INSTRUCTIONS

Building your Illustrated Advent Wreath doesn't require many supplies. Feel free to get creative when you color/decorate your candles.

Supplies needed:

- The paper Advent Wreath, where you will tape/glue your candles to their appropriate circles each week.
- The paper printouts of the candles—we'd recommend printing them out onto a thicker card stock paper if you can.
- A pair of scissors.
- Tape (or a glue stick).
- Coloring pencils/crayons/markers.
- NOT REQUIRED: A Silhouette Cameo (special instructions for Cameo owners included).

Steps:

1. We would recommend having your child/children color the candle first. If you have more than one child, you may want to let each child color and build their own Illustrated Advent Wreath.
2. Once the candle has been colored, cut around the outline of the candle, being careful not to cut off the tabs at the bottom of the candle (this is how you will affix the candle to the wreath).
3. Then you will want to roll the paper into a candle shape so that the left side of the candle reaches over to the dotted line of the portion that has been left uncolored. You will want to use small rolls of tape, or glue on the uncolored portion, and affix it under the colored portion of the candle.

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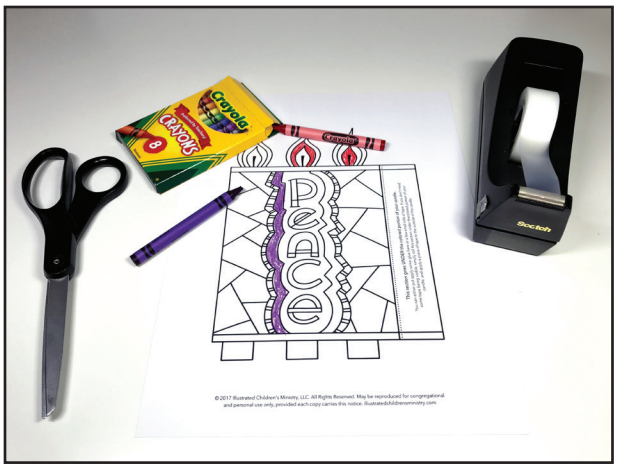
4. Once your candle is taped/glued, take the small tabs at the bottom, and either fold them outward or inward (depending on how you want the candle to look), and place glue or small rolls of tape on the folded portion of the tab that will affix onto the wreath, and secure your candle onto the wreath.

5. Add a new candle each week and watch your Illustrated Advent Wreath grow!

There are some photos and additional instructions on the following page.

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Step 1



Step 2



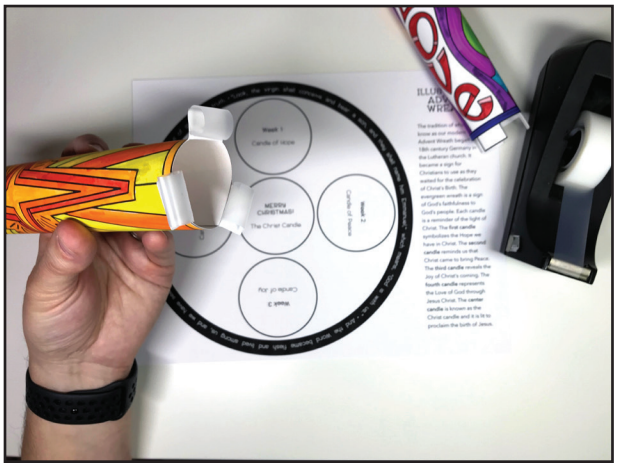
Step 3



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



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WEEK 1: HOPE PRAYER

To the One who gives us Hope,
Thank you for inviting us to this time of waiting.
Help us to:
open our eyes so we can see your light,
open our ears so we can hear your
words of hope,
open our minds so we can understand you,
open our hearts so we can receive your love.
Come, long expected Jesus, we are waiting
for you!

Amen.

WEEK 2: PEACE PRAYER

Gracious One,
Thank you for the promise of peace.
Thank you for moments
where we feel it deep in our hearts.
Teach us to make peace
with our words, with our hands,
for our own place and all places.

Amen.

WEEK 3: JOY PRAYER

Joy-Giving One,
Thank you for the ways you accept and
celebrate all of who we are.
Thank you for the many, many ways
you live among us.
Teach us to recognize you
and to share our joy.

Amen.

