

# O Antiphons

A resource provided by  
St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Trexlertown, PA  
[www.stanneseiscopal.net](http://www.stanneseiscopal.net)

A Christian tradition to prepare for the ever-closer arrival of Jesus, Christ our Lord, anew in the world and in our hearts is to say the “O Antiphons” in the days leading to Christmas Day beginning with December 17<sup>th</sup> (this Tuesday). Each Antiphon begins by proclaiming the names of our Messiah found in the Old Testament—Wisdom, Lord, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Radiant Dawn, King of Nations and Emmanuel. The names remind us of the rich blessings of our Savior to the world. You are invited to say the antiphon for the day before your evening meal. It is a particularly joyful ritual to say with children. After saying the “O Antiphon” you can talk about what the name might mean.

## December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,  
guiding creation with power and love:  
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

## December 18

O Lord of the House of Israel,  
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:  
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

## December 19

O Root of Jesse's stem,  
sign of God's love for all his people:  
come to save us without delay!

## December 20

O Key of David,  
opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

## December 21

O Radiant Dawn,  
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:  
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

## December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:  
come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

## December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:  
come to save us, Lord our God!