



*an*

*Advent  
Guide*

# ad·vent

/'ad,vent/

*noun*

The arrival of a notable person, thing, or event.

The first season of the Christian church year, leading up to Christmas and including the four preceding Sundays.

*synonyms*

arrival, appearance, emergence, materialization, occurrence, dawn, birth, rise, development

This guide was written and distributed by Redemption Church of Oklahoma City.  
All scripture is quoted from the ESV Bible.

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**REDEMPTION CHURCH**  
of Oklahoma City

## **WHY SHOULD WE CELEBRATE ADVENT?**

In a season that is busy with shopping, family, meals, decorating, and traveling, we often forget what all the busyness is about; or at least what it *should* be about. Observing the season of Advent is a way to interrupt the busyness and re-orient our hearts and minds toward the arrival of Jesus. Advent expands the Christmas celebration to include the four weeks prior to it. In doing so, our observance becomes a practice that can help aim our wandering hearts and quiet our busy souls as we reflect on the Christmas story. Advent helps us remember and dwell on what God has done for us in sending Christ. It's also a way for us to link arms with the generations that have gone before us, and experience their same anticipation as they eagerly awaited the coming Messiah who would take away the sin of the world. Lastly, it helps us long and pray for the return of Jesus and his establishment of the New Heaven and the New Earth. This will be our eternal dwelling place, filled with peace and light beyond imagination.

## **HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE**

Our hope is that this guide will be a tool that helps you carve out some intentional time with God, friends, and family throughout the Christmas season. The guide is broken into four weeks. Each week includes a passage of scripture, a devotional, reflection questions, a prayer, songs, and activities. Before you get too busy, pick a day, time, and place that you can carve out 30 to 60 minutes to engage with the content each week leading up to Christmas. Invite a friend or neighbor to join you and talk through what you are learning. If you have children, consider making this a special weekly activity to build anticipation toward Christmas.

We have also put together additional resources at the end of this guide to aid you in worship during this season. The resources include books, free music downloads, and instructions on how to set up an advent wreath.

## **THIS YEAR'S THEME**

This year has brought about a lot of reflection in our lives, and I can think of no moment better to ponder the arrival of Christ Jesus. Jesus has a history of breaking into our world at just the right moment. Galatians 4:4 says, "When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman." The prophecies of many millennia were fulfilled in his birth. Fragile the crying child lay in the manger, yet he was the conquering Savior sent to bring redemption to us all. Each week we will look at an Old Testament prophecy and see how that prophecy is fulfilled in the person of Christ.

## **SPECIAL ACTIVITY**

We're celebrating the Advent season this year by looking at how hope, peace, joy, and love came down! We want to invite you to engage with this season as a church family—whether you're with us physically or not! Use this guide to lead us through the season together. Each week for the next four weeks takes us through ways we can be purposeful in our celebration. We have four homes of families in our body that will help us focus on the lesson of the week. Pick one night during each of the four weeks to take a drive. If you're in the car with others, have someone read the lesson on the way to the home. From your car, pause and discuss or pray for a moment. Be on the lookout—you may even see others from your Redemption family!

We can't do many of the things we normally do this time of year, but we can still celebrate the love that came down and we can do it "safely together!"

Homes will have their "lesson" visible from 6:00 - 10:00 pm during the entire week.

### **Week 1:** 11/29 - 12/5

Hope Came Down

The Townleys

2209 Cedar Pointe Ct. Edmond, OK 73003

Gate Code #8540

### **Week 2:** 12/6 - 12/12

Peace Came Down

The Coles

5608 NW 163rd Ter., Edmond, OK 73013

### **Week 3:** 12/13 - 12/19

Joy Came Down

The Turners

22544 Lara's Ln, Edmond, OK 73025

Gate Code #1225

### **Week 4:** 12/20 - 12/25

Love Came Down

The Beechers

1506 Squirrel Tree Place, Edmond, OK 73034

Week 1

# Hope *came down*

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

Isaiah 7:14

**Light the First Candle**  
**Read Matthew 1:18-25 - The Virgin Birth**  
**Read the Devotional**  
**Reflect**

**T**hroughout this past year, we have experienced longing like many of us have never experienced before. Longing to see a certain friend or family member in-person again, longing for our kids to get back to school, longing for in-person worship services, longing for an improved job market, longing for a vaccine, longing for some sense of normalcy. This longing is not unlike the longing the Israelites felt for their coming Messiah.

