

ADVENT READING GUIDE

The season of Advent marks the beginning of each new liturgical year and is celebrated during the weeks leading up to Christmas. The word “advent” comes from the latin ad venire, meaning “to come” or “to arrive”. For the last 2,000 years during Advent the church has celebrated both the first coming of Christ in human flesh and the second coming of Christ when He returns to establish His Kingdom forever.

As we celebrate Advent this year, may we reflect on the joy we have in Christ, the hope we are given because of Christ, the life changing love Christ has for us, and the gift of faith that allows us to experience Christ daily. May these readings both strengthen us to receive Jesus by faith and prepare us to meet Jesus face to face when He returns.

How to Use this Devotional Guide

- Before you read the Scripture, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to the meaning of Scripture.
- Read the Scripture twice. Write down or reflect on what you have read.
- Close in prayer for yourself and others, asking to God to grow you in your knowledge and love of Christ this Advent season.

Questions to Ask

- What does this scripture teach me about Christ?
- How does this scripture teach me about myself and my need for Christ?
- How might the scripture help me to apply my faith in Christ to my life?

Church of the Resurrection

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For more information,
visit resbalt.org/christmas

WEEK I : December 4th- 9th

Advent: A Season of Hope

“Hope springs from having come to the end of our rope, resources, and resilience and finding God is there. When we, like Job, find God’s presence to be enough, then, and only then, can we be satisfied in God and find our one living hope.”– Anonymous

Monday 12/4 | Psalm 25:1-5

How can you place your hope in Christ today?

Tuesday 12/5 | Psalm 62:5-8

How do we ask for and receive hope from God? Will you ask today?

Wednesday 12/6 | Psalm 147: 10-11

Who does God delight in? How can we delight God?

Thursday 12/7 | Luke 2:25-32

How is Jesus the sum of all hope?

Friday 12/8 | Ephesians 2:11-13

What ultimate hope does the world have apart from