

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
JOEL RANEY

Reverently (♩ = 96)

HOPE Publishing Company
Since 1892

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The musical score is written for a two-part mixed choir, piano, and optional handbells. It is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The score begins with a piano introduction marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The piano part features a simple, rhythmic melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The choir enters with a reverent melody. 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 various chords such as Dm, Gm, Gm6, and B \flat Maj7. The tempo is marked as 96 beats per minute.

12 *(Handbells tacet until meas. 40)*

ter - nal Light.

Asus4 A7 Dm Gm6 Dm Gm6

(piano continues, quietly underscoring Responsive Litany and Candle Lighting)

17 *(Responsive Litany begins here)*

pp

Dm Gm Dm

23

Gm Dm C/B \flat Dm

30

C Dm

repeat as needed

Repeat as needed until Candle Lighting is finished...

*...then segue to
page 6, meas. 36*

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.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light three candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to wait upon the Lord. We wait for the unfolding of God's plan in accordance with God's time. The **second candle** reminds us that Advent is also a time to watch. During Advent, we eagerly watch for God's presence and work in our world. As we light the **third candle** we also remember that Advent is a time to prepare. During Advent, we prepare ourselves in heart, soul and strength to welcome our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who was, and is, and is to come. Let each of us ask God to prepare us to celebrate the glory of Christmas.

FOURTH SUNDAY – PRAISE

Responsive Litany

Advent is a time to praise.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

During Advent we remember God's past faithfulness.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

During Advent we remember God's present goodness.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

During Advent we remember God's future promises.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light four candles. The **first candle** reminds us that during Advent we wait upon the promises of the Lord. The **second candle** reminds us to watch for God's presence with expectant eyes and anxious hearts. The **third candle** reminds us to prepare ourselves to receive the gift of the promised Savior. As we light the **fourth candle**, we are reminded that Advent is a time to give praise for what God has done, for what God is currently doing and for what God will bring to completion. As the light of Advent grows brighter, it reminds us that we move closer to receiving the gift of a Savior.

CHRISTMAS EVE – PROCLAIM

Responsive Litany

Advent is a time to proclaim.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

We proclaim a hope that is stronger than any trial.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Candle Lighting

Tonight we light all of the candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to wait upon the Lord with faithful endurance. The **second candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to watch for God's presence with hopeful expectation. The **third candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to prepare for the Lord in heart, soul and mind. The **fourth candle** reminds us that the One we wait for, watch for, and prepare for is Jesus Christ, who is Emmanuel, meaning God is with us. Tonight we light the last candle; the **Christ candle**. This candle reminds us that we are to proclaim the message of Christmas by celebrating what Christ has done, and by sharing it with others. As the light from each candle fills this room, so may the Light of Christ fill our world!

REFRAIN

S.A. (+ congregation)

36

f

(1st Sunday) We wait in
 (2nd Sunday) We watch in
 (3rd Sunday) We pre- pare in
 (4th Sunday) We praise with
 (Christmas Eve) We pro-claim with

T.B. ***f***

Since 1892

(After Candle Lighting
 has been completed)

D m G m6 D m

f

40 (+ Bells)

hope for the morn- ing Light, for the love of

G m7 C 11 A m/C F Maj7 D m

44

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Christ to il - lu - mi - nate the night.

B \flat 6 C 11 F Maj7

47

We wait with
We watch with
We pre - pare with } joy for the Sav - ior's birth;
We praise with
We pro - claim with

Dm Am/D D7(\flat 9) Gm Gm/E A+ Dm

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51

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

hope for peace on earth,

mf

G9 B \flat /G B \flat 7(sus4) Dm

mf

55

(- congregation)

peace on earth.

mp

Gm6 Dm Gm6 Dm

mp *p*

CLOSING PRAYER

(Prayer follows singing of the Refrain)

FIRST SUNDAY

God in heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, we pray that you will teach us to wait with patience, endurance and trust. Holding to the eternal promises revealed to us through the power of your Word, we ask that you remind us of your everlasting presence. Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY

God in heaven, as we learn to wait in faith, help us now to watch in expectation. Open our eyes that we might see the ways you are at work around us, within us and through us. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY

God in heaven, as we continue our Advent journey, help us to be people who wait for you, watch for you, and through your Spirit be prepared for you. Continue to shine your light in our lives as we look at all you have done, all you are doing, and all you will do. Amen.

FOURTH SUNDAY

God in heaven, we look to you amidst a world filled with darkness. Help us to seek the light of your truth, as we remember your promises and offer our praise to you. Amen.

