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Materials + Using the Guide

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Isaiah 42:1-13

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Luke 2:1-20

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John 1:1-14

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Matthew 2:1-23

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Acts 2:1-12







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Advent is traditionally observed on the four Sundays leading up to Christmas Day as well as Christmas Day itself. Traditionally, Advent wreaths are used as part of a devotional or as part of worship in the Gathering of the Church. This resource packet is designed to be used as part of your Advent devotions along with an Advent wreath. We hope that this guide can help you or you and your family to create rhythms and traditions around the Advent season that last for generations.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Bible
- · Advent Wreath
- · Advent Wreath Resource Packet
- Lighter or Matches

### USING THIS GUIDE

These Advent devotions are designed to be done individually or as a family on each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas day and the last one on Christmas morning. However, you can complete the first four devotionals on any day of the week you desire.

There are five parts to each devotional:

>>>>> Read • Ask • Light • Pray • Worship <<<<<
You will start with a scripture reading followed by a
couple of questions to spark your imaginations and
conversations as you meditate on the story. Then you
will light the appropriate candle(s) and read/recite the
Advent memory verse (Isaiah 42:5-7). We have provided
an Advent prayer taken from the Book of Common
Prayer for you and/or your family to pray through
before concluding the devotional by worshiping in song.



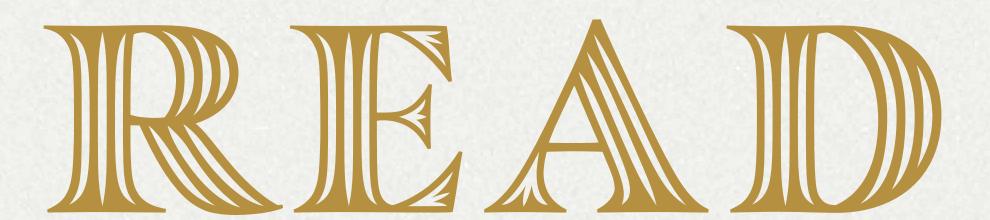




# ADWENT week 1







Isaiah 42:1-13

Introduce the scripture reading as
a prophecy about Jesus, the coming
Messiah, from the book of Isaiah.
The Advent Memory Verse in this guide
comes from this section of scripture.









The Servant of the Lord is coming to establish justice on earth (Is. 42:1-4).

What injustices are there on earth you want the Servant of the Lord to make right?

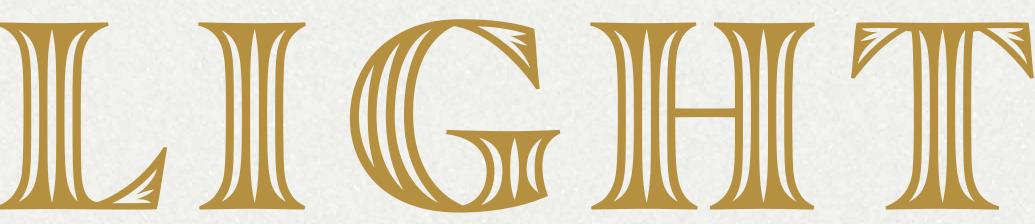
What does the justice the Servant of the Lord establishes look like (Is. 42:5-9)?

How do we respond to the Lord establishing justice on earth (Is. 42:10-13)?









Light the first candle.

Individually or as a family,
read the Advent Memory Verse on the
following page, a prophecy about the
coming Messiah, from Isaiah 42:5-7.
Make it clear that the word "you"
refers directly to Jesus.





This is what God the Lord says the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: "I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness."

- Isaiah 42:5-7





### Almighty God -

Give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.





Listen to this week's song on the link below as you worship individually or as a family. Consider listening to this song throughout the week to learn it better.

### WEEK 1 SONG

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus





# ADWENT week 2









Luke 2:1-20







God did not send His angelic messengers to kings or other powerful and influential people. He sent them to a group of people who were the untouchable outcasts of society—shepherds.

If Jesus was born today, who are the outcasts you think God would announce it to with heavenly hosts of angels?









Light the first & second candles.

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read the Advent Memory Verse on the
following page, a prophecy about the
coming Messiah, from Isaiah 42:5-7.
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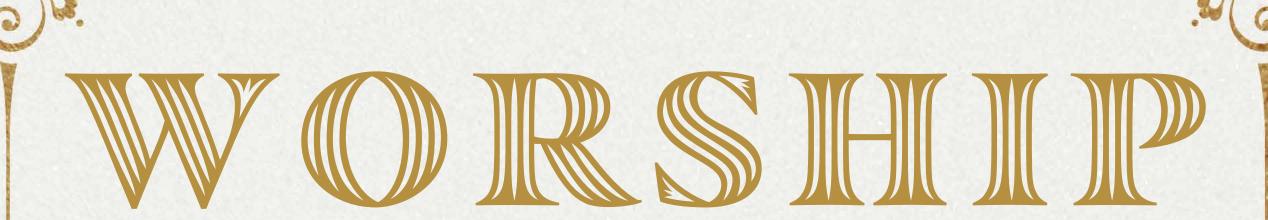


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Amen.





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WEEK 2 SONG

O Come Emmanuel





# ADWERT





John
1:1-14





John refers to Jesus as "the Word" and says that "In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

How has the light and life found in Jesus overcome darkness in your own life?









Light the first, second, & third candles.

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read the Advent Memory Verse on the
following page, a prophecy about the
coming Messiah, from Isaiah 42:5-7.
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### WEEK 3 SONG

Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)







# ADWENT Week 4







Matthew 2:1-23







The Magi came from the East and visited King Herod as they looked for the King of Kings who had been born to the Jews.

How and why did Herod react to the birth of Jesus differently than the Magi?

In what ways do we act like the Magi towards Jesus? In what ways do we act like King Herod?









Light all of the candles.

Individually or as a family,
read the Advent Memory Verse on the
following page, a prophecy about the
coming Messiah, from Isaiah 42:5-7.
Make it clear that the word "you"
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WEEK 4 SONG

Star of Wonder



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Acts

2:1-12





Reread verse 12 about the crowd's response to what the Spirit was doing in and through Jesus' disciples and ask the same question they did: "Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?'"

Answer: It means the Spirit is in YOU and YOU are now the light that is in the world because Jesus' Spirit is in you.









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Light all of the candles.

Now this final time of reading Isaiah 42:5-7 will be different.

We have been reading this text knowing that Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness. The "you" has been referring to him. But this "you" can also refer to us. The same Spirit that lived in Christ now lives in you and we are called to shine like stars in the darkness.

In some traditions, a fifth candle is lit on Christmas Day. But in our tradition, as a church, we want to remember that we are the candles that God has lit up with his Spirit. May you read this text and be reminded that we are called to be lights in this dark world. Read and embrace the "you" in a personal way.





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Amen.





Let loose, play it loud & dance around as you listen to and sing this week's song on the link below.

\* This is a celebration! \*

CHRISTMAS SONG

Go Tell It On the Mountain

