Advent candle song by Mark Earey

(Tune: ANGEL VOICES)

Advent 1

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

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

Advent 3

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's gift, beyond all telling, was to give Christ room. She gave God a human dwelling in a mother's womb. Who could guess the final story? – cross and glory; empty tomb!

Christmas Day

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!

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The responses below can be used each week as the candles are lit. All the texts may be reproduced for local use without seeking further permission.

From Sunday by Sunday (www.rscm.com)

Advent I – 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 awaken: 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.'

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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. She gave God a 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!

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