

ADVENT: CANDLE OF HOPE

Monday, December 1

Reading: 1 Peter 1:1-9

1 Peter 1:3 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ!*

The word Advent means “coming.” It is a season filled with expectation.
It’s a time when we remember a world that was waiting for a coming Savior.

This is a season filled with the light and love of Jesus, the King, born to save us.
And so we celebrate the way the world changed because of His birth.

Lighting a candle is a simple yet profound act.
It is a testimony to the power of light over darkness.
When we look at the world around us, we can see pain and suffering.

This week we lit the candle of hope.
We can see that the light of one candle shines brightly in the darkness.

We begin our journey to Christmas and we step forward in our world of struggles and hardship
in anticipation of the day when Christ will return in glory.

1 Peter 1:3 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ!*

PRAYER

God, as we light this candle and begin this new Advent season,
please shine the light of Your hope into our hearts and into our world. Amen.

CHRISTMAS CAROL

“COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Charles Wesley / Rowland H. Prichard

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus / Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us / Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel’s Strength and Consolation / Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear Desire of every nation / Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver / Born a Child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever / Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit / Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all-sufficient merit / Raise us to Thy glorious throne