strength to his people and blesses them with peace.**

Today we light three candles. The **first candle** reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The **second candle** reminds us of our joy in proclaiming Christ as our Mighty God. We light the **third candle** to remind us that Jesus is our Prince of Peace. In a world filled with conflict, tension and discord, we look for the peace that comes through Christ alone.

### **Closing prayer (Third Sunday)**

Gracious Lord, as we continue our Advent journey, we acknowledge that our surroundings are often far from peaceful. By your Spirit, help us to be agents of peace in the world around us. Throughout this season continue to fill us with the peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Fourth Sunday – He Will Be Called *Everlasting Father***

### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Everlasting Father.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

During Advent we look to the One who knows our deepest thoughts.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

During Advent we look to the One who cares for our deepest needs.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

During Advent we look to the One who knows our most pressing concerns.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

During Advent we look to the One who knows our innermost being.

**From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

Today we light four candles. The **first candle** reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The **second candle** reminds us of our joy in proclaiming Christ as our Mighty God. The **third candle** grants us comfort knowing that Jesus is our Prince of Peace. We light the **fourth candle** to remind us that Jesus is our Everlasting Father. In a world of change, mobility and transition, we affirm that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

### **Closing prayer (Fourth Sunday)**

Gracious Lord, as we continue our Advent journey, we acknowledge that very little in our world stays the same. Thank you for being our Everlasting Father, who is eternally present with us. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

## **Christmas Eve – He Will Be Called *Emmanuel***

### *Responsive Litany*

During our Advent journey we've anticipated the coming Savior.

**Joy to the world, the Lord has come!**

We've anticipated the One who is called Wonderful Counselor.

**Joy to the world, the Lord has come!**

We've anticipated the one who is called Mighty God.

**Joy to the world, the Lord has come!**

We've anticipated the one who is called Prince of Peace.

**Joy to the world, the Lord has come!**

We've anticipated the One who is called Everlasting Father.

**Joy to the world, the Lord has come!**

Tonight our waiting is over as we celebrate the One who is Emmanuel, our God, who is with us.

**Joy to the world, the Lord has come!**

Tonight we light all the candles. The **first candle** reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The **second candle** reminds us of our joy in proclaiming Christ as our Mighty God. The **third candle** grants us comfort knowing that Jesus is our Prince of Peace. The **fourth candle** reminds us of Christ's continued presence as our Everlasting Father. Tonight as the light from these candles fill this room, we light the **Christ candle**, as we welcome and worship the One who is Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, God with us.

### **Closing prayer (Christmas Eve)**

Gracious Lord, throughout this Advent season we have come to know you by many names. Tonight as we celebrate your birth, we thank you for being our Emmanuel. Remind us that no matter where we are, or where we've been, you are with us. We gather in the glory of this night to welcome you as Savior and Lord. We pray this in the wonderful name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.