



DORDT COLLEGE

Digital Collections @ Dordt

---

Faculty Work: Comprehensive List

---

11-30-2015

## Preparing, Advent and Psalm 51

Shirley Folkerts

Dordt College, [shirley.folkerts@dordt.edu](mailto:shirley.folkerts@dordt.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/faculty\\_work](http://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/faculty_work)

 Part of the [Christianity Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Folkerts, Shirley, "Preparing, Advent and Psalm 51" (2015). *Faculty Work: Comprehensive List*. Paper 388.  
[http://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/faculty\\_work/388](http://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/faculty_work/388)

This Blog Post is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Collections @ Dordt. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Work: Comprehensive List by an authorized administrator of Digital Collections @ Dordt. For more information, please contact [ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu](mailto:ingrid.mulder@dordt.edu).

---

# Preparing, Advent and Psalm 51

## **Abstract**

"We can't make this event happen any more than we made creation happen. But we are a busy people and most days our frantic waiting drowns out the echo of our cries from deep within."

Posting about anticipating Christ's coming from *In All Things* - an online hub committed to the claim that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ has implications for the entire world.

<http://inallthings.org/preparing-advent-and-psalm-51/>

## **Keywords**

In All Things, Advent, Christmas, waiting

## **Disciplines**

Christianity

## **Comments**

*In All Things* is a publication of the [Andreas Center for Reformed Scholarship and Service at Dordt College](#).

# Preparing, Advent and Psalm 51

---

 [inallthings.org/preparing-advent-and-psalm-51/](https://inallthings.org/preparing-advent-and-psalm-51/)

Shirley Folkerts

This is post 2 of 2 in the series *“Advent Devotions”*

1. [Advent: The Messy Preparation](#)
2. Preparing, Advent and Psalm 51

If possible, in a quiet, dark space, light either a real or an imaginative candle beside the glow of your digital screen and remember the people who have waited, and are waiting, all around the world in the dim glow of flickering light and perhaps flickering hope. If possible, read aloud and slowly pray as we wait and prepare together.

Advent is a season to remind us that  
we are waiting  
not for Christmas treats and programs,  
not for lights and parties,  
not even for giving and receiving gifts;  
but we are waiting for the  
Christ-coming-again,  
Christ-restoring-completely,  
Christ-reigning-forever  
event.

We are not alone as we wait;  
we are not the first,  
we are not the last.

We live in between  
the first creation and the renewed creation  
with no control over when or how,  
but with the stark realization that  
we need this  
Christ-coming-again,  
Christ-restoring-completely,  
Christ-reigning-forever  
event.

We can't make this event happen  
any more than we made creation happen.  
But we are a busy people  
and most days our frantic waiting  
drowns out the echo of our cries from deep within,  
“Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.” (Psalm 51:8)

During this season of Advent we pause,

or at least try to,  
and with an eye on Psalm 51,  
we cry out to the  
One who is preparing us  
for that  
Christ-coming-again,  
Christ-restoring-completely,  
Christ-reigning-forever  
event.

Lord, have mercy.  
Forgiver, blot out what we've done against you.  
Purifier, wash away all our injustices.  
Shining light, cleanse us from sin.  
Wisdom, teach us.  
Singing One, let us hear joy and gladness.  
Healer, let our crushed bones rejoice.  
God who sees, hide your face from our sins.  
Grand artist, blot out all our iniquity.  
Giver of new hearts, create in us a pure heart.  
Faithful One, renew a steadfast spirit within us.  
God who never lets go, don't cast us away.  
God-with-us, don't withhold your Holy Spirit.  
Eternal gladness, restore the joy of your salvation.  
Suffering servant, grant us a willing spirit.  
God almighty, save us.  
Speaking One, open our lips.

Prepare us well, oh God, and in your time,  
bring it.  
Bring the  
Christ-coming-again,  
Christ-restoring-completely,  
Christ-reigning-forever  
event.