



Advent Collects for Northern Churches¹

[using traditional models, reinterpreting and acknowledging their concerns, in a similar word-count]

ADVENT I :

Last Days, Judgment, and Remaking

a)

Sustaining and Refreshing God:
wrap us round with warmth and welcome;
clothed and layered with resilience
which, even in these last Days
does not deny darkness -
but in Christ, your Word, your Flesh,
trusts and seeks,
for light beyond our sight;
for justice beyond our knowing.

[optional continuation]

So, God, we pray,
walk *with* us in hope
with Christ, whose grace,
mercy, and judgment
can be neither discarded nor exhausted,

[conclusion]

and *with* your Wild Wind Spirit,
whose energy empowers transition
to your Creation, remade,
of beauty, diversity, and joy. AMEN.

¹ Acknowledging that in the Southern Hemisphere, different light/dark imagery will be appropriate

ADVENT 2 : Messengers, Endings and Preparation

a)

Purposeful God:
sending both John, and every creature
called to preach and prophesy robustly
your Good News of warning and wariness.

Graciously impart to them
whatever it takes
that we too might turn
hearts and lives to you
leaving behind what harms the Earth
that with confidence
and in fellowship with all that breathes
we welcome Christ afresh

as friend and guide
with You and the Spirit:
One God, beyond this Age's end.
AMEN.

b)

Transforming God, as we recognise the calling of John the Baptist,
by his compassion and urgency,
as being from you,
so inspire all who strive to convey your Gospel,
to speak plainly and lovingly
whatever truth may set us free
to act, to pray, to live
for the health of all you love;
that with hope and faith in your mercy ,
we may greet your judgment,
when all is fulfilled,
and Christ's glory is beyond denial,
who lives and sustains with you
and the Wild Wind, the Spirit.
AMEN.

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ADVENT 3 : Obstacles

a)

Come beside us with power, Sustaining God;
stir us, provoke us and awaken us
to the crises and calamities
we have chosen, caused, denied and ignored.
Supplement with grace
our every turning and repentance:
walk within and empower our every small step
to a greater healing of your beloved Earth,
our only God, our Friend,
our Guide, through all that lies ahead.
AMEN.

b)

Incite us through love, our God
to bold and compassionate living,
and subvert in us every abuse of power
that every creature of your Rainbow Covenant
may delight at the Advent of your most beloved Son;
who lives and sustains, as friend and guide
with You and the Spirit:
One God, beyond this Age's end.
AMEN.

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ADVENT 4 : Birthing and nurturing

Without delay, Lord quickly come:
urgently repurpose us
to be born in the swiftness of your compassion;
that, **though** human choices and neglect
have led to harm and desecration
we may **yet** come into our own
as sisters and brothers
of Christ born then and now
who lives, creates and sustains
with God the Caregiver,
in the unity of the Wild Wind, the Spirit.
to the end of the Age.
AMEN.

b)

*Beloved Caregiver,
in all Creation;
you called Mary, full of grace
and blessed her response
to mother your child
our Friend and Guide.*

*Fill up the voids of despair and aimlessness
with your grace and your joy
that by our response,
in prayer and other action,
we may rejoice to heal and bless the Earth
in whom Christ is incarnate,
One God, with you, and the Breath of Life
AMEN.*



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