The Hebrew people knew a little bit about God because he had revealed himself to them in the Old Testament Scriptures, but it was only a glimpse. They knew their sin separated them from God and they performed sacrifices in order to make themselves right before him, but it was only a temporary restoration. They knew that God wanted them to have peace and to flourish, but their periods of peace and flourishing seemed so short. In other words, they had tasted enough of the Lord to know that he was good, but they wanted to know him fully.

And even from the beginning of time they had hope that God would come in fullness one day. They were waiting for the one who would crush the serpent (Gen 3:15), the one from Abraham's offspring who would bless all the nations (Gen 12:3), and the prophet like Moses whom the people should listen to (Deut 18:15). Then comes the prophet Isaiah, who enters the story around 700 BC and says,

*“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (God with us)” - Isaiah 7:14*

Isaiah had announced, God is coming! Instead of the shadow you've been seeing, you will see God himself. It's really happening!

And then how many more years did they wait? Over 700! 700 more years of longing for ultimate forgiveness of sins, 700 more years of longing for peace amidst a world of chaos, 700 more years of wondering, what is our Creator truly like? And 700 more years of asking, is he really coming? And then Jesus was born. God came to Joseph in a dream and said,

*“Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel’ (which means, God with us).” -*

*Matthew 1:20-23*

In other words, the angel comes to Joseph and says, “Hey Joseph, do you remember Isaiah 7:10, the promise that I will dwell with my people? Your child will fulfill that promise! God is here to dwell with his people!”

700 years of longing and waiting was over and the Messiah was born! Jesus came to bring forgiveness of sins and reconciliation to the Father, he came to bring peace in the midst of a chaotic world, and he came to reveal fully and completely the character of our Good Father. The Israelites had been hoping for all of these things. And hope came down.

Even when COVID is no more and our lives return to normal, we will still be a longing people. We'll long for bigger houses, nicer cars, a spouse, perfect kids, and any number of things. But in Christ all of our longings are met. Jesus loves us, accepts us, provides for us, protects us, wipes away our guilt and shame, and promises us eternal life with the God of the universe. Our lives are filled with all kinds of longings that we can never fulfill. But our greatest and deepest longings are met in Christ.

There is one longing, however, that as Christians we do actually want to cultivate: the longing for Jesus's return. You see, even though Jesus has come and we have God's Spirit dwelling in us, there's still another act in the story. Revelation 21 gives us a picture of the New Heaven and the New Earth that Jesus will bring upon his return. In that day there will be no longing whatsoever. There won't even be a need for the sun because the glory of God will provide the light!

So this Christmas let's look back and look forward. Let's celebrate the fact that Jesus has come and all of our longings are met in him. And let's be like the Israelites and cultivate a holy longing. Not for Jesus's first coming but for his return, when all things will be made right. We have hope because the God of hope came. And he is coming again!

**DEVOTIONAL** BY CHACE IFLAND

## REFLECTIONS

Consider your own longings over the past year. Have they felt unending and hopeless? Imagine how the Israelites felt as they waited for 700 years. But God showed up. Reflect on the fact that God is faithful to fulfill his promises.

Sometimes it feels like our lives are filled with one un-fulfilled longing after another. How does the gospel give us hope amidst a world that constantly lets us down?

What would it look like for you to celebrate Jesus's first coming and long for his second coming this Christmas season?

