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## advent

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# advent

by John Zinkand

four winter sabbaths  
cycle us past events  
to show the coming  
of Christ in flesh.

prophets centuries ago  
had written: he comes  
root, branch, immanuel  
son of david, virgin's child.

bridging old and new  
priest zechariah silently  
signalled great birth: john  
herald of coming Christ.

mary, faith quickened by sight  
of elizabeth's girth:  
"nothing's too hard for God"  
confession burst in song.

advent: Christ came in flesh.  
he came in the manger,  
he came on the cross.  
Christ came from the tomb.

what sabbaths shall  
the church now set  
apart to mark  
the coming yet to be?

advent: Christ comes again.  
he comes in majesty,  
he comes on the clouds.  
christ comes again,  
just as surely  
as he came before.