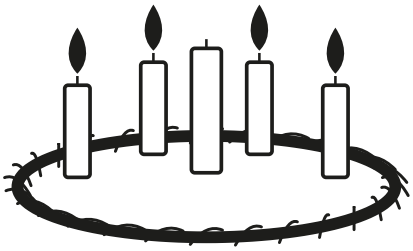
# An Advent Family Devotional Journal

## A Free Sample

The first Sunday of Advent and December 1 to 5.
King James readings, hymns, questions, and prayers for families.

Common Meter Press

Free to print for home and church use.



AN ADVENT

# *Family Devotional Journal*

*Scripture readings, hymns, and family questions*
*for the four Sundays of Advent and December 1 to 25*

Our family: _____

Year begun: _____

CM
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COMMON METER PRESS

# How to Use This Book

**Advent means coming.** In the weeks before Christmas, Christians remember how God's people waited for the promised Savior. We also look ahead to the day Jesus will come again.

**Two kinds of pages.** The four Sunday spreads (pages 6 to 13) follow the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love. The daily spreads (pages 14 to 63) run from December 1 to Christmas Day and follow the story from God's first promise to the birth of Jesus.

**Sundays and weekdays.** On each Sunday of Advent, open the Sunday spread. On every date from December 1 to 25, open that day's spread. When a Sunday falls in December, use both, or save one for later in the day.

**A simple rhythm.** Light the candles. Read the introduction and the passage aloud. Talk about the two questions. Pray together. Sing the hymn from that week's Sunday page. The checkboxes at the bottom of each day help you keep track.

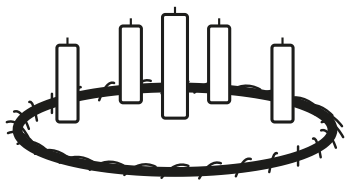
**Make it fit your family.** Ten or fifteen minutes is plenty. Little ones can draw on the right-hand page while older children and adults write. If you miss a day, pick up where you are.

**Use it any year.** The pages are undated. The table on page 4 shows when Advent begins each year through 2035.

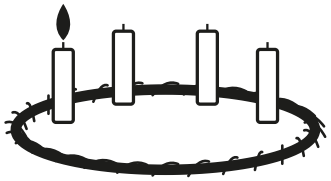
# When Advent Begins

Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. These dates are calculated for Western churches.

| Year | 1st Sunday | 2nd Sunday | 3rd Sunday | 4th Sunday | Christmas Day |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2026** | Nov 29 | Dec 6 | Dec 13 | Dec 20 | Friday |
| **2027** | Nov 28 | Dec 5 | Dec 12 | Dec 19 | Saturday |
| **2028** | Dec 3 | Dec 10 | Dec 17 | Dec 24 | Monday |
| **2029** | Dec 2 | Dec 9 | Dec 16 | Dec 23 | Tuesday |
| **2030** | Dec 1 | Dec 8 | Dec 15 | Dec 22 | Wednesday |
| **2031** | Nov 30 | Dec 7 | Dec 14 | Dec 21 | Thursday |
| **2032** | Nov 28 | Dec 5 | Dec 12 | Dec 19 | Saturday |
| **2033** | Nov 27 | Dec 4 | Dec 11 | Dec 18 | Sunday |
| **2034** | Dec 3 | Dec 10 | Dec 17 | Dec 24 | Monday |
| **2035** | Dec 2 | Dec 9 | Dec 16 | Dec 23 | Tuesday |



**The Advent wreath.** Many families light an Advent wreath. It has four candles, one for each Sunday, and often a fifth candle in the center for Christmas. Each week one more candle is lit. Traditions name the candles in different ways. This book uses hope, peace, joy, and love.



# *Hope*

Light one candle. Many families call it the candle of hope.

*Paul quotes Isaiah's promise of a root of Jesse who would rule the nations. Then he prays that the God of hope would fill us with joy and peace.*

**ROMANS 15:12–13**

And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust. Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

**SING**

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,*
*And ransom captive Israel,*
*That mourns in lonely exile here*
*Until the Son of God appear.*
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel*
*Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Words: Latin hymn. Translated by John Mason Neale, 1851, and revised in 1861. Public domain.

