

Advent Candle Lighting At-Home Devotional Guide 2025



Welcome to your 2025 Advent Candle Lighting At-Home Devotional Guide.

This introductory information was already presented in the “Looking Forward to Advent” Packet, but it’s always a good idea to remind ourselves of why we practice this tradition...

Many years ago, people decided to celebrate the birth of Jesus by lighting candles each day during Advent. The light of the candles lit up the darkness the same way Jesus lights up the world with his love and truth. The candles were often placed on a wreath, which is a circle. Circles have no beginning and no end, just like God and his love! He has always been and will always be. Greenery used to decorate the wreath was used to symbolize everlasting life and hope. This tradition is meant to help us look forward to Jesus’s coming in a tangible and interactive way.

At Adventure we participate in lighting the Advent Wreath candles every week during the main Sunday Service— lighting candles to represent the hope, peace, joy, and love of Jesus. We also encourage you to create your own Advent wreath and do this at home. Parents, keep in mind that your kids in classes downstairs don’t have the opportunity to participate in this with the congregation each week, so doing it at home is a cool way to share this tradition with them. If you need instructions for how to make your own Advent Wreath see below.

Candle Lighting Details & Instructions:

Gather yourself and those who may be with you around your Advent Wreath. Read through the provided devotional and prayer, which will also instruct you on which candle(s) to light. Do this on each Sunday, starting November 30th, leading up to Christmas. Then on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, do the final provided devotional and light the last candle!

If you don't have the devotional or an Advent wreath, just take a minute to thank God for the hope (Week 1), peace (week 2), joy (week 3), and love (week 4) we find in him. Then on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day thank God for Jesus himself.

Create your own Advent Wreath: Elements to construct your own Advent wreath can be found at local stores or with materials you may already have at home, and can be easily done at a low cost.

Supplies for Advent Wreath:

- Base: charger plate, wood round, cake stand, or wreath with candle holders
- 5 Candles: Traditionally 3 purple candles (for hope, peace, and love), 1 pink candle (for joy), and 1 white candle (for Jesus). You can also just use five of the same white candle.
- Decor of your choice: greenery, berries, poinsettias, jingle bells, ornaments, ribbon, pinecones, etc.

Assembly of Advent Wreath:

- Assemble four candles in a circular shape on your base. Place a white candle in the middle.
- Surround and decorate with greenery and decor of your choice. It’s that simple!
- Need ideas? Consider watching this video for inspiration: <http://tiny.cc/ihgvo01>

Candle Lighting & Devotional: Hope

Sunday, November 30th

Today we light the hope candle. Hope is believing that there are better things ahead. And in Jesus, we can have hope in his love and faithfulness even when life feels hard. When grief hits, or life becomes overwhelming, the hope of Jesus can grant us light in dark places. All those who believe in Jesus have the hope of being saved from sin, can experience the help and comfort of the Holy Spirit, can looking forward to eternity with Jesus which will be free from sin and sadness, and can participate in his good work on earth now. As you light the hope candle today, read the verses below, and reflect on the present and future hope we have in Jesus.

Light the first purple Hope Candle, then Read:
John 16:22, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Pray:

God, when we feel sad, disappointed, or hurt, help us to remember that this is not the end of the story. Jesus came to bring the hope that we have now, which lasts forever. No matter what, the hope Jesus gives to us cannot be taken away. He has saved us from our sins, promised to spend eternity with us, and is present with us now. Thank you for this wonderful truth! We have so much to look forward to. Help us put our hope in you and your promises alone. Amen.

Candle Lighting & Devotional: Peace

Sunday, December 7th

Today we light the peace candle. The peace candle is called the angel's candle because it reminds us of the peace the angels proclaimed when Jesus was born. When we think of peace, we might think of a time when no fighting is happening, no unrest, no division – but God's peace is so much more! The grace and forgiveness we can receive through Jesus mends the broken relationship between God and us, resulting in peace. We may live in a world where sad things happen today, but the peace candle reminds us how peace has come to earth through Christ and how peace will fully come to earth when Christ returns and sets all things right. As you light the peace candle today, read the verses below, and reflect on the peace Jesus brings.