## PRAYER

God of hope, we long for many things in this life; some good and some that will never bring satisfaction. Help us to cultivate a holy longing in our lives. Thank you for sending Jesus to us and for making it possible to be in right relationship with you through His life, death, and resurrection. Help us long for His return and for the day when all things will be made new.

## HYMNS & SONGS

O Come O Come Emmanuel  
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

## ACTIVITY

Pick one night to take a drive. If you're in the car with others, have someone read the lesson on the way to the home. From your car, pause and discuss or pray for a moment. Be on the lookout—you may even see others from your Redemption family!

**Week 1:** 11/29 - 12/5

Hope Came Down

The Townleys

2209 Cedar Pointe Ct. Edmond, OK 73003

Gate Code #8540

MAY YOU BE OVERCOME BY HOPE IN CHRIST

Week 2

# Peace *came down*

“For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.”

Isaiah 9:6-7

**Light the First and Second Candles**  
**Read Matthew 2:1-6**  
**Read the Devotional**  
**Reflect**

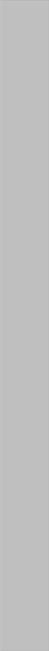
**T**his is the time of year we are most reminded of the utter reliability of our Holy Scriptures. What God promised 2700 years ago through the prophet Isaiah was fulfilled 2000 years ago in the divine birth of Jesus and is celebrated today and passed on to the next generation. These are long, broad sweeps of time that can lift us from the troubling circumstances of today and remind us of the good and true realities of our Faith. One such reality is the peace, the hard fought peace, which was both ushered in and secured for us at the Incarnation.

Let us pause to consider this idea of peace. The images our minds conjure when we think of peace almost always center around circumstantial peace or inner peace of mind. While that kind of peace is worth having and pursuing, there is a different, more substantive peace which is offered by God. When God created his world and his people, they were all at peace with one another. Man talked with God in the cool of the day and enjoyed unhindered relationship with him and all the creation around them. Humanity ruled a created order and was ruled by their Creator God and they were at peace.

When humanity fell into sin, the world around them fell into sin as well. Everything became a shadow of what it had once been. And any other god would've left this system to reap what it had sown—for that is what the gods that man creates do. They punish and at best offer appeasement, but no real way to ever get back that peace that once existed. But this is not so for our God, the God of the Bible. Our God said he would make a way for peace to be restored and he would do it in a way that the very humanity who spurned him could still partake. He said he would send a child into the sin-soaked world who would be the Prince of Peace and there would be no end to his kind of peace.

This gives us both a present and future hope. God's peace through Christ is for this life and our life everlasting. When the Son—who was a spirit and enjoyed the freedom a spirit enjoys—took on flesh and was born into this world, he brought with him the power to restore peace. When Jesus lived and grew and then died and resurrected, he broke down the dividing wall between God and humanity. He made a way for us to once again walk with God. For those who believe, he made a way for humanity to once again be at peace with God. This is the future hope of peace. This is the promise of salvation.

Our present hope of peace is a little harder fought, but nonetheless offered and given freely to those who believe in its



source. We find ourselves in a storm-tossed cultural sea, but even here there is a soft place to land. Even here, God offers us his Son. While our future is secured through faith in Christ, our today is also secured through this same faith. God offers us more than circumstantial peace because the kids aren't fighting or because we can pay the bills. When you feel the pressures of family obligations or relational tensions, he offers you his peace. When your holiday doesn't look like what you envisioned, he offers you his peace. It is yours for the taking and its only requirement is that you look beyond the circumstances of the day and see the source of true, abiding peace for who He is.

We will still feel the struggle of sin nipping at the edges of ourselves and our circumstances, but there is a gentle reminder of the divine child, the Prince of Peace, who came to live among us and usher in the peace of God. He offers the gentle peace of a child in a manger, daily, so that we can live today and always... at peace with God.

**DEVOTIONAL** BY AUDRA SWINDELL

## **REFLECTIONS**

What comes to mind when you think of peace? Are those things results of circumstances or based on a truth or belief?