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. What is the difference between wishing for something and hoping in God?
2. What are you hoping for this Advent?

**PRAY**

Ask the God of hope to fill your family with joy and peace this week.

**OUR ANSWERS AND THOUGHTS**

HOW WE WILL WATCH AND WAIT FOR JESUS THIS WEEK

PEOPLE WE WILL PRAY FOR

A WAY WE CAN GIVE OR SERVE

DRAW OUR ADVENT WREATH OR SOMETHING FROM THIS WEEK

SUNDAY DATE

# *The First Promise*

*In the garden, right after the first sin, God spoke to the serpent. He promised that the woman's seed would one day bruise its head. Christians have long seen this as the first promise of Jesus.*

**GENESIS 3:15**

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. Why do you think God made a promise on such a sad day?
2. What does this promise tell us about God's heart toward people?

**PRAY**

Thank God for promising a Rescuer from the very beginning.

**OUR ANSWERS AND THOUGHTS**

☐ We read it ☐ We talked ☐ We prayed ☐ We sang ☐ We lit the candles

A WORD OR IDEA WE WANT TO REMEMBER

DRAW TODAY'S READING

PRAYER REQUESTS AND THANKS

# *A Blessing for Every Family*

*God called Abram to leave his home. He promised that through Abram the whole world would be blessed.*

**GENESIS 12:1–3**

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

## TALK ABOUT IT

1. Abram had to leave home and trust God. What would be hard about that?
2. Jesus was born into Abram's family line. How has his coming blessed our family?

## PRAY

Ask God to bless the families on your street.

## OUR ANSWERS AND THOUGHTS

☐ We read it ☐ We talked ☐ We prayed ☐ We sang ☐ We lit the candles

A WORD OR IDEA WE WANT TO REMEMBER

DRAW TODAY'S READING

PRAYER REQUESTS AND THANKS

# *A Sign*

*Hundreds of years before Jesus was born, the prophet Isaiah told about a special sign from God.*

**ISAIAH 7:14**

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. The name Immanuel means "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). What does it mean to you that God came to be with us?
2. When do you most need to remember that God is with you?

**PRAY**

Thank God that he is with us every day.

**OUR ANSWERS AND THOUGHTS**

☐ We read it ☐ We talked ☐ We prayed ☐ We sang ☐ We lit the candles

A WORD OR IDEA WE WANT TO REMEMBER

DRAW TODAY'S READING

PRAYER REQUESTS AND THANKS

# *A Great Light*

*Isaiah wrote to people living in a dark and troubled time. He promised that light was coming.*

**ISAIAH 9:2**

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. What changes when someone turns on a light in a dark room?
2. How is Jesus like a light?

**PRAY**

Pray for someone you know who is going through a dark time.

**OUR ANSWERS AND THOUGHTS**

☐ We read it ☐ We talked ☐ We prayed ☐ We sang ☐ We lit the candles

A WORD OR IDEA WE WANT TO REMEMBER

DRAW TODAY'S READING

PRAYER REQUESTS AND THANKS

# *Unto Us a Child Is Born*

*Isaiah gave great names to the child who was coming, and he promised a kingdom that would never end.*

**ISAIAH 9:6–7**

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. Which name in verse 6 do you like best? Why?
2. What does it mean that his kingdom will have no end?

**PRAY**

Praise Jesus using the names in verse 6.

**OUR ANSWERS AND THOUGHTS**

☐ We read it ☐ We talked ☐ We prayed ☐ We sang ☐ We lit the candles

A WORD OR IDEA WE WANT TO REMEMBER

DRAW TODAY'S READING

PRAYER REQUESTS AND THANKS

# Keep going to Christmas Day

The full journal has all four Sundays of Advent
and a reading for every day from December 1 to 25.

Look for An Advent Family Devotional Journal
by Common Meter Press on Amazon.
66 pages, eight by ten inches.