

## ADVENT PRAYER



Photo by Philip Laubner/CRS

### ■ *Light the Advent wreath.*

**LEADER:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Come Lord Jesus, be our light! Help us remember that we belong to you and to each other—that the joys, hopes and fears of our brothers and sisters around the world are also our joys, hopes and fears. As we gather in fellowship, and to purchase beautiful works of art and delicious food, we pray especially for our brothers and sisters who made these unique gifts. Fill us with hope as we journey with them through Advent and prepare to welcome you at Christmas.

**READER:** Let us pray for the Church; that all people will live their call to bring the light of Christ to the world through their own personal journeys. We pray to the Lord ...

**ALL:** Lord, be with us as we journey together.

**READER:** Let us pray for artisans and farmers around the world, especially those whose hands created the beautiful products we are buying today. Help us to remember them in our thoughts and prayers. May their hope be our hope, their

fears be our fears and their joy be our joy. We pray to the Lord ...

**ALL:** Lord, be with us as we journey together.

**READER:** Let us pray for the poor and suffering in our own communities, that people everywhere will recognize in them the face of Christ, and reach out to them with greater generosity. We pray to the Lord ...

**ALL:** Lord, be with us as we journey together.

**READER:** Let us pray for the time we need to prepare, seek reconciliation, hope and find joy on our Advent journey. We pray to the Lord ...

**ALL:** Lord, be with us as we journey together.

**LEADER:** Jesus, help us recognize the people who labor to make the things we purchase. Help us remember that we are on this journey together. Thank you for the joy that living in true community brings. May these gifts bring joy and peace to those who made them and to all those who enjoy them. Prepare our hearts to recognize your face in every person with whom we share the journey of life. In your name we pray. Amen