WEEK 4: LOVE PRAYER

Generous One,
Thank you for all of the ways we are loved.
Thank you for all of the ways we can love.
Teach us to listen closely to each other,
and to our world,
for all of the ways and places love is shared.

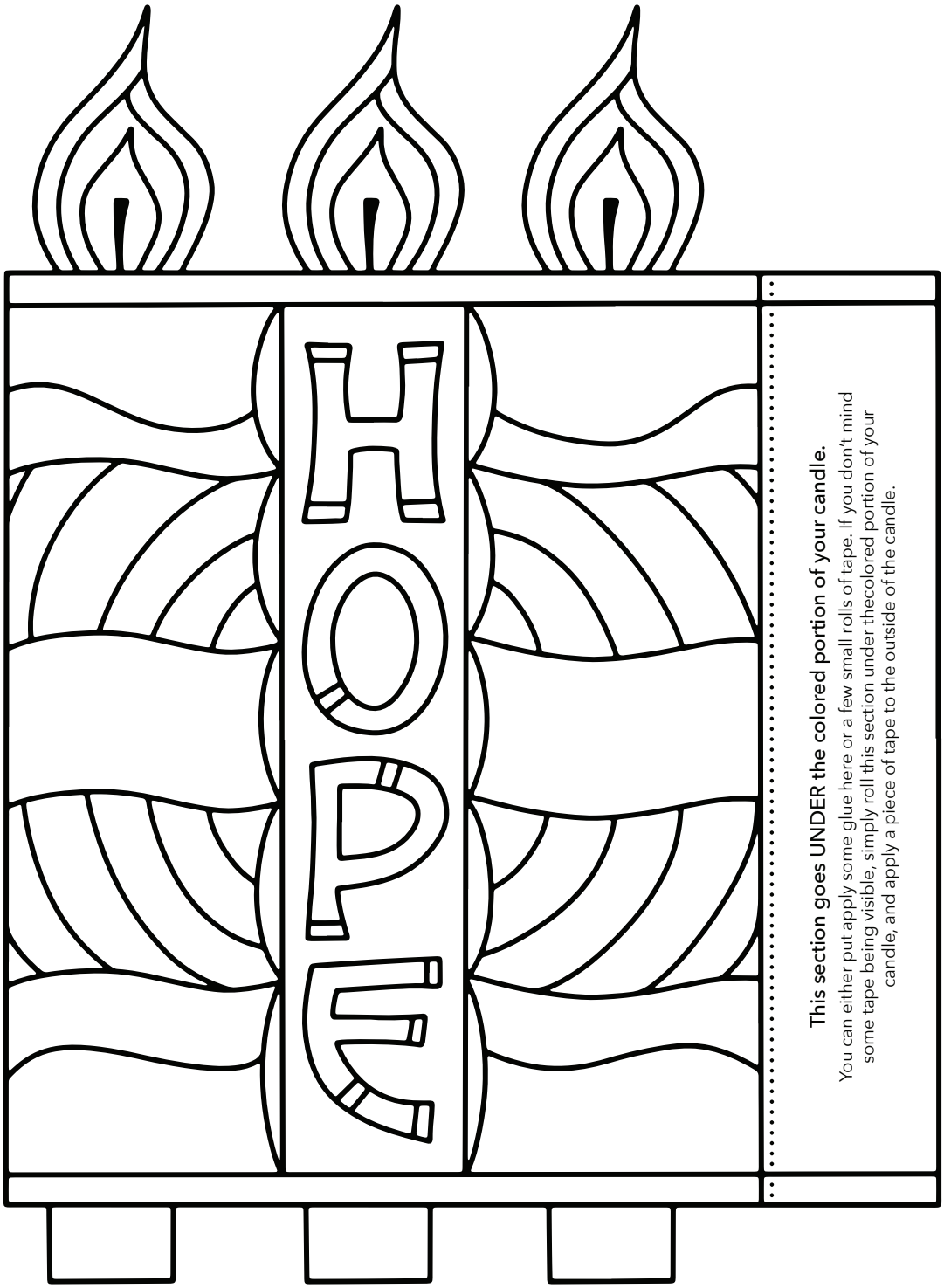
Amen.

