

The O Antiphons are an ancient set of prayers that remind us of the names and characteristics of the Messiah. The O Antiphons (so called because they each begin with “O” are traditionally used as part of the Vespers (an evening prayer service) said from December 17-23. We invite people to explore and linger with each attribute of Jesus for several days.

You are invited to reflect upon your experience with these attributes of Jesus. Each reflection (written or visual) should focus on *one* O Antiphon and/or the scripture citation for the week. Ideal entries will contain a blend of personal reflection and Bible study.

You may submit up to three offerings for consideration.

Written meditations should be *no more than 350 words* (including a prayer) and may be either original prose or poetry. The prayer may either original or taken from *The Book of Common Prayer* and should be cited appropriately with page number.

Visual reflections may include photography, images of woodcuts, pen and ink, etc. *The submissions must be at least 300 dpi and reproducible at 5x7 and in black and white only.*

All entries (written and visual) must be submitted electronically through this form by **January 15, 2018**. Featured writers and artists will be notified of their inclusion by **February 1, 2018**.

If you have questions or concerns, please Rachel Jones at rjones@forwardmovement.org

*****Readings and Creative Sketch*****

Introduction: **O Wisdom**

Isaiah 11:2-3. *The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or by what his ears hear.*

1st Week of Advent: **O Sacred Lord**

Isaiah 11:4-5. *But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.*

2nd Week of Advent: **O Root of Jesse**

Isaiah 11:1,10. *A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples: the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.*

3rd Week of Advent: **O Key of David**

Isaiah 22:22. *I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and no one shall shut; he shall shut and no one shall open.*

4th Week of Advent: **O Rising Sun**

Isaiah 9:1-2. *But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he rough into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who have lived in deep darkness—on them light has shined.*

1st Sunday after Christmas: **O King of Nations**

Isaiah 2:2-4. *In days to come the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples' they shall beat their swords in to plowshares, and their spears in pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, and neither shall they learn war anymore.*

2nd Sunday after Christmas (does not occur in 2018, but to be evergreen, we will include it.): **O Emmanuel**

Isaiah 9:6-7. *For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and whitt righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

Feast of Epiphany: **O Come Let Us Adore Him** ** (not an antiphon, technically...)

Isaiah 60:1-10. *Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.*

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD. All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you; they shall be acceptable on my altar, and I will glorify my glorious house. Who are these that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows? For the coastlands shall wait for me, the ships of

Tarshish first, to bring your children from far away, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the LORD your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has glorified you. Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall minister to you; for in my wrath I struck you down, but in my favor I have had mercy on you.

******Creative Infrastructure******

Inspirational Playlist:

- 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wq3Tv3c20I>
- 2) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l5cF5GGqVWo>
- 3) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rEmEUIqzG0>
- 4) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JOotCVMFncE>
- 5) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5yhHIqsOanI>
- 6) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsmwcUB8vHM>
- 7) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebtC3ORg9fU>
- 8) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8i5NLyXZdc>
- 9) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=040tPQc8zsg>
- 10) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pc1zeBCtGok>

Other Tidbits:

- If this project were a car, it would be a fully restored and totally tricked out VW Westfalia microbus.
- If this project were a Biblical figure, it would be Isaiah...because of course it would.
- If this project were an historical, non-Biblical figure, it would be Frederick Douglass.
- If this project were a fictional character, it would be the Illustrated Man.
- If this project were an animal, it would be an elephant. They never forget.
- If this project were an item found in nature, it would be a river.