

Music for Advent

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Advent is the beginning of the Church Year for most churches in the Western tradition. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30, and ends on Christmas Eve (Dec 24). If Christmas Eve is a Sunday, it is counted as the fourth Sunday of Advent, with Christmas Eve proper beginning at sundown.

Traditional Songs for Advent

(Full lyrics for these can be found at various places online, such as [The Cyber Hymnal™](#))

Christ, whose glory fills the skies
Come, thou long expected Jesus
Comfort, comfort ye, my people
Creator of the stars of night
Day of wrath! O day of mourning, Part 1 (English translation of *Dies Irae*)
Go, labor on! Spend and be spent
Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding (English translation of *Vox clara ecce intonat*)
Hark! The glad sound
Hark! The voice eternal
High o'er the lonely hills
Hosanna to the living Lord (for the first Sunday of Advent)
Let all mortal flesh keep silent (English translation of Σιγησάτο παρα σαρξ βροτεία)
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates (for the first Sunday of Advent; two versions)
Lift up your heads, rejoice (for the third Sunday of Advent)
Light of those whose dreary dwelling
Little children, Advent bids you (for the fourth Sunday of Advent; Second Advent)
Lo! He comes, with clouds descending
Lord Christ, when first thou came to men (two versions)
O Come, Divine Messiah
O come, O come, Emmanuel! (English translation of *Veni, veni Emanuel*)
O Day of God, draw nigh
O North, with all thy vales of green
O very God of very God
O Savior, rend the heavens wide
O Word, that goest forth on high
On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Rejoice, rejoice, believers!
Savior of the nations, come! (English translation of *Veni Redemptor gentium*)
Sleepers, wake!
The advent of our King
The day is surely drawing near (for the fourth Sunday of Advent; Second Advent)
The King shall come when morning dawns
The Lord will come and not be slow
The world is very evil (English Translation of *Hora novissima*)
Thy kingdom come! on bended knee
Thy kingdom come, O God
Wake, awake, for night is flying
Watchman, tell us of the night
When shades of night around us close

Modern and Contemporary Songs for Advent

(Full lyrics for some of these can be found at various places online, such as [The Cyber Hymnal™](#); others are fully copyrighted and can be obtained only from publishers)

At the coming of the Lord
Be Immanuel in me
Before the starry universe
Breath of heaven (for the fourth Sunday of Advent)
Child of wondrous love
Come, our Lord (also a song for Eucharist)
From David's city
Have mercy
Hear the prophets talking
I need a silent night (for the third or fourth Sunday of Advent)
Immanuel, Immanuel
Light a candle
People look east
Prayer for God's presence
Prepare us
The Advent candle shines with hope
There's a voice in the wilderness crying
This is my song (tune *Finlandia*; for the fourth Sunday of Advent)
To a maid engaged to Joseph (for the third or fourth Sunday of Advent)
Veiled in darkness Judah lay (for the fourth Sunday of Advent)
We have a hope
Welcome to our world (for the fourth Sunday of Advent)
When will the Savior come?

Advent Songs Sung to Christmas Tunes

(Full lyrics for these can be found at various places online, such as [The Cyber Hymnal™](#))

The King shall come when morning dawns (using tune *Antioch*, Joy to the World)
Watchman, tell us of the night (using tune *Mendelssohn*, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing)
The people that in darkness sat (using tune *Christmas*, While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks)
Lo, He comes with clouds descending (using tune *Regent Square*, Angels from the Realms of Glory)
Of the Father's love begotten (using tune *W Zlobie Lezy*, Infant Holy, Infant Lowly)

Instrumental

(Music and arrangement scores for these are fully copyrighted and can be obtained only from publishers)

Gabriel's Oboe

Ref.: <http://www.crivoice.org/cyadvent.html>