

A voice cries out:

‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

Then shall the glory of the Lord be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

God the Father, God the Son, God the Spirit,  
you have been with us at the world’s beginning

**Be with us till the world’s end.**

You have been with us at our life’s shaping.

**Be with us at our life’s end.**

You have been with us at the sun’s rising

**Be with us till the day’s end.**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

For the night is at hand and the day is now past.

**As the night watch looks for the morning**

**so do we look for you, O Christ.**

BLESSING

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!



TAIZÉ  
PRAYER

WELCOME and OPENING PRAYER

O God, our Advent hope,  
settle us in unsettled times  
and quiet us in a world of disquiet  
that our senses be the more alive  
to you and those around us.

Amen

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong, take heart!

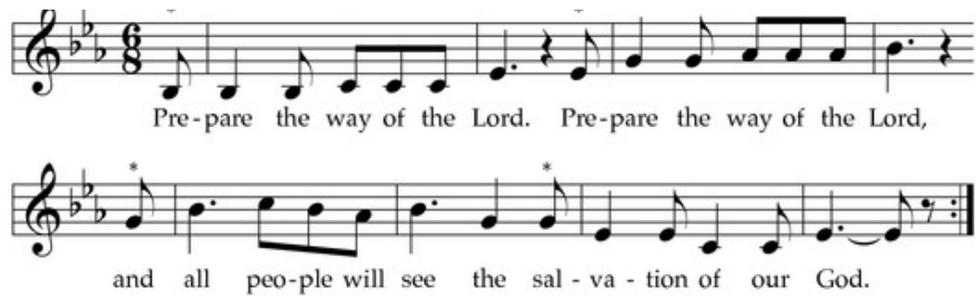
Both Lent and Advent offer opportunities to pause, reflect and pray, following the example of Christ who frequently withdrew from the crowds to pray to his heavenly Father. In this stained-glass window by William Wailes from St. Andrew’s Church, Great Ryburgh, our eye is also drawn to the dozing disciples. No doubt they were exhausted and overwhelmed by what was going on around them, a bit like us at the current time as we try to balance our times of reflection with the need to “keep awake” to the needs of others.

*courtesy of Anne Prentis and the  
Diocesan Digital Advent Calendar*



some of the sections will be followed by a short silence

CHANT : Prepare the Way of the Lord



Pre-prepare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the Lord,  
and all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

MEDITATION for Advent

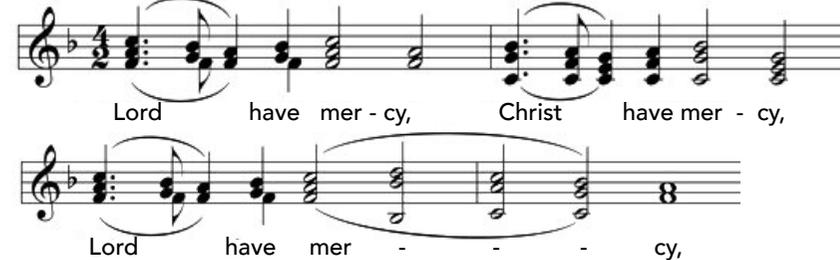
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness,<br/>Longing for truth, we turn to you.<br/>Make us your own, your holy people,<br/>Light for the world to see.<br/><b>Faithful and weary,<br/>we watch and wait...<br/>Into the world's deep need,<br/>come Lord Jesus, Come</b></p> | <p>3 for food, many are hungry.<br/>Longing for water, still many thirst.<br/>Make us your bread, broken for others,<br/>Shared until all are fed<br/><b>Faithful and weary....</b></p>    |
| <p>2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.<br/>Longing for hope, many despair.<br/>Your word alone has power to save us.<br/>Make us your living voice.<br/><b>Faithful and weary...</b></p>  | <p>4 Many the gifts, many the people,<br/>Many the hearts that yearn to belong.<br/>Let us be servants to one another,<br/>Making your kingdom come.<br/><b>Faithful and weary....</b></p> |

CHANT Within our darkest night



With-in our dark-est night, you kin-dle the fire that nev-er dies a-  
-way, that nev-er dies a- way with-in our darkest night, you kin-dle the  
fire that nev-er dies a - way, that nev-er dies a - way.

INTERCESSIONS after each prayer we remain silent and then sing:



Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy,  
Lord have mer - - - cy,

This Advent, as we wait for the Hope of the World,  
we pray for God's hope to overcome  
the despair of loss and loneliness.  
God of light and hope,.....

This Advent, as we wait for the redemption of the World,  
we pray that the power of God would bring an end to violence and  
injustice in the life of the nations  
God of light and hope,.....

This Advent, as we wait for the Light of the World,  
we pray that the love of God would bring light  
in the lives of our family and friends.  
God of light and hope,.....

This Advent, as we wait for the Hope of the World,  
we pray that the love of God would fill  
us all with sure and certain hope.  
God of light and hope,.....

**Amen**

CHANT



Stay with us O Lord Je-sus Christ, night will soon fall. Then  
stay with us O Lord Je-sus Christ, light in our dark-ness.