What are the barriers to peace in your heart and mind?

If you only think of peace as circumstantial, what do you need to start believing about God in order to see peace as something that transcends your circumstances?

## **PRAYER**

God of Peace, we confess that we have tried to make our own peace in the planning of our lives. Teach us to find peace in your plans. Help us to unwrap our hands from our ways and to hold them open to receive your ways. Your plans are perfect and in them we can dwell in peace. Thank you for sending Jesus and giving us your Spirit, the anchor of perfect peace in our hearts.

## **HYMNS & SONGS**

Angels We Have Heard on High  
Joy to the World  
Hark the Harold Angels Sing

## **ACTIVITY**

Pick one night to take a drive. If you're in the car with others, have someone read the lesson on the way to the home. From your car, pause and discuss or pray for a moment. Be on the lookout—you may even see others from your Redemption family!

**Week 2:** 12/6 - 12/12

Peace Came Down

The Coles

5608 NW 163rd Ter., Edmond, OK 73013

MAY YOU BE OVERCOME BY PEACE IN CHRIST

Week 3

# Joy *came down*

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shone.

You have multiplied the nation;  
you have increased its joy;  
Isaiah 9:1-3

**Light the First, Second, and Third Candles**  
**Matthew 2:7-12 - The Wise Men Rejoice**  
**Read the Devotional**  
**Reflect**

**C**hristmas time is synonymous with light and joy. It's the one time of year where the vast majority of the world shifts from the day to day grind of life to practicing joy. We hang lights, and we trim trees. We light candles, and we sing. Though not all believe this celebration of light and joy is about Christ, we do!

While this season is sure to bring those warm fuzzy feelings that we all long for, admitted or not, they only last for a few short weeks. For some, Christmas is just a tiny flicker of hope for the hopeless. For some, there seems to be no hope left. Life has become too dark. What if real joy could only come by acknowledging the darkness?

*"But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish"  
- Isaiah 9:1*

The Bible does not skirt around dark times. You don't have to read very far to get the picture that not all is well in the land of the living. In the first three chapters, we see good – very good fall into bad – very bad. Adam and Eve had everything they needed to live in perfect peace and joy, but it didn't take very long for them to doubt what God had promised them. After listening to the sly whispers of the serpent, they chose to go their way and disobey their Creator. Sin shattered peace and joy. Throughout the next 1,186 chapters, there is visceral darkness that is hard to shake. There is no getting around savage sin that brings about dark times. And to this day, we see the tragic effects of one man's sin. But reader, take heart! God did not leave us to spiral into the oblivion of darkness. He had a plan all along. There is a great light, and we must keep our eyes fixed on it. A great light has come down, dispelling the night, cancelling sin and death, and this light illuminates the one true path to joy.

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;" - Isaiah 9:2-3*

These words were written by the Hebrew prophet Isaiah 700 years before Christ would walk the earth. Isaiah was writing in a very dark time for his nation. They were on the brink of total annihilation, threatened by their neighboring country, the Assyrians. And this wasn't the first time the Israelites future looked bleak. Remember Egypt? Fast forward to the time of Herod.

*"Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." - Matthew 2:7-8*

Herod was on to something, and he knew what this star represented. Joy had come down – the hope for all humanity. But make no mistake, he was not interested in worshiping this child that was born. Deceitful like the garden serpent, Herod seeks to manipulate the wise men. He knew that his kingdom of darkness could not stand against the light, so he sought to snuff it out. Herod was a killjoy at heart. But he would fail.

*"After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way." - Isaiah 9-12*

Jesus, God's only begotten son, had come into the world to set all things right – to make a way back to the garden. We don't know exactly how the wise men came to understand this outside of the miraculous star that appeared to them, but we do know that what followed was joy.

