



THE 4 SUNDAYS OF
Advent
AN AT HOME GUIDE



The simple practice of lighting a candle to prepare for Messiah's coming is ancient and meaningful. Following are the advent readings we are doing in worship each Sunday. We encourage you to use these to invite Christ to come to you and your family this season.

Download this Guide at
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THE CANDLE OF

Hope

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



All Sing:

Oh come, oh come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.

While the first candle is lit . . .

Leader: The round ring of the Advent Wreath symbolizes God's never-ending love for us. The greenery shows God's love for us is fresh and alive. The four candles represent the four weeks of anticipation waiting period the white candle symbolizes Jesus' birth.

The living flame in the first advent candle reminds us of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Jesus was in the beginning, Jesus was with God and Jesus is God. There is HOPE as we rejoice in the goodness of God to send his Son for us.

All: May the anticipation of Christmas stir us to light the candle of faith in our hearts and the hearts of children and all people, that together we may rejoice in HOPE!

All Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.



THE CANDLE OF

Peace



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

All Sing:

Oh come, oh come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.

While the first and second candles are lit . . .

Leader: We light again the first Advent candle, remembering the HOPE that is ours in Jesus Christ. Today we light the candle of PEACE, knowing that Jesus alone can bring peace to our hearts and, also to our world. Jesus says, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

All: May Christ’s peace comfort us in the present as well as, call us into the future, because we know that the future is held in God’s hands. We light this candle as a symbol of the peace that Jesus has given to us—A peace that passes all understanding.

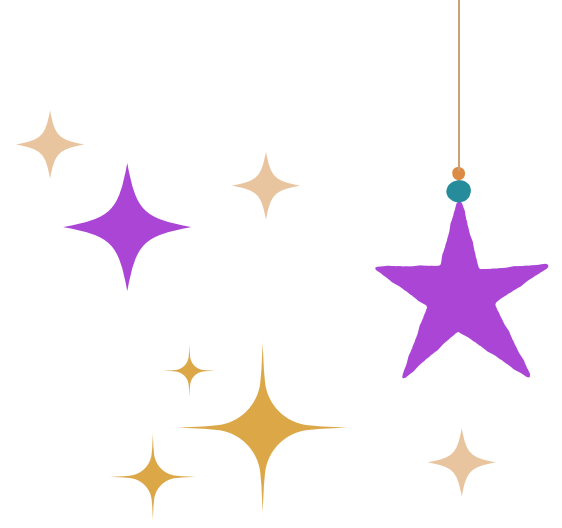
All Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.



THE CANDLE OF

Joy

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



All Sing:

Oh come, oh come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that
mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.

As the first, second and third candles are lit . . .

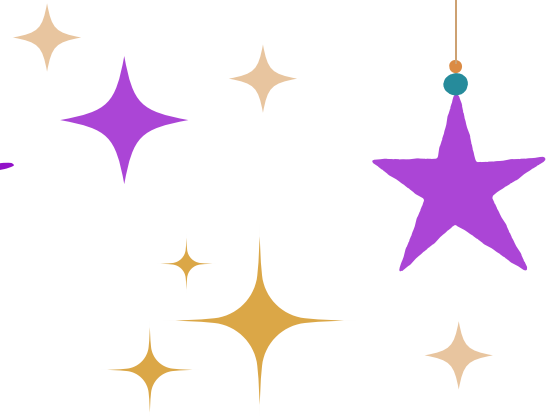
We light again the first and second candles of Advent remembering the HOPE and PEACE that is ours in Christ Jesus. Today we light the third candle, the candle of JOY, we experience true joy and happiness through knowing Jesus. As John writes, “Yet to all who received Jesus to those who believed in his name, God gave the right to become children of God.” Knowing we are His is a joy and knowing that God is with us, “Emmanuel,” is surely a reason for rejoicing always. The word, Jesus, became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

All: God is surely with us through all our times of difficulty as well as, all our times of celebration. We light this candle as a symbol of the joy of knowing Christ.

All Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.



THE CANDLES OF
Love & Christ



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

All Sing:

Oh come, oh come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that
mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.

As all the candles are lit . . .

Leader: Tonight we re-light the Advent candles of HOPE, PEACE
and JOY and now we light the final two candles of our Advent
wreath, the candle of LOVE and the CHRIST candle. Jesus is the
ultimate expression of the love of God. We know what love is
because Jesus shows us His Love.

As First John tells us, “This is love; not that we loved God, but
that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our
sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love
one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one
another God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.”

All: Without Christ’s love, we would have nothing. We
light these candles as a symbol of Christ’s love that has
come into the world.



All Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come
to you, O Israel.