CHRISTMAS MORNING PRAYER

Dear Jesus,
Happy Birthday!
We are so glad that you chose to be born
and that you choose to get to know us.
Thank you for becoming a part of our family
and for inviting us to become a part of yours.
Thank you for loving us. We love you!

Amen.

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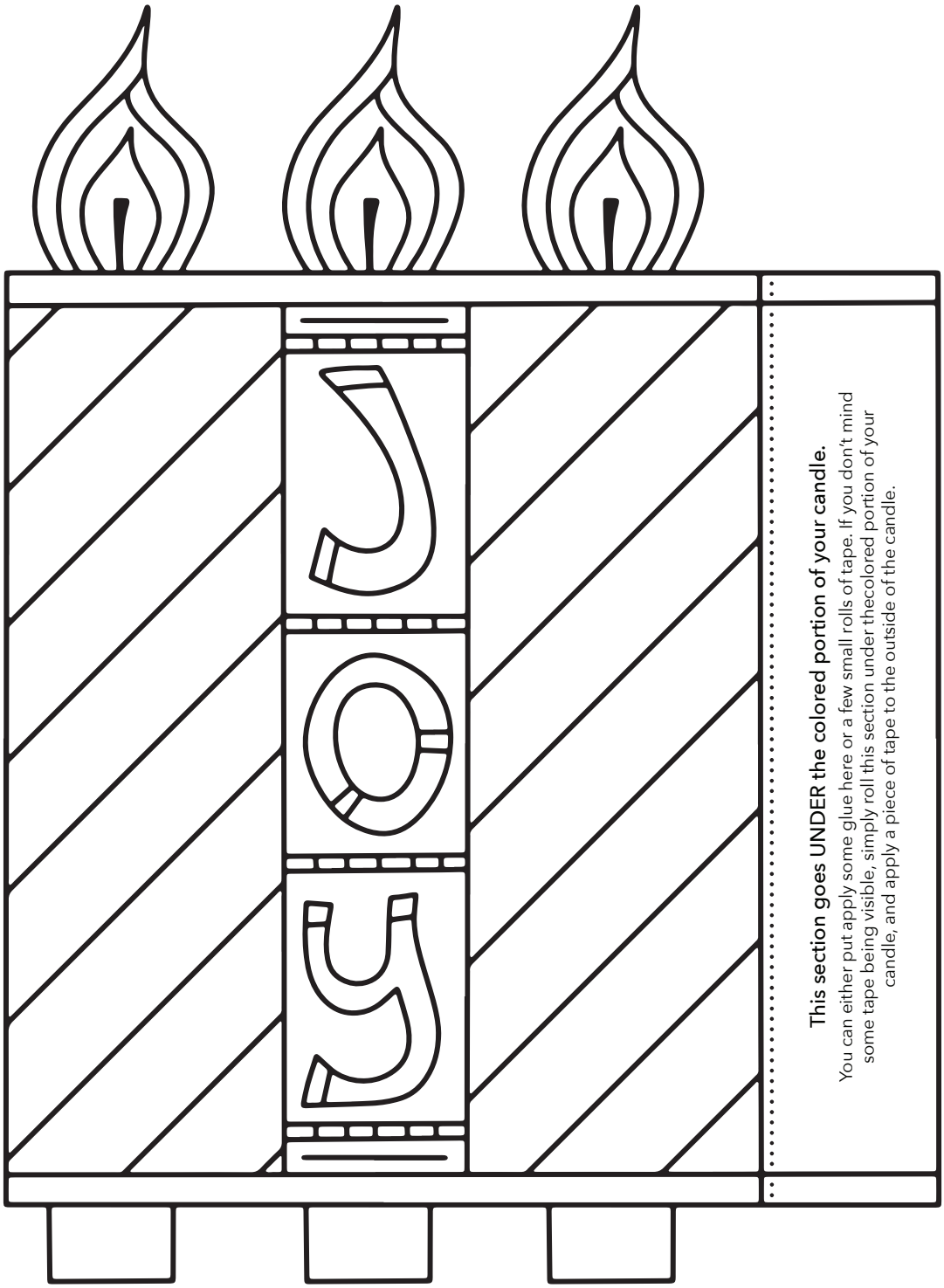