*"When they saw the star, they re-JOI-ced – exceedingly! – with great JOY!" (emphasis mine).*

Could the Bible be any more explicit? The response to Christ's birth is and always will be great joy! And where does joy lead us? "Then, they offered him gifts." Does that sound like a familiar tradition? Lastly, they recognized that Herod was up to no good, and they fled the darkness that sought to destroy the light.

A great light has shone, and darkness shall not overcome it. Christ dispels ALL the dark places. Joy has come down, and like the wise men, the greatest gift you can give this year is your worship to the King. Reader, I say again, take heart! And allow the light of Christ to shine in your darkest night. Then and only then will joy come down for you.

**DEVOTIONAL** BY CHRIS CLARK

## **REFLECTIONS**

Think of a time in your life when God turned something bad into something good. Describe how you felt before and after this happened.

What is one area in your life that feels dark right now? Will you allow the light of Christ to shine there this week?

What is one way you could express joy in worship this week?

## **PRAYER**

God, help us to fully embrace the joy found only in Jesus and his great rescue. And by your Spirit, may we worship with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind - reflecting joy, even in the darkness, as we fix our eyes on the Joy Giver, Jesus.

## **HYMNS & SONGS**

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus  
O Holy Night  
Joy to the World

## **ACTIVITY**

Pick one night to take a drive. If you're in the car with others, have someone read the lesson on the way to the home. From your car, pause and discuss or pray for a moment. Be on the lookout—you may even see others from your Redemption family!

**Week 3:** 12/13 - 12/19

Joy Came Down

The Turners

22544 Lara's Ln, Edmond, OK 73025

Gate Code #1225

MAY YOU BE OVERCOME BY JOY IN CHRIST

Week 4

# Love *came down*

"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,..."

-Isaiah 61:1-2

**Light All Four Candles**  
**Read Luke 4:16-21, John 3:16**  
**Read the Devotional**  
**Reflect**

**I** was born in 1981, a child born to parents who lived through one of the more turbulent times in our nation. My parents grew up in the '60s and '70s. The Civil Rights Movement was in full swing, erupting with violence, protests, and equal rights marches. The Vietnam War was among the most protested times in history. And sex, drugs, and rock and roll were attempting to define love.

The '80s became a sort of reprieve after a couple of decades of tumultuous times. Our country elected a movie star as their president and asked him to lead us through the Cold War. Video games, toy-lines, cartoons, MTV, and movies began to define love for the next 20 years. It's almost as if humanity had to take a 20-year vacation from all the tension and just binge on pop culture. We became consumers of what we loved, yet we were still wanting.

Then, as history does, it began to repeat itself. Wars over oil and weapons creation turned from cold to hot as troops began to shed blood once again. The '90s and '00s ushered in a massive technology boom. Pay phones became obsolete, cellphones replaced pagers, and the Worldwide Web was born and fashioned to fit into our pockets stamped with a bitten apple. We were connected more than ever before and had more information at our fingertips than we could ever consume in a lifetime. Yet still, we were searching for love.

Here we sit in 2020, in the middle of a pandemic, overusing the phrase: "in these unprecedented times." Longing for things to return to "normal." Racial tensions have ramped up, bringing violence and protests yet again. Many are questioning democracy as we witness one of the most debated presidential elections on a worldwide stage. And at the core of all this, we are still asking the question, what does love look like?

So, where do we look? How do we answer this? Is there an answer?

Let's look a bit further back into history. 2000 years ago, while Jesus is walking the earth, he decides to return home to Nazareth for Sunday Church. He walks in, and someone hands him a scroll. This is not the kind of scroll you are doing right now on your phone, although it is a bit similar; a way to revisit history. The scroll Jesus opens is the prophet Isaiah's preserved word, written over 700 years before Jesus. Jesus reads:

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,*

*because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

And then, He makes one of the most profound declarations in all the Bible.

*"And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."  
-Luke 4:16-21*

There it is. God in human flesh. Immanuel – God with us – has come to bring freedom to the captive, to bring light to the darkness, and to comfort all who mourn. Jesus came down to heal the blind, not just physically but spiritually as well. Love itself came down to define love for all time.

