

We Wait in Hope

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

For Two-Part Mixed Choir with Piano and optional Handbells and Congregation

4 Bells used: B \flat , 5, D6, E6, A6

Words and Music by
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Reverently (♩ = 96)

The musical score is written for a two-part mixed choir, piano, and optional handbells and congregation. It is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B \flat). The tempo is marked 'Reverently' with a quarter note equal to 96 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems, each starting with a rehearsal mark (4, 8, and 12). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and chords in the left hand. The choir parts are written in two staves, with the upper staff for the Soprano/Alto part and the lower staff for the Tenor/Bass part. The lyrics are: 'All cre - a - tion lies in wait-ing, in the still-ness of the night, with hope an - ti - ci - pat - ing the Ad-vent of E -'. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *unis.* (unison). Chord symbols are provided for the piano accompaniment: D m, G m, D m, G m6, D m, G m6, and B \flat Maj7.

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FIRST SUNDAY – WAIT*Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to wait.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for light in the darkness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Candle Lighting

*This morning we light the **first candle**. The first candle reminds us that, as we wait upon the Lord, God's light never ceases to shine, God's will never ceases to unfold, and God's grace never ceases to be felt. As we begin the journey of Advent, may we learn to wait upon the Lord with hopeful expectation by celebrating all God has done and anticipating all he will do.*

SECOND SUNDAY – WATCH*Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to watch.

We watch in hope for the Lord; O come, Emmanuel.

During Advent we watch for hope in the midst of despair.

We watch in hope for the Lord; O come, Emmanuel.

During Advent we watch for forgiveness in the midst of rebellion.

We watch in hope for the Lord; O come, Emmanuel.

During Advent we watch for peace in the midst of conflict.

We watch in hope for the Lord; O come, Emmanuel.

During Advent we watch for the presence of God in the midst of a fallen world.

We watch in hope for the Lord; O come, Emmanuel.

Candle Lighting

*This morning we light two candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time of waiting. We wait in anticipation for God to fulfill every promise set forth in the Bible. The **second candle** reminds us that Advent is also a time of watching. We watch with expectant eyes, trusting that God is active, present and constantly at work, leading all of creation toward the plan of redemption. As we light the second candle, we ask for faith to watch for God's presence and open eyes to see all that God is doing.*

THIRD SUNDAY – PREPARE*Responsive Litany*

Advent is a time to prepare.

Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight the way for our God.

During Advent we prepare our eyes to see the light of Christ.

Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight the way for our God.

During Advent we prepare our hearts to receive the Word of Christ.

Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight the way for our God.

During Advent we prepare to share the joy of Christ.

Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight the way for our God.

During Advent we prepare to embrace the promise of Christ.

Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight the way for our God.

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we wait in
we watch in
we pre - pare in
we praise with
we pro-claim with

hope_____ for peace on earth,

G 9 B \flat /G B \flat 7(sus4) D m

mf

55

(- congregation)

mp

peace on earth. _____

mp

G m6 D m G m6 D m

mp *p*