

## **C6330 Jesus, the Light of the World Litany**

### **FIRST SUNDAY – WAIT for the Light**

*Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to wait.

**We wait in hope for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to wait for freedom from captivity.

**We wait in hope for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to wait for comfort in our sorrow.

**We wait in hope for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to wait for power in our weakness.

**We wait in hope for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to wait for the end of darkness.

**We wait for Jesus, the Light of the World.**

This morning we light the **first candle**. This candle reminds us that our hope is in Christ, and that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World. As we begin the journey of Advent, may we learn to wait patiently, with hope and confidence that God's light will one day illuminate our darkened world.

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

God in heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, we pray that you will teach us to wait with patience, endurance and trust. Remind us of your everlasting presence. Fill us with hope for the future and love for humanity. Bathe us in your eternal, loving light. Amen.

### **SECOND SUNDAY – WATCH for the Light**

*Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to watch.

**We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for hope in our despair.

**We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for grace and forgiveness.

**We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for peace in the midst of conflict.

**We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.**

Advent is a time to watch for the end of darkness.

**We watch for Jesus, the Light of the World**

This morning we light two candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time of waiting. The **second candle** reminds us that Advent is also a time of watching. We watch with expectant eyes, trusting that God is active, present and constantly at work. As we light the second candle, we ask for faith to watch for God's presence, and open eyes to see all that God is doing.

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

God in heaven, as we learn to watch for signs of your presence, open our eyes that we might see the ways you are at work around us, within us, and through us. Amen.

## **THIRD SUNDAY – PREPARE for the Light**

### *Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to prepare

**Prepare the way of the Lord.**

Advent is a time to prepare our eyes to see the light of Christ.

**Prepare the way of the Lord.**

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts to receive the Word of Christ.

**Prepare the way of the Lord.**

Advent is a time to prepare to share the joy of Christ.

**Prepare the way of the Lord.**

Advent is a time to embrace the promise of Christ.

**Prepare for Jesus, the Light of the World**

This morning we light three candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to wait. The **second candle** reminds us that Advent is also a time to watch.. The third candle teaches us that Advent is a time to prepare. We prepare ourselves in heart, soul and mind to welcome Jesus, the Light of the World

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

God in heaven, help us to be people who wait on you, watch for you, and with the help of your spirit, prepare for you. Continue to shine your light in our lives as we look at all you have done, all you are doing, and all that you will do. Amen.

## **FOURTH SUNDAY- PRAISE the Light**

### *Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to praise.

**Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

Advent is a time to remember God's faithfulness.

**Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

Advent is a time to remember God's blessings.

**Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

Advent is a time to remember God's promises.

**Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

Advent it a time to celebrate the end of darkness.

**Praise to Jesus, the Light of the World**

This morning we light four candles. This candle reminds us that Advent is a time to give praise for what God has done, for what God is doing, and for what God will bring to completion. As the light of Advent grows brighter, it reminds us that we move closer to receiving the gift of a Savior -- Jesus, the Light of the World.

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

Father in heaven, we look to you from a distance; from a world filled with darkness. Help us to seek the light of your truth, as we remember your promises and offer our praise for your amazing gifts to us. Amen.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE – CELEBRATING the Light**

### *Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to celebrate.

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

We celebrate that joy that is in Christ Jesus.

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

We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.

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

We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.

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

We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.

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

Tonight we light all of the candles and as we light the last candle -- the **Christ candle** -- we are reminded that we are to celebrate the message of Christmas by proclaiming what Christ has done, and sharing it with others. As the light from each candle fills this room, we celebrate the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World.

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

God in heaven, we thank you for guiding us through our Advent journey. Through waiting, watching, preparing, and praising, we are now ready to celebrate. Help us receive the glory of Christmas as we rejoice in the fact that you have come to us through the gift of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.