



*Light has Dawned....*

*Coming with Strength*

Advent Daily Devotional

Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay

*God of Light,*

*You have come to us  
meekly joining in our humanity.*

*You come to us...meeting us in  
places of need and hope,  
Peace and despair, trial and  
triumph, and need and abundance.*

*You will come again...in  
strength...for which we wait in  
anticipation and expectation.*

*Amen.*

## 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 2 this year. Our theme, *Light has Dawned....Coming with Strength*, reflects the message of two passages from Isaiah. Isaiah 9:2 proclaims, "The people living in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned." And the words of Isaiah 40:10 tell us, "Here is the Lord God, coming with strength, with a triumphant arm, bringing his reward with him and his payment before him." Both of these texts prophesy to God at work entering into the world. God is with us, and that means something happens. God is not a passive observer but an active participant who changes the landscape just by God's presence. What was in shadows is now clearly and distinctly illuminated. Christ comes into our world, not timidly, but as a mighty and powerful conquering Sovereign. So much of our imagery of the Baby Jesus leading to Christmas portrays Him as meek, vulnerable, and defenseless. But we need not omit the power of Christ from our Advent reflections.

Every birth is a breaking through...from the flesh of the womb to the atmosphere of this world. In the first coming of Jesus, He breaks into humanity itself...with power, might, and strength. This season, be reminded that Christ will come again...also with power, might, and strength. We wait in anticipation for that day even as we live in a world that on so many days does not reflect the restoration and redemption that our faith informs us is real and already present.

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*

*"With all my heart I glorify the Lord!"*

*(Luke 1:46b)*

*Connect with me on social media!*



*@4theworshipper*

## *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*

*"Here I Am to Worship" (Israel Houghton)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 9:1-7**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*Jesus is the Light.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Fill Me Up" (Casey J)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**PSALM 4**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*Christ fills me with joy.*



REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Bread of Heaven" (Fred Hammond)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**JOHN 1:1-5**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*Jesus is the Word.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Only You are Holy" (Donnie McLurkin)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 11**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord judges with righteousness.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Emmanuel" (Norman Hutchins)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**REVELATION 4**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord God Almighty was and is and is coming.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Faithful is Our God" (Hezekiah Walker)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**1 JOHN 1**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*God is faithful and forgiving.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"High and Lifted Up" (Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 2:1-5**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord is high and lifted up.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Perfect Peace" (Keith Pringle)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 9:1-7**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*God establishes endless peace.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"Majesty" (Byron Cage)

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

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RENEW your *spirit*

**PSALM 8**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord is majestic.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"You Reign" (Vashawn Mitchell)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**LUKE 1:26-38**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord reigns forever.*



REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"God is Great" (Ricky Dillard)*

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

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 12**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*God is great.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"All Power" (Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**REVELATION 19**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord exercises great power.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"You Are God" (Michael Dotson)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**1 JOHN 2**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*God's will remains forever.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Psalm 23" (Josh Sherman)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**MICAH 5:1-9**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*Jesus shepherds His flock.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Glory to Your Name" (Shekinah Glory)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 40:1-11**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*God's glory appears.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"High Praise" (Judith McAllister)*

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

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RENEW your *spirit*

**PSALM 11**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord is enthroned in heaven.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Way Maker" (Benita Jones)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**LUKE 1:39-55**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*God fulfills God's promises.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"He Has His Hand on You" (Marvin Sapp)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 25**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord's hand is on me.*



REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Alpha and Omega" (Israel Houghton)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**REVELATION 21**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*Christ is the Alpha and Omega.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"You Know My Name" (Tasha Cobbs)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**1 JOHN 3**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*God calls me God's child.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Forever" (Jason Nelson)*

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**DANIEL 7:9-14**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*Christ is indestructible.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Reckless Love" (Israel Houghton)*

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

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RENEW your *spirit*

**ISAIAH 40:1-11**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord is triumphant.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

*"Your Spirit" (Tasha Cobbs)*

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

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RENEW your *spirit*

**PSALM 24**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*The Lord is glorious.*

REJOICE in the *Lord*

"O Holy Night" (Yolanda Adams)

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

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REFLECT

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RENEW your *spirit*

**LUKE 2:1-20**

RESPOND

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REST in *God's love*

*Christ is good news.*



*May the strength of  
Jesus dawn on you  
as you go into the  
world sharing  
Christ's Light.*