

# advent candles

tune: away in a manger

## INTRODUCTION

Below is a simple song to be used each week during Advent 2010 as the Advent Candles are lit. There is a verse for each Sunday and Christmas Eve inspired by the lectionary readings for each day, following the themes of Peace, Justice, Joy and Salvation.

If you wish to decorate the church, or use different coloured candles, a colour is suggested for each Sunday, with white for the final candle for Christmas Eve/Day.

## SONG

*On the First Sunday of Advent – (Isaiah 2.1-5, Psalm 122)*

A candle is burning, a candle of **Peace**;  
a candle of hope that all conflict will cease.  
Beat swords into ploughshares, change hatred to love,  
the Spirit of God is revealed as a dove.

*On the Second Sunday of Advent, add – (Isaiah 11.1-10, Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19, Matthew 3.1-12)*

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright;  
a candle of hope in the darkness of night.  
We pray that the lamb with the lion shall lie,  
prepare ye the way, for God's **Justice** is nigh.

*On the Third Sunday of Advent, add – (Isaiah 35.1-10, Psalm 146.5-10)*

A candle is burning, a candle of **Joy**;  
a candle of hope which no ill could destroy.  
The prophets proclaiming an end to all strife;  
the desert once barren, will now spring to life.

*On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, add – (Isaiah 7.10-16, Psalm 80.1-2, Matthew 1.18-25)*

A candle is burning, a flame warm and clear;  
a candle of hope that *Immanuel's* near.  
The ancients foretold God's love comes through a birth;  
a baby is bringing **Salvation** to earth.

*On Christmas Eve, add – (Matthew 1.18-25)*

We wait for God's coming with Christ's candle flame;  
**Joy**, **Justice** and **Peace** to all people proclaim.  
For God brings **Salvation**, rejoice on this night;  
the Christ child's among us, the true light of Light.

Mike Walsh 2010

The tunes *Cradle Song* or *Normandy* can be used to accompany this song.  
The metre is 11.11.11.11

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## THE NEXT STEP

More material for Evangelism Year is available on the website. Don't forget to look up Advent in the Bible and Prayer Year archives if you have not used all of that material already.

## Acknowledgements

This has been prepared by Mike Walsh to whom copyright belongs and who has given permission for it to be used by Vision4life.

The inspiration for this song came from, 'A candle is burning' by Sandra Dean © 1986, from 'Voices United' – the hymn book of the United Church of Canada.

The original text can be found at - [http://www.msgr.ca/msgr-2/ADVENTwreath\\_01.htm](http://www.msgr.ca/msgr-2/ADVENTwreath_01.htm)

## HOW TO FEEDBACK TO VISION4LIFE?

If you wish to offer any feedback – brickbats and bouquets are equally welcome! – you can do so in various ways.

You can email the Vision4Life steering group and the coordinator about general issues via the website or at [admin@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:admin@vision4life.org.uk)

Website issues can be dealt with through [web@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:web@vision4life.org.uk)