

INSTRUCTIONS: The underlined text are headings and do not need to be read. [Brackets] are instructions to be followed, not necessarily read. (Parentheses) are references and not to be read. **FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER:** I suggest you read the prayer sheet aloud but reading silently is fine too. Don't pay any attention to the **Bold Italic Type**. **FOR GROUP PRAYER:** have one person act as leader. The leader reads the regular print and everyone reads the **Bold Italic Type** together.

Daily Prayer for the 1st Monday of Advent

Opening Sentences:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.^{ff}



Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:23)

Praying Together

Lord, open our ears.

"I cry aloud to the Lord and he answers me from his holy hill...Deliverance belongs to the Lord, may your blessing be to your people!" Amen. (Psalm 3:4, 8)

Confession:

Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we often are distracted by the season's busyness, by the stress of commitments and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas.

We confess we sometimes prefer being sentimental to being sacrificial. Forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing you in our midst, for all the times we have doubted your presence, and for all the times we have failed to hold the holidays as holy days.

Pour peace into our lives and let us be bearers of your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest gift of all. In the holy name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

Based on Psalm 122:

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

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Jerusalem - built as a city that is bound firmly together. To it the tribes go up...as was decreed for Israel.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you." There is a hope for peace and security within your walls.

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

[Silent Prayer; or Music may be listened to; or a Hymn is sung.]

Prayers of the People:

Lord of love and life, we pray for your presence to be known as we wait and watch, "O Come O Come Emmanuel."

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

[Silent Prayer]

We pray, Almighty God, for your glory to be manifest in this season of hope.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

[Silent Prayer]

Comfort those who mourn, heavenly Father, and shelter those who live their lives vulnerable and dependent upon the mercy of others.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

[Silent Prayer]

Hear our prayer O Lord as we pray together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Closing prayer:

Creator God, send us into your world with hearts ready to hear the cries of those who have no hope. Help us, dear Lord, to give them hope in you and your coming kingdom. **Amen.**

*Missionstclare.com

†From *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 211, Collects for Advent.

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