*"For God so loved the world that he sent his only son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."  
-John 16:33*

Reader, this is the answer that generation after generation has been searching for, the only anecdote for this broken, war-torn, pandemic-stricken world. God gave us Jesus that we may be delivered, healed, comforted, and most of all, loved! This is a love defined by God, not the world. It is a transcendent love that does not change with time. Now, I am not saying this means we will no longer experience hard times or that all wars and disease will cease to exist if we just all believed. Rather, Isaiah 61, Luke 4, and John 16:33 are all pointing to what we are to receive in full when Jesus comes again to make all things new. Love came down 2000 years ago to show us how to love and be loved. And love will come down again, making right all that has gone wrong in our world. When? Perhaps in this generation or the next, we don't know. But indeed, love will come down again.

*"A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices.  
For yonder breaks, a new and glorious morn!"*

**DEVOTIONAL** BY CHRIS CLARK

## REFLECTIONS

I have you placed your trust in the love of Christ that came down for you?

When you think about our current times or time past, how do you see God's love on display? How can you display the love of Christ to a weary world this year?

## PRAYER

God of great love, help us to see how steadfast you are from generation to generation. Often, we have let fear and anxiety lead our lives. But you always have a plan, revealed to us in your perfect timing. A love more lavish than we could ever imagine. Christ was, and is, and is to come; your perfect love plan for a weary world. Help us to wait with courage. Help us to receive your love. Help us to surprise others with love.

## HYMNS & SONGS

O Holy Night  
Silent Night

## ACTIVITY

During this final week of Advent, plan one night to eat dinner with your family or friends. Over dinner, share about how you have experienced love from them. Tell a story of a time when their actions communicated love to you.

Then discuss what are some ways you could, together, love someone else. A neighbor, a family member, or a stranger. This could be something as simple as baking cookies and delivering them with a note, making a handmade gift or ornament for someone, buying someone else dinner, or purchasing a gift for someone. Be creative. It doesn't have to be big or complicated.

Pick one night to take a drive. If you're in the car with others, have someone read the lesson on the way to the home. From your car, pause and discuss or pray for a moment. Be on the lookout—you may even see others from your Redemption family!

**Week 4:** 12/20 - 12/25

Love Came Down

The Beechers

1506 Squirrel Tree Place, Edmond, OK 73034

MAY YOU BE OVERCOME BY THE LOVE OF CHRIST

## ADDITIONAL ADVENT RESOURCES

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### BOOKS

#### FOR ANYONE

[Behold The Lamb of God: Russ Ramsey](#)  
[The Advent of the Lamb of God: Russ Ramsey](#)  
[Come Let Us Adore Him: Paul David Tripp](#)

#### FOR CHILDREN

[The Littlest Watchman: Scott James](#)

#### FOR ADULTS

[He Reads Truth: Advent 2018 Legacy Book](#)  
[She Reads Truth: Advent 2018 Study Book](#)

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### MUSIC

#### SPOTIFY PLAYLIST

Search for redemptionchurch  
[Love Came Down - Songs of Advent](#)

#### ITUNES

[Behold the Lamb of God: Andrew Peterson](#)

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### ADVENT WREATH HOW-TO GUIDE:

- 1) Gather four candles of your choice (any kind will do).
- 2) Place them in a line or circle on a surface that won't be damaged by wax.
- 3) Optional: Spruce it up with some holly, ribbon, or winter greenery.

Light a candle each week during your time of reflection. Each week is meant to build toward the next, until all four candles are lit during your Advent reflection time.

Parents, kids love lighting the candles! Help them understand anticipation, excitement, joy, and longing as they light each candle.

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Merry Christmas Redemption Church. We love you more than you know. We hope this Advent Guide has served you well. May the peace, joy, hope, and love of our Lord Jesus fill your hearts this Christmas.