



FAMILY ADVENT GUIDE



WHAT IS ADVENT?

If you've never followed a liturgical calendar, you might be wondering what Advent is. The word advent is defined as: "the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event." In Christian theology it's "the coming or second coming of Christ."

The Advent season is special. It's filled with hope and expectation. In this season we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ as we remember His birth. At the same time, we look ahead to His second coming.

The season of Advent lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. This year, it begins on Sunday, November 28. In this guide, we encourage you to come together with family or friends each Sunday, or throughout the week, to remember what this season is about and pray.

One tradition in which many people participate in this season is the Advent wreath. You may have seen one of these before. It is usually an evergreen wreath which holds five candles: one for each Sunday of Advent, plus Christmas Day. There is symbolism and meaning for each candle. At TC, we encourage you to think about how you can make an Advent wreath at home; but even if you don't, consider lighting a candle each week as you come together to sing, pray, and remember who Jesus is and why He came to this world. This is an excellent way to prepare your mind and heart for Christmas.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

GATHER:

We encourage you to gather as a family each Sunday evening (or whenever is convenient for you) during this Advent season. Make the time special and make it a priority.

SING:

At the top of each week is a QR code you can scan. This will take you to a song. Feel free to sing along or just listen.

READ:

Read through the Scriptures provided for the week. Allow each family member to share their thoughts or ask questions.

PRAY:

End your time together with a prayer. You can read the one provided or make up your own.

TAKE ACTION:

Each week also has an action step that corresponds to one of the characteristics of a Transformer: worship, connect, serve, give, invite. You can plan when and how you all will participate in this action step.

Overall, remember that there are no strict rules when it comes to this Advent guide. This is a resource to help you gather as a family so you can remember what this season is all about and look ahead with hopeful expectation of what's to come.

ADVENT GUIDE - WEEK ONE

POWER

BREAK EVERY CHAIN

by Tasha Cobb

Click below to watch

Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the splendor and the majesty, for everything in the heavens and on earth belongs to You. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom, and You are exalted as head over all.

- 1 CHRONICLES 29:11 CSB

But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness." Therefore, I will most gladly boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may reside in me.

-2 CORINTHIANS 19:9 CSB



PRAYER:

Father,

You are the all-powerful Mighty One. You never grow tired or weary. When we are weak, You are strong. Help us to trust in Your Spirit, who supplies us with the strength and power we need each day.

Instead of trying to do anything on our own, help us to remember that it was Jesus who sacrificed Himself on the cross and had victory over death. It is because of Him that we are able to live with You forever. It is because of Him that sin has been defeated. We look to You.

As we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Jesus and look forward to His return, remind us to lean into Your power each and every day.

In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTION STEP (WORSHIP):

All of life is worship. It's not just singing songs on Sunday morning. We worship God every day for who He is. What are some attributes of God that we read about in Scripture? Make a list and spend time worshiping God by remembering how good He is. Think about who you can share God's love with at work, at school, or around your neighborhood.

ADVENT GUIDE - WEEK TWO

PROMISE

PROMISES

by Maverick City Music

Click below to watch

For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.

- GALATIANS 3:26-29 NLT

Neither is it the case that all of Abraham's children are his descendants. On the contrary, your offspring will be traced through Isaac. That is, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but the children of the promise are considered to be the offspring.

- ROMANS 9:7-8 CSB

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- ROMANS 9:7-8 CSB

PRAYER:

Messiah Jesus,

You, O Lord, are rich in mercy and abundant in compassion. In You, all of God's promises find their ultimate fulfillment. Through Your death and resurrection, we are invited to become citizens in Your kingdom and children in Your eternal family. Thank You. Holy Spirit, help us never to take this beautiful privilege for granted and help us to embody this good news to those around us.

ACTION STEP (CONNECT):

Whether as a family, small group, or individually, we have the opportunity to connect through our Roll Out Hope outreach event. You can go to our website to register for one of the several gift distributions. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you and love through you as you connect with other Transformers and families in the community.

ADVENT GUIDE - WEEK THREE

PERFORMANCE

BETTER ONE

by Wimberley

Click below to watch

He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

- 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21 CSB

Clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

- ROMANS 13:14 NLT

PRAYER:

Father,

**Help us trade our performance for Your presence.
Help us to remember that we are declared holy and righteous in Your sight, not
because of anything we've done but because of Your Son, Jesus.**

**May we share this truth with others so that they may know You and love You.
Give us joy that is not based in our performance but in Your abiding love. Help us
see that You are better, even when it doesn't feel that way.**

In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTION STEP (SERVE):

**As a family, small group, or individually, make a list of five ways you can serve those
in your neighborhood or community. Examples include bringing cookies to a local
fire station, serving in a soup kitchen, or providing dinner for a neighbor. Choose
one from the list and spend some time sharing God's love with others this week.**

ADVENT GUIDE - WEEK FOUR

PEACE

PEACE BE STILL

by The Belonging Co. (feat. Lauren Daigle)

Click below to watch

“I have told you all this so that you may have peace in Me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

- JOHN 16:33 NLT

I will both lie down and sleep in peace, for You alone, Lord, make me live in safety.

- PSALM 4:8 CSB

PRAYER:

Father,

You are a peace-making God and You have called us to be peacemakers. Because of the work of Jesus, we get to join You on Your mission to bring peace to this world.

As we join You on this mission, You empower us with Your Spirit.

God, thank you for making peace between us and Yourself. Thank you for bringing us into Your family. Make us more like Jesus so that we can walk in peace with others. Help us to be reconcilers even—and especially—in difficult situations.

Holy Spirit, we welcome you into our relationships. Jesus, we thank you that in You we inherit the ministry of reconciliation.

In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTION STEP (GIVE):

God has been so generous with us; therefore, we can be generous with others. We can be generous with our time, talents, or treasure. Is there a non-profit organization you would like to partner with, by donating either your time or money? Research a cause you would like to give to and raise some money to donate. It could be an animal shelter, a refugee resettlement organization, or our Hope Dealers Market.

ADVENT - CHRISTMAS DAY
PRESENCE

EMMANUEL GOD WITH US

by Chris Tomlin

Click below to watch

*See, the virgin will become pregnant
and give birth to a son,
and they will name him Immanuel,
which is translated "God is with us."*

- MATTHEW 1:23 CSB

*Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Where can I flee from Your presence?
If I go up to the heavens, You are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.*

- PSALM 139:7-8 NIV

PRAYER:

Father,

Your desire is to be with us. Your love for us is so grand that You came to earth in the form of a man, and now Your Spirit dwells in us.

We are grateful for Your presence because it brings peace, love, grace, and mercy. When the world feels overwhelming, may Your presence be even more overwhelming. May we feel the joy of your presence and share it with others.

Today we celebrate the day Jesus was born—the day the angels sang and hope entered the world. Thank You for Your presence.

In Jesus' name, amen.

ACTION STEP (INVITE):

2021 was another tough year for many, but we have Hope, and His name is Jesus. As we get ready to begin a new year and a new sermon series in 2022, who can you invite so that they can get to know the Hope of the world? Pray for God to open an opportunity to invite someone to TC in the new year.



ABOUT:

Transformation Church is a multiethnic, multigenerational, mission-shaped community that loves God completely (Upward), loves ourselves correctly (Inward), and loves our neighbors compassionately (Outward).

For more information on our church, service times, and additional resources, check out our website at TransformationChurch.tc.

You can connect with us on social media:



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