



God Comes to Us.

ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONAL

*Basking in the abiding presence of
a Holy God among God's people.*

Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay

PEACE AND GRACE TO YOU!

Advent is a season to reflect, remember and anticipate. During this time, we remember the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We anticipate the time when Christ will come again. And, we reflect on the meaning of His coming, past and future, in our lives.

The Advent Calendar begins four Sundays before Christmas, which falls on December 3 this year. Our focus text for the season is the Hebrews 1, which reminds us that “The Lord’s throne is forever.” (Hebrews 1:8b) In the coming of Christ to the world, we are graced by a God who is high and lifted up yet also humble, lowly and near. God, who is sovereign and reigns forever, seeks an intimate relationship with us.

This season, be reminded that God sits high but looks low. Be encouraged that the God of all creation also knows what it means to be lonely, discouraged, angry, grieved, and betrayed not because God has observed that in us but has lived it in His life on earth. Be humbled by the Lord who continues to enter into our human condition as Christ dwells in us by the power of the Spirit.

I pray that you will use this devotional guide to help you reflect and to draw nearer to God during this season when so many distractions vie for our attention. Each day, you will be given a song (that may be found on YouTube), a Scripture passage, and a reflective thought within each devotion. Everything else comes from your own prayerful reflection and the Holy Spirit. And while I provide a directed devotional, feel free to move as the Lord leads. If there is another passage of scripture that speaks to you, by all means, reflect and respond to that message.

You may complete this devotional time in 10 minutes or an hour—it’s up to you! On the next page, you will find a summary of what each step means and intends to accomplish. My prayer is that each day you will rest in God’s love!

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Cheryl

The Steps

REJOICE IN THE *Lord*.

Begin your devotional time in prayer and worship. Say a prayer to ask the Holy Spirit to enter your heart and mind with insight and revelation. Here you will be given a song (all accessible through youtube.com), but if God puts another song on your heart, feel free to move in the Spirit!

REACH FOR THE *goal* TO WIN THE *prize*.

Before moving on, note what you want or need God to do in your life. This might be to deepen your relationship with God, a new job, restored relationships or to develop more generosity or patience. Whatever you're seeking from God, record it here. We know, of course, that the Lord is the ultimate prize!

REMOVE THE *garbage*.

We can be so distracted in our busy lives that it's important to remember that God should be our priority every day. Setting aside time to do this devotional is a step in the right direction, but we also need to confess what keeps us from reaching that goal we just named above. List that here. It may be as short as one word or as long as a paragraph.

REFLECT:

Take a moment to note what God has already revealed to you through reflection.

RENEW YOUR *spirit*.

Here you will be given a Scripture passage to read and reflect upon.

RESPOND:

Take a moment to respond to what God has now revealed to you through Scripture.

REST IN *God's love*.

Here you will be given a reflective thought to end your devotional time.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"You Reign" (Vashawn Mitchell)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

HEBREWS 1

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

God reigns forever.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Jesus Is the Light" (Hezekiah Walker)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

JOHN 1:1-5

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord lights the world.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Glory to the Lamb" (Geoffrey Golden)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

PSALM 29

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord is glorious.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Only You are Holy" (Donnie McLurkin)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

ISAIAH 6

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The glory of the Lord fills the earth.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Alpha and Omega" (Israel and New Breed)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

REVELATION 4:1-8

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord is the beginning and the end.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Fill Me Up" (Casey J)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

JOHN 2

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord does signs.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Turning Away" (Bryan Andrew Wilson)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

ISAIAH 1-2

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord loves justice.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"God My God" (Vashawn Mitchell)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

HEBREWS 1

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

God loves righteousness.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" (Maurette Brown Clark)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

MATTHEW 1:18-25

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

Jesus calls us to follow.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"High Praise" (Judith McAllister)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

PSALM 97

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord is exalted above all.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"The Heavens Are Telling" (Karen Clark Sheard)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

ISAIAH 40:1-11

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord reveals for all to see.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Worthy is the Lamb" (Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

REVELATION 4:9-11

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord is worthy.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Speak Lord" (Juanita Bynum)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

MATTHEW 10

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord speaks through you.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"My Soul Has Been Anchored" (Douglas Miller)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

COLOSSIANS 2

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord gives you roots.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Majesty" (Byron Cage)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

HEBREWS 1

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord's foundation remains.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Joy to the World" (Broadway Inspirational Voices)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

ISAIAH 9

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord increases your joy.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Great and Mighty" (Byron Cage)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

PSALM 126

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord makes us rejoice.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Rain on Us" (Ernest Pugh)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

ISAIAH 64:1-9

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The comes from heaven.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory" (Stephen Hurd)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

REVELATION 19:1-10

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord is just.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"God Favored Me" (Hezekiah Walker)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

LUKE 1:26-56

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord favors you for purpose.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Breathe" (Byron Cage)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

COLOSSIANS 3

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

Christ is in you.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"O Holy Night" (Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

HEBREWS 1

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord lives forever.

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"O Come O Come Emmanuel" (Richard Smallwood)

REACH for the *goal* to win the *prize*

REMOVE the *garbage*

REFLECT

RENEW your *spirit*

LUKE 2:1-21

RESPOND

REST in *God's love*

The Lord is good news.

I command you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and Christ Jesus, who made the good confession when testifying before Pontius Pilate. Obey this order without fault or failure until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ. The timing of this appearance is revealed by God alone, who is the blessed and only master, the King of kings and Lord of lords. He alone has immortality and lives in light that no one can come near. No human being has ever seen or is able to see him. Honor and eternal power belong to him. Amen.

(1 Timothy 1:13-16)