

Advent Wreath Ceremony

The Advent wreath symbolizes our time of waiting, our time of hoping. It helps us mark our days until Christmas.

This Advent wreath ceremony provides you with an opportunity to pass on tradition, to share Scripture and prayer, and to help children understand that Christ is at the center of our days of waiting.

The ceremony takes only minutes, making it easy to incorporate into busy days. One person reads the Scripture passage, another reads the prayer, another lights the candle, then everyone joins in with the response.

Remember that the fourth week of Advent may not last seven days. Use this handout for the remaining days of Advent. On Christmas Eve you can light a center white candle, a Christmas candle (page 84) and read a selection from the Christmas Gospel. (Do not leave burning candles unattended.)



Micah 5:2

*Bethlehem Ephrathah,
you are one of the smallest towns
in the nation of Judah.
But the LORD will choose
one of your people
to rule the nation—
someone whose family
goes back to ancient times.*

Reader:

As we light our final candle,
we know that Advent
is coming to an end.

Soon we will celebrate the birth of Jesus,
our Savior and our friend!

Light all four candles.

All:

Come, Jesus, Savior of the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.



Isaiah 7:10; 13; 14

*Once again the LORD God spoke to king Ahaz....
Listen, every one of you, in the royal family of
David. The LORD will still give you proof. A vir-
gin is pregnant; she will have a son and will
name him Immanuel.*

ADVENT WREATH CEREMONY

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Reader:

Lord God,
thank you for sending us your prophets.
Thank you for Mary,
the mother of your Son.
Thank you for Jesus,
our Lord and our Savior.
Thank you, Lord God, Emmanuel!
Amen.

Light all four candles.

All:

Come, Jesus, Savior of the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.



Luke 1:26, 27, 30-33

God sent the angel Gabriel to the town of Nazareth in Galilee with a message for a virgin named Mary.... Then the angel told Mary, "Don't be afraid! God is pleased with you, and you will have a son. His name will be Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God Most High. The Lord God will make him king, as his ancestor David was. He will rule the people of Israel forever and his kingdom will never end."

Leader:

Lord God,
may we, like Mary,
welcome your Word
into our hearts
and carry your love
into the world.
Amen.

Light all four candles.

All:

Come, Jesus, Savior of the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.



Luke 1:38

Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant! Let it happen as you have said."

Leader:

Dear God,
you sent your special messenger to Mary
to deliver the good news.
She trusted in you with all her heart.
Help us to learn to trust like Mary.
Help us learn to listen
and follow your Word.
Amen.

Light all four candles.

All:

Come, Jesus, Savior of the World.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.



Matthew 1:20-21

The angel said, "Joseph, the baby that Mary will have is from the Holy Spirit. Go ahead and marry her. Then after the baby is born, name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Reader:

Dear God,
sometimes it's hard for me
to do what you want me to do.
Help me to be like
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
and follow your heavenly will.
Amen.

Light all four candles.

All:

Come, Jesus, Savior of the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.



Psalm 89:1-2

Our Lord, I will sing of your love forever. Everyone yet to be born will hear me praise your faithfulness. I will tell them, "God's love can always be trusted, and his faithfulness lasts as long as the heavens."

Reader:

Dear Lord, we know
that you truly love us.
You sent us your only Son.
Today and every day
of our lives
we will celebrate the gift
of your love
as we celebrate
the gift of your Son!
Amen.

Light all four candles.

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All:

Come, Jesus, Savior of the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.



Matthew 1:22-23

So the Lord's promise came true, just as the prophet had said, "A virgin will have a baby boy and he will be called Immanuel," which means "God is with us."

Reader:

Lord God,
thank you for keeping
your promise.
Thank you
for sending your Son
into the world.
We know that you
are with us always,
Lord God Emmanuel!
Amen.

Light all four candles.

All:

Com e, Jesus, Savior of the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.

