

# **A Liturgy for Lighting the Advent Wreath**

by Michael Christian Sturdy

## **Advent 1**

As someone lights the first candle, another prays:

God of time, who gave us seasons by which we see the beauty and creativity of your creation: As we enter these longest nights of the year, show us the eternal light that shines in your presence, that we may wait with excitement and anticipation for the second coming of your Son, our savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Reader: By God's light, we see light.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## Advent 2

As someone lights the first two candles, another prays:

God of creation, whose Son took on humanity without losing divinity: Help us never lose our awe and wonder at the ways in which you love us, that, as Christ came to live like us, we might live like Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit is worshiped and glorified. **Amen.**

Reader: Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ  
Jesus.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## Advent 3

As someone lights the first three candles, another prays:

God of Love, who lives as the mysterious relationship of the Trinity: Give us the grace to welcome all into a living relationship with the body of Christ, that the light of your gospel of love may continue to shine bright on earth as it is in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reader: Love will enlighten the nations.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## Advent 4

As someone lights all four candles, another prays:

God of hope, whose Son came to bring salvation to the world: Give us the peace that passes understanding, secure in the knowledge that, as Christ came once, so Christ will come again, that we may continue the work of spreading the love that binds together the kingdom of God; through Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Reader: Christ will come again.

All: **Thanks be to God.**