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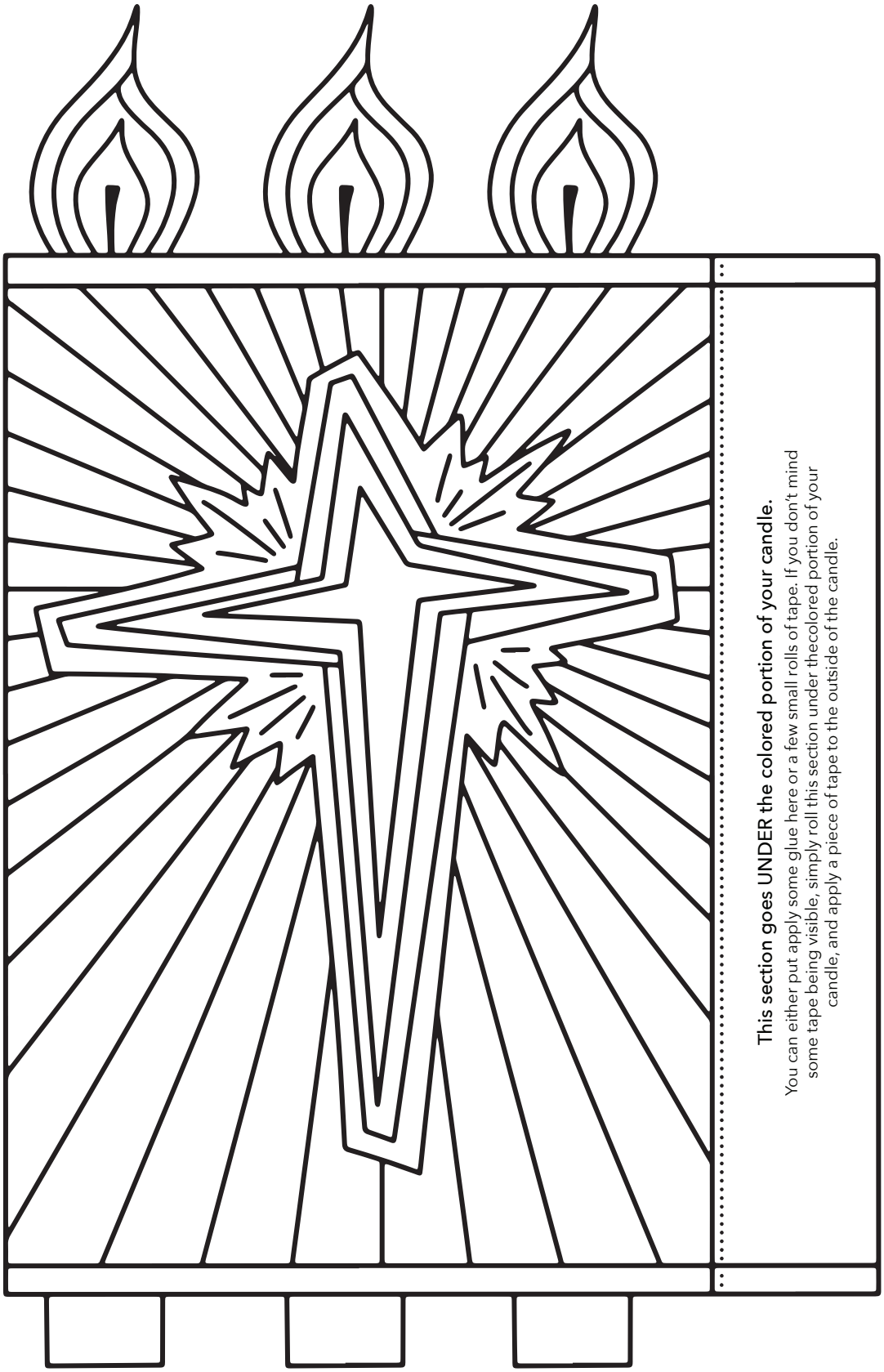
This section goes UNDER the colored portion of your candle.

You can either put apply some glue here or a few small rolls of tape. If you don't mind some tape being visible, simply roll this section under thecolored portion of your candle, and apply a piece of tape to the outside of the candle.

