
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*The gathered hopes of generations remind us to
get ourselves ready, so that Christ's return
will be a day of excitement and great joy.*

As we think about the fulfilment of all things today,
let us speak with the God of our making.

We pray that we will all be ready
to meet God face to face,
whenever and however that will be.

Silence

Lord, show us how to live:
and give us the courage to go forward.

We pray that all who lead and advise
may be led and advised by you,
so that our decisions are in line with your compassion.

Silence

Lord, show us how to live:
and give us the courage to go forward.

We pray that our families and neighbours
may be brought into contact
with the one true, living God
and know his affection for them.

Silence

Lord, show us how to live:
and give us the courage to go forward.

We pray that those hurt by injustice
may know your support,
and that the frail and timid
may know your encouragement and reassurance.

Silence

Lord, show us how to live:
and give us the courage to go forward.

We pray that those moving into eternity
through the gate of death
may be welcomed,
and their grieving loved ones comforted.

Silence

Lord, show us how to live:
and give us the courage to go forward.

We look with hope
to the fulfilment of all you have done,
and offer you our thanks and praise
for all your love.

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**