

Toward the Light

Advent is the season of waiting, longing, and hope. It prepares us to celebrate Christ's first coming at Christmas while also teaching us to live with expectation for his return. The Church's Lectionary readings lead us through this journey, helping us see both our deep need for God and the sure promises of his salvation.

The movement of Advent begins with a call to wake up and watch for God's coming. It reminds us that the world is not as it should be, yet God has promised renewal. As the weeks unfold, the readings invite us to repentance and preparation, pointing us toward the coming of God's kingdom of peace and justice. They lift us into joy as we glimpse signs of God's restoring work - healing, freedom, and hope for the poor and broken-hearted. Finally, Advent assures us of God's presence through the promise of Immanuel - God with us.

This is the rhythm of Advent: from longing, to promise, to joy, to the assurance of God's nearness. It is not just a journey toward Christmas, but a journey deeper into faith. Along the way, we are invited to trust God's promises, to prepare our hearts, to look for signs of his kingdom, and to rest in the truth that in Christ, God has already drawn near.

These studies will use readings from Psalms, Isaiah, and Matthew from Year A of the Lectionary.

Let Advent shape your waiting into hope, your watching into faith, and your longing into joy in Christ.



Synaxis of Saint John the Baptist 11C (Menologion of Basil II)