CHRISTMAS EVE

God in heaven, we thank you for guiding us through our Advent journey. Through waiting, watching, preparing, and praising, we are now ready to proclaim. Help us receive the glory of Christmas, as we celebrate and rejoice that you have come to us through the gift of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

HANDBELLS

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Reverently (♩ = 96) *mp*

The musical score is written for handbells on a single staff in G major (one sharp). It consists of 59 measures. Measures 1-4 are marked 'Reverently' and 'mp'. Measures 5-14 are the main melody. Measures 15-24 and 25-34 are marked '(RESPONSIVE LITANY AND CANDLE LIGHTING HERE - Bells tacet)'. Measures 35-38 are marked '(piano, opt. repeats)'. Measures 39-44 are marked '(voices)' and contain the lyrics '(We wait in)'. Measures 45-49 are the continuation of the melody. Measures 50-53 are marked '(piano, opt. repeats)'. Measures 54-59 are the final melody, with measures 58 and 59 tied together.

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Congregation:
Refrain

(1st Sunday) We wait in
(2nd Sunday) We watch in
(3rd Sunday) We pre - pare in
(4th Sunday) We pre - pare in
(Christmas Eve) We pro - claim with

hope for the morn - ing Light,

for the love of Christ to il - lu - mi - nate the night.

We wait with
We watch with
We pre - pare with
We pre - pare with
We pro - claim with

joy for the Sav - ior's birth;

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

hope for peace on earth.

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OTHER POPULAR SACRED ANTHEMS

GC 1006	Amazing Grace (SATB)	Arr. Jack Schrader
C 5644	Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) (SATB)	Tomlin & Giglio/Arr. Joel Raney
C 5437	Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song) (SATB)	Eaton & Grant/Arr. Larson
C 5586	Calypso Lullaby (SATB)	Jester Hairton/Arr. Joel Raney
MW 1226	Canon of Praise (SAB)	Pachelbel/Arr. Hal H. Hopson
C 5678	Christ Is Risen (SATB)	Allen Pote
C 5480	Christmastime (SATB)	Michael W. Smith & Joanna Carlson/Arr. Lloyd Larson
CF 148	The Gift of Love (Unison or Two-Part)	Hal H. Hopson
A 583	God Is Our Refuge (SATB)	Allen Pote
A 687	Here I Am, Lord (Three-Part Mixed)	Daniel L. Schutte/Arr. Jack Schrader
A 686	Hymn of Promise (SATB)	Natalie Sleeth
C 5031	How Beautiful (SATB)	Twila Paris/Arr. Lloyd Larson
C 5108	How Great Thou Art/Majesty (SATB)	Hine/Hayford/Arr. Joel Raney
C 5436	How Quietly (SATB w/opt. Children's Choir)	Joel Raney
C 5614	I Thank You, Lord (SATB)	Joe Martin
C 5746	It Is Well with My Soul (SATB)	Arr. Cindy Berry
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F 979	A Jubilant Song (SATB)	Allen Pote
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C 5546	Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (SATB)	Arr. Joel Raney
C 5027	Lord of the Dance (SATB)	Sydney Carter/Arr. Don Hart
GC 850	Lord, Listen to Your Children (SATB)	Ken Medema/Arr. Schrader
A 722	Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (Two-Part)	S. Temple/Arr. Jane Holstein
GC 999	Mary, Did You Know? (SATB)	Lowry/Greene/Arr. Schrader
C 5693	No Turning Back (SATB w/opt. Children's Choir)	Arr. Joel Raney
C 5599	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (SATB)	Arr. Emily Lund
A 675	On Eagle's Wings (SATB)	Michael Joncas/Arr. Douglas E. Wagner
F 1000	On the Third Day (SATB)	Allen Pote
C 5083	Order My Steps (SATB)	Glenn Burleigh/Arr. Jack Schrader
GC 968	Precious Lord, Take My Hand (SATB)	Thomas A. Dorsey/Arr. Jack Schrader
C 5052	Seek Ye First (Two-Part)	Karen Lafferty/Arr. Douglas Wagner
C 5136	Shout to the Lord (SATB)	Darlene Zschech/Arr. Jack Schrader
GC 952	Soon and Very Soon (SATB)	Andraé Crouch/Arr. Jack Schrader
C 5002	Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place (SATB)	Wolfe/Arr. Schrader
C 5701	Then Sings My Soul (SATB)	Stuart K. Hine/Arr. Mary McDonald
C 5115	This Little Light of Mine (SATB)	Arr. Joel Raney
C 5059	Thy Word (SATB)	Smith & Grant/Arr. Schrader
C 5683	You Are Mine (SATB)	David Haas/Arr. Mark Hayes
C 5653	Walk by Faith! (SATB)	Joel Raney
CF 190	Were You There on That Christmas Night? (Unison or Two-Part)	Natalie Sleeth

Price Code: C



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