

# A D V E N T 2 0 1 8

Start a practice of lighting your wreath even for a few moments each night. It is best used as a tool for prayer in the home. Put it someplace prominent and safe.

Use the steps below. Use your Advent wreath. By the time we approach the Holy Child at Christmas, our hearts will be changed.

## **A Short Order of Blessing & Lighting of Advent Wreaths at Home**

When time seems scarce, but we long for stillness and rest, center us in the present moment, O Christ.

You come to us as Emmanuel, *God with us*. When things run smoothly or challenge us deeply, remind us who you are and where you are: *with us*.

O Christ, awaken us to your presence in all people and in all situations. You are coming again. You are already here.

May the light of this wreath bring us your Light, teaching us how to make room for you. Teach us to wait. We long for more of you. May we bear you into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus.

*Light the appropriate number of candles and take a moment in silence to gaze at the light and open your heart to Christ's love.*

*With Kids:* Jesus, you are light even in the darkest places.  
Help us to trust in you when we are lost or lonely.  
Shine hope into our hearts we pray.  
Amen.

