

## **C6048 Of the Father's Love Litany**

### **FIRST SUNDAY – Wonderful Counselor**

#### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in the scripture.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

We wait for the one who will bring answers to a world filled with questions.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

We wait for the one who can heal what has been wounded and mend what has been broken

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

We wait for the one who can renew our weary spirits and ignite our hearts with hope.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

Today we light the first candle – the candle of hope – reminding us that Jesus was sent not only to be our Savior, but to also be our Wonderful Counselor; the one who hears our prayers with compassion, and who offers guidance when we seek it. As we begin the season of Advent, we remember that our rest can be found in God, and through the gift of God's son our hope is forever restored.

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

Gracious Lord, we thank you for your promises and for coming to earth as our Wonderful Counselor. As we begin our Advent journey, help us to know the abiding hope that comes from knowing that you will keep your promises to us. May we radiate that hope in everything we say and do. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **SECOND SUNDAY – Mighty God**

#### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in the scripture.

**And he will be called Mighty God.**

We wait for the one whose power has no limits and whose strength knows no end.

**And he will be called Mighty God.**

We wait for the one whose everlasting light can illuminate the darkest night.

**And he will be called Mighty God.**

We wait for the one whose mercy never ends and whose faithfulness endures forever.

**And he will be called Mighty God.**

Today we light two candles. The first candle reminds us of the hope found in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. As we light the second candle, we reflect on the joy found in serving a God who is almighty, all knowing, and always present. Continuing our Advent journey, we joyfully celebrate a savior who brings hope and a God whose power and strength have no limits.

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

Gracious Lord, we thank for your promises and for coming to earth and bringing the power of almighty God. As we continue our Advent journey, help us to know the joy that comes from resting in your power, and help us spread this joy everywhere we go, today and every day. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **THIRD SUNDAY – Prince of Peace**

### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in the scripture.

**And he will be called Prince of Peace.**

We wait for the one who can turn discord to perfect harmony.

**And he will be called Prince of Peace.**

We wait for the one who can replace hate with love, and anger with understanding.

**And he will be called Prince of Peace.**

We wait for the one who can replace division with unity, and war with peace.

**And he will be called Prince of Peace.**

Today we light three candles. The first reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The second reminds us of our joy in knowing a God who is powerful and almighty. We light the third candle to remind us that Jesus came to earth as the Prince of Peace. In a world filled with conflict and discord, we pray for harmony and unity as we work towards claiming the promise of peace on earth.

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

Gracious Lord, we thank your for your promises and for coming to earth to be our Prince of Peace. As we continue our Advent journey, grant us the peace that comes from trusting in your grace, and relying on your promises. Help us spread this peace through all the things we say and all the things we do. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **FOURTH SUNDAY – Everlasting Father**

### *Responsive Litany*

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in the scripture.

**And he will be called Everlasting Father.**

We wait for the one who knows our deepest thoughts and fulfills our every need.

**And he will be called Everlasting Father.**

We wait for the one who will love us unconditionally, as a parent loves a child.

**And he will be called Everlasting Father.**

We wait for the one whose grace and mercy will never end.

**And he will be called Everlasting Father.**

Today we light four candles. The first reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor, the second candle, of our joy in proclaiming Christ as almighty God. The third candle reminds us that Jesus came to bring peace into the world. We light the fourth candle to celebrate the fact that God loves us in spite of our flaws, just as a parent loves a child. In an unsettled world, surrounded by confusion, we affirm that our Everlasting Father is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

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

Gracious Lord, we thank you for your promises and for coming to earth to be our Everlasting Father. As we continue our Advent journey, remind us of your eternal and steadfast love, and help us radiate this love to others by our actions, and with our words. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE – Emmanuel**

### *Responsive Litany*

Tonight, we conclude our Advent journey as we light the Christ candle, welcoming the one promised in the scripture.

**He is called Emmanuel: God with us!**

We celebrate the hope brought to earth by our Wonderful Counselor.

**He is called Emmanuel: God with us!**

We rejoice in the strength and power of a Mighty God.

**He is called Emmanuel: God with us!**

We sing of peace on earth and good will to all people.

**He is called Emmanuel: God with us!**

And we lift our hearts in praise to our Everlasting Father.

**He is called Emmanuel: God with us!**

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

Tonight we light all the candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ, the Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. As the light from these candles fill this room, we light the Christ candle, welcoming the newborn King. 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 we celebrate your birth and thank you for being our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. 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 Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. We pray this in the wonderful name of Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.