**Advent Readings and Prayers-2018**

**First Sunday of Advent, December 2 Mark 2:1-10 Messiah the Son of Man!**

Mon. Dec. 3 Mark 1:23-28

Tue. Dec. 4 Matt. 11:1-19

Wed. Dec. 5 John 5:16-27

Thurs. Dec. 6 John 12:20-36

Fri. Dec. 7 Matt. 13:1-21

Sat. Dec. 8 Matt. 20:17-28

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 9 Acts 3:17-26 Messiah our Prophet!**

Mon. Dec. 10 Deut. 18:14-22

Tues. Dec. 11 Psalm 25:4-15

Wed. Dec. 12 Matt. 5:1-20

Thurs. Dec. 13 Matt. 7:15-28

Fri. Dec. 14 Matt. 13:47-58

Sat. Dec. 15 John 14 Messiah teaches us all about the Trinity

**Third Sunday of Advent, December 16 Hebrews 4:14-16 Messiah our Priest!**

Mon. Dec. 17 Hebrews 2:10-18

Tues. Dec. 18 Psalm 110:1-7

Wed. Dec. 19 Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Thurs. Dec. 20 Hebrews 7:20-28

Fri. Dec. 21 Hebrews 8:1-6

Sat. Dec. 22 Hebrews 10:1-14

**Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23 Psalm 2 Messiah our King!**

Mon. Dec. 24 Isaiah 9:1-7

Tues. Dec. 25 Luke 2:1-20 and John 1:1-18

Wed. Dec. 26 Isaiah 11:1-10

Thurs. Dec. 27 Ezekiel 34:17-31

Fri. Dec. 28 John 18:28-40

Sat. Dec. 29 Luke 19:28-44

*(Turn over for prayers)*

**They** watch for Christ

 who are sensitive, eager, apprehensive in mind,

who are awake, alive, quick-sighted,

 zealous in honoring him,

who look for him in all that happens, and

who would not be surprised,

who would not be over-agitated or overwhelmed,

if they found that he was coming at once. . . .

This then is to watch:

 to be detached from what is present, and

 to live in what is unseen;

 to live in the thought of Christ as he came once,

 and as he will come again;

to desire his second coming, from our affectionate

and grateful remembrance of his first. *John Henry Newman, Nineteenth century*

**Above** the clamor of our violence

your word of truth resounds,

O God of majesty and power.

Over nations enshrouded in despair

your justice dawns.

Grant your household

a discerning spirit and a watchful eye

to perceive the hour in which we live.

Hasten the advent of that day

when the weapons of war shall be banished,

our deeds of darkness cast off,

and all your scattered children gathered into one.

We ask this through him whose coming is certain,

whose day draws near:

your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever. *Prayer, First Sunday of Advent*

**O God**, whose will is justice for the poor

and peace for the afflicted,

let your herald’s urgent voice

pierce our hardened hearts

and announce the dawn of your kingdom.

Before the advent of the one who baptizes

with the fire of the Holy Spirit,

let our complacency give way to conversion,

oppression to justice,

and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ.

We ask this through him whose coming is certain,

whose day draws near:

your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, forever and ever. Amen. *Prayer, Second Sunday of Advent*