Advent is a time set apart from our ordinary schedules to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus Christ. It is a time for pausing instead of falling into the neverending schedules of the season.

Each day, during Advent, has a letter to reflect on. You might find a journal helps keep things organized for you, or you might pick a few letters to focus on this season. If you miss a day, start with the current day and add one in if you have time. Keep going. There is no quiz at the end, just the opportunity to hear God in a new way.

Advent

Advent A-Z to reflect on this season



Nov. 29

A



Annunciation: The moment the Angel Gabriel invited Mary to bear the Savior, reminding us to listen for God's call in our own lives. What might God be calling you to?

Nov. 30

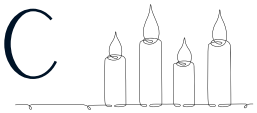
B



Benedictus: The Song of Zechariah *(page 92 in The Book of Common Prayer)*, an ancient canticle of light breaking into darkness. What stands out to you?

Dec. 1

C



Candlelight: The gradual brightening of the church as candles are lit week by week, pointing to Christ as the Light of the World. Light a candle and say a prayer today.

Dec. 2

D



Dawn: The arrival of divine mercy, breaking through spiritual night. How do you need to prepare for dawn to break open your own life?

Dec. 3

E



Emmanuel: "God with us"—the promise that God does not remain distant, but enters directly into our human experience. Where has God entered into your life?

Dec. 4

F



Fear Not: The recurring angelic command given to Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds, inviting us to replace anxiety with divine trust. What fears will you give to God?

Dec. 5

G



Gabriel: The divine messenger who announces impossible hope to Mary and Zechariah. Who has announced impossible hope to you? Write them a note and tell them.

Dec. 6

H



Herald: John the Baptist and the prophets were messengers calling in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord. What may God be announcing in your own life this season?

Dec. 7

I



Isaiah: The Advent prophet, who proclaimed comfort, justice, and the coming of a light into the darkness. How have the words of Isaiah resonnated with you?

Dec. 8

J



Joy: The deep, abiding gladness, found in the hope of the present, the Child to be born, and rooted in God's near presence. When is joy hard to find this season?

Dec. 9

K



Kindling: The spark of hope in the darkness. The very beginning of the fire that will blaze into light at Christmas. Pray for the kindling to begin in your own life.

Dec. 10

L



Longing: The holy ache and deep desire for God to heal, redeem, and restore a broken world. What does your heart long for?

Dec. 11

M



Manger: The humble feeding trough that became the cradle of God Incarnate, reflecting divine humility. Where have you been surprised to see Jesus?

Dec. 12

N



Night: The dark backdrop of human suffering and waiting into which the light of Christ shines. Reflect on the night season of your life. Where has Christ burst through with light?

Dec. 13

O



Obedience: Mary's quiet, radical response to God Mary said, "Let it be with me according to your word." Where are you being asked to listen for God's invitation to obey?

Dec. 14

P



Peace: The harmony and reconciliation heralded by the prophets. Jesus became the Prince of Peace. Where might you find the Christ child bringing you peace?

Dec. 15

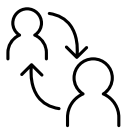
Q



Quiet: The intentional stillness cultivated amidst holiday busyness to hear the still, small voice of God. Find 5 minutes in your day to be quiet. Anchor in Psalm 122:7.

Dec. 16

R



Repentance: The invitation of John the Baptist to clear away spiritual clutter and reorient our lives toward God. What needs to be cleaned away?

Dec. 17

S



Silence: The sacred pause before God acts, echoing the centuries of waiting before Christ's birth. The next time you take a drive, unplug. Drive in the silence and take the world in. What do you notice?

Dec. 18

T



Tidings: The good news brought by angels and prophets to those who watch and wait. Who has brought you good news this week? What good news might you bring to someone?

Dec. 19

U



Unity: The gathering of all nations and peoples into God's peaceable kingdom envisioned by the prophets. Where has unity popped up for you this Advent?

Dec. 20

V



Voice: The voice crying out in the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord, prompting us to speak truth and hope. Where are you being asked to speak truth and hope?

Dec. 21

W



Watchfulness: The posture of spiritual alertness and readiness urged by Jesus in the Advent Gospel readings. What is God asking you to watch for this season?

Dec. 22

X



Xenia: The ancient Christian practice of sacred hospitality– opening our homes and hearts to the stranger as we welcome Christ. How will you show sacred hospitality this season?

Dec. 23

Y



Yearning: The collective prayer of the Church, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," pleading for God's presence. Where do you earn for God to show up?

Dec. 24

Z



Zeal: The joyful, wholehearted devotion and enthusiasm of the shepherds who hurried to Bethlehem to see the newborn Savior *(Luke 2:15–16)*. How is God revealing Godself to you this Christmas?

CREATED BY THE REV. ANGELA LERENA