Light the previous week's candle & purple Peace Candle, then Read:
Luke 2:14, Romans 5:1

Pray:

God, our world can feel dark because of how people hurt one another and refuse to forgive. As we light this candle, help us to remember that you are the God of peace. Help us remember that you sent Jesus, our Prince of Peace, to bring us true and lasting peace. We praise you for how the peace of Christ breaks through the darkness of this world. May we rest in that peace when we feel sad, afraid, or lonely, and may we look to the day when we will experience a world of complete and everlasting harmony with you.

Amen.

Candle Lighting & Devotional: Joy

Sunday, December 14th

Today we light the joy candle. Joy is more than just a feeling happy. Joy is knowing deep in our hearts that even when we experience hard things, Jesus promises to be with us, help us, and forgive us. He also promises that life won't always be hard – one day, we will be with him, experiencing a peace and joy that never ends! These promises mean we can have joy no matter what. Joy in Jesus lights up our hearts and makes us glad. We can count our blessings and share them in joyful gratitude. As you light the joy candle today, read the verses below, and reflect on the present and future joy we have in Jesus.

Light the previous weeks' candles & pink Joy Candle, then Read:
Psalm 100, Philippians 4:4-5

Pray:

God, sometimes life is happy, and sometimes it is sad, but no matter what, we always have joy in you. Would you help us remember this? Would you remind us of the joy we will experience in eternity with you? Would you remind us of the joy in you we have access to right now? Help us to be people of joy, spreading joy to those around us this holiday season. Amen.

Candle Lighting & Devotional: Love

Sunday, December 21st

Today we light the love candle. God is love and faithfulness. He created the world out of his great love and made humankind to show us his love. When sin entered the world, God's love remained. Even though sin hurts our relationship with God, God is still faithful in his love for us. In fact, he loves us so much that he sent his son Jesus to save us. This candle reminds us of God's faithfulness, a faithfulness and love that can never be extinguished. May this candle cause you to feel the warmth of God's love that shines brightly in our hearts through Jesus. As you light the love candle today, read the verses below, and reflect on the love of God we see through Jesus.

Light the previous weeks' candles & purple Faith Candle, then Read:
John 3:16-17, 1 John 4:13-19

Pray:

God, thank you for your amazing love and faithfulness. We praise you for loving us so much that you sent Jesus to die for us. Thank you for the gift of Jesus. We are undeserving of your great love and faithfulness, but you have given it to us generously. When we feel unloved or ashamed, help us to remember and rest in Christ. May we reflect your love and share it with others this Advent season. Amen.

Candle Lighting & Devotional: Christ

Wednesday, December 24th or Thursday, December 25th

Today we finish lighting the Advent candles by lighting the Christ candle. The Christ candle represents the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. On this last day, we remember and rejoice in our Savior, Jesus. We celebrate how he came to earth as a lowly baby, grew up as a sinless man, died a painful death, and rose again in victory. May this candle remind us how Jesus's grace and forgiveness wash away our sin and make us as white as snow. All of the candles we have lit this Advent season remind us how our hope, peace, joy, and love are found in Christ alone. He came to offer us his hope, grant us his peace, fill us with his joy, and cover us with his love. This Advent season is all about Jesus. Come, let us adore Him!

Light previous weeks' candles & white Christ Candle, then Read:
Luke 2:1-21, Isaiah 9:6

Pray:

God, we praise you for who you are. We shout for joy in your grace and faithfulness to send us Jesus. Jesus, thank you for giving us hope, peace, joy, and love. All of these gifts were bought for us through your death and resurrection. We praise you for sacrificing yourself so that we could be forgiven and draw closer to you in your kingdom on earth. We thank you for the humility you showed us as you came to earth as a vulnerable baby. As we reflect on your coming, may we look to when you will come again. You have saved us, you love us, and you will come back for us. Amen.