

## Home Service for Advent

**O Lord, open our lips**, and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
As we rejoice in the gift of this day, so may the light of your presence,  
O God, set out hearts on fire with love for you.

**Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all**,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
In your tender compassion the dawn from on high is breaking upon us  
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.  
As we look for your coming among us this day,  
open our eyes to behold your presences  
and strengthen our hands to do your will,  
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God for ever.

**The Lord is full of compassion** and mercy,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.  
For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he set out sins from us.  
As a father has compassion on his children,  
so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

### Psalm and Bible Readings appointed

**Now it is time to awake out of sleep**,  
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.  
Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,  
for the night is far spent.  
Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness  
and put on the armour of light,  
for the day is at hand.  
Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh,  
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

### Prayers of Intercession

*For the day and its tasks...*

*For the world and its needs...*

*For the Church and her life...*

*For our villages and their people...*

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

### Our Father, which art in heaven...

**May the Lord**, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.  
Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.