

Advent candle song by Mark Earey (Tune: ANGEL VOICES 'Angel voices ever singing...')

Advent 1 – the Advent hope

Jesus said, 'Keep awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The first candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,
changed for gladness
on that Day.

Advent 2—the prophets

Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness
on that Day.

Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.
Through their message - challenged, shaken -
hearts awoken:
God is near!

Advent 3—John the Baptist

Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The third candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness
on that Day.

John the Baptist, by his preaching
and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching
news of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
and be ready
for the Lord.'

Advent 4—Mary

Jesus said, 'Anyone who does what my Father in heaven wants is my brother or sister or mother.'

I am the servant of the Lord.

Let it be to me according to his word.

The fourth candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness,
on that Day.

Mary's gift, beyond all telling,
was to give Christ room.
Timeless God as human dwelling
in a mother's womb.

Who could guess the final story?
- cross and glory;
empty tomb!

Christmas Day – Jesus

Joy to the world!
The Lord has come!

The central candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
on this Christmas Day.
Those who waited for God's glory:
they prepared the way.
Christ is with us: loving, giving,
in us living,
here today!