



Advent Reflection

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Traditionally, Advent is the liturgical season when Christians focus on God entering into our human situation to be with us and to be one with us through the coming of Jesus Christ. Advent is a time to celebrate the presence of God, who is present wherever we are. It is a time to let ourselves become more aware of God's activity within ourselves and among us all.

Two prayers adapted from Huub Oosterhuis, a Dutch theologian and poet, might help us as we embark on the journey of Advent, 2017:

Your word is near, O Lord our God, your grace is near.

Come to us, then, with mildness and power.

Do not let us be deaf to you, but make us receptive and open to Jesus Christ who will come to look for us and save us today and every day for ever and ever.

How many times, God, have we been told that you are no stranger, remote from those who call upon you in prayer!

Let us see and know in our lives now that those words are true.

Give us faith and give us the joy of recognizing Jesus Christ, our savior, right here in our midst.