

# Advent

## Frequently Asked Questions



### **What is Advent?**

The word advent means coming or arrival. It is the time before Christmas that is set aside to prepare hearts and minds for the celebration of Christ's first coming. It is a time to focus on the true meaning of Christmas and to anticipate the holy day.

### **Why are we celebrating Advent?**

Is the first place we start thinking of Christmas at church or the shopping mall? Retailers start months in advance trying to keep Christmas shopping from "sneaking up" on anyone. Advent has a similar function. Advent helps us start realizing and focusing on what Christmas is about. It helps us keep Christmas from "sneaking up" on us spiritually. Advent is about preparing ourselves for Christmas and setting a time apart to turn our attention to the birth of our Lord. Advent is anticipation.

### **How is Advent celebrated?**

Advent is celebrated in many different ways. Advent is a tradition handed down through over 1600 years of Church history. Many denominations and individual churches have developed their own style of focusing on Christmas during Advent. Usually the ceremony involves lighting five candles, one per Sunday for the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Then, the fifth candle, which is called the Christ candle, is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas day.

### **What can I do to celebrate Advent?**

Prepare yourself during the week for the candle lightings. There is a calendar of daily Bible readings on the inside of this sheet that will help you focus. Take time to read the passages on the calendar and be ready to focus on the different themes. Most of all, pray that God will prepare all our hearts to celebrate and honor Him.



# ADVENT

### **November 28:**

1st Sunday of Advent  
"The Need for a Savior"

### **December 5:**

2nd Sunday of Advent  
"The Promise of a Savior"

### **December 12:**

3rd Sunday of Advent  
"The Wait for a Savior"







### **December 19:**

4th Sunday of Advent  
"The Arrival of a Savior"

### **December 24:**

Christmas Eve  
"Celebrate the Savior"

# Advent Schedule & Scripture Readings

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 	29 Genesis 1:1-31	30 <i>THE NEED FOR A SAVIOR</i> Genesis 3:1-13	1 Genesis 4:1-16	2 Genesis 6:1-8	3 Psalm 51:1-19	4 Romans 3:9-20
5 	6 Genesis 3:14-24	7 <i>THE PROMISE OF A SAVIOR</i> Genesis 12:1-9	8 Genesis 49:1-27	9 Deuteronomy 18:9-22	10 II Samuel 7:1-17	11 Psalm 2:1-12
12 	13 Isaiah 7:10-25	14 <i>THE WAIT FOR A SAVIOR</i> Isaiah 9:1-7	15 Micah 5:1-6	16 Luke 1:26-38	17 Luke 1:39-56	18 Luke 1:57-80
19 	20 Luke 2:1-7	21 <i>THE ARRIVAL OF A SAVIOR</i> Matthew 1:1-16	22 Luke 2:8-21	23 Luke 3:23-38	24  Luke 2:22-38	25  Matthew 2:1-12
26	27	28	29	30	31	