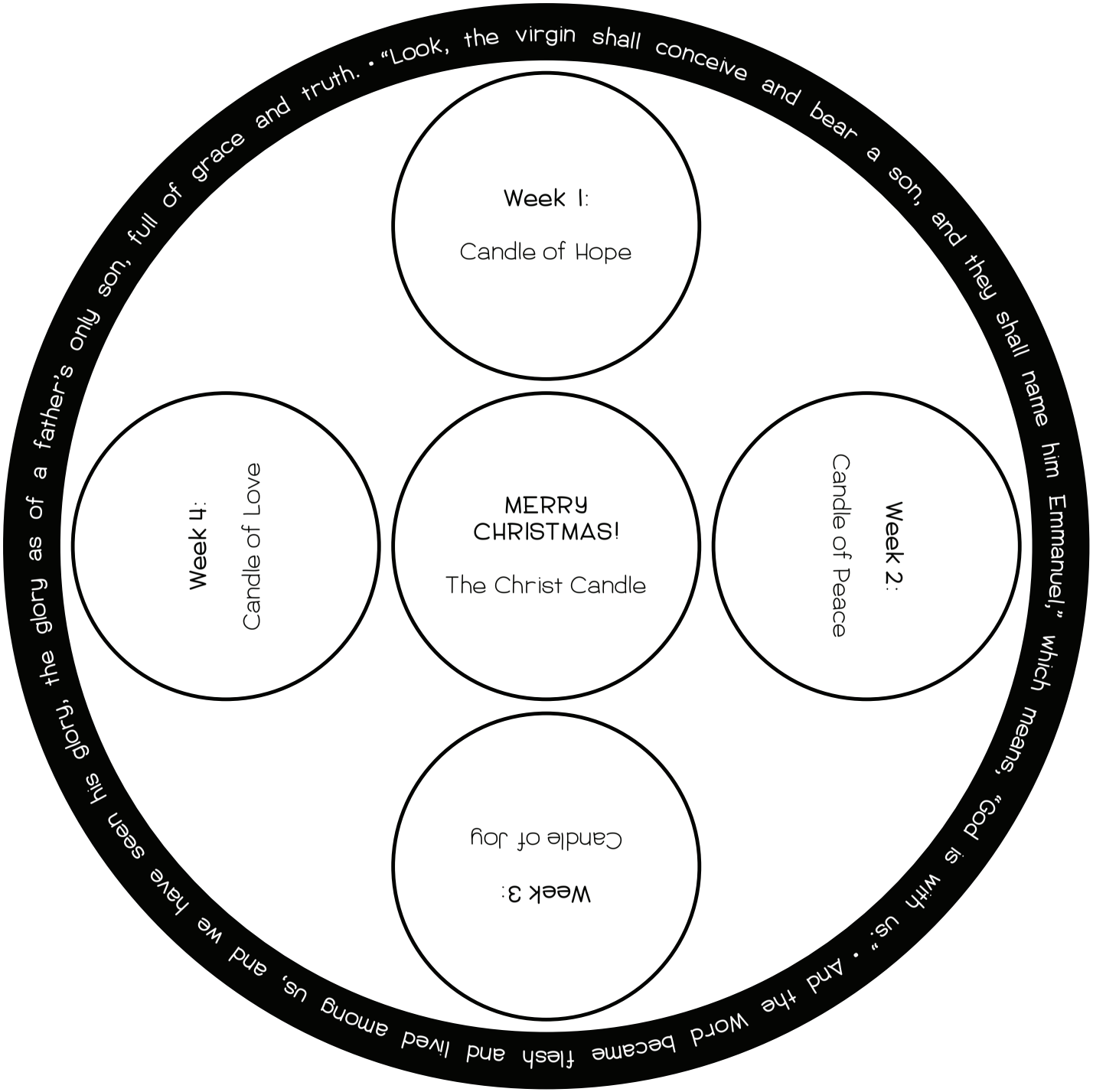
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ILLUSTRATED ADVENT WREATH

The tradition of what we know as our modern Advent Wreath began in 18th century Germany in the Lutheran church. It became a sign for Christians to use as they waited for the celebration of Christ's Birth. The evergreen wreath is a sign of God's faithfulness to God's people. Each candle is a reminder of the light of Christ. The **first candle** symbolizes the Hope we have in Christ. The **second candle** reminds us that Christ came to bring Peace. The **third candle** reveals the Joy of Christ's coming. The **fourth candle** represents the Love of God through Jesus Christ. The **center candle** is known as the Christ candle and it is lit to proclaim the birth of Jesus.

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