

# Making an Advent Wreath

Many homes include the lighting of an Advent wreath as part of their prayer and reflection time, during the four weeks of the Ad-vent season. The two key elements of the wreath are the ring of greens and the five candles. The candles are lit, with one added each week, on Sunday, as we count down to Christmas day. On Christmas day, we light the white or Christ candle to signify Christ's arrival.

The candlelight is a reminder of both the passing of time and the coming of Christ, the Light of the World. The evergreens and the shape of the wreath/ circle, have long been symbols of eternity. So as we light the wreath, we are reminded of the birth of Christ, brought to us by an everlasting God with an everlasting love.



## HOPE

November 29,

### Pause

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**All: those who lived in a land of deep darkness —  
on them, light has shined.**

One: By the tender mercy of our God,  
the dawn from on high will break upon us,

**All: to give light to those who sit in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

One: We light this first Advent candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

*[One person lights one of the **purple** candles]*

It is the candle of hope.

Hope is active, calling us to keep the flame glowing strong  
in our hearts,

A flame that shines bright among the disappointments.

Hope beckons us to keep walking through the valleys  
of the shadow of darkness,

trusting in the tender mercy of the One who goes before us.

The light of Christ is coming into the world.

### Ponder

John the Baptist (Luke 3:1-18)

What do you hope for this week? What do you hope for during Advent?

How can we help our hope remain strong?

### Pray

Dear God, we are thankful for the hope you give us. Be with us this week as we hope for your son, Jesus Christ. Help us to trust in you. Help us to put our hope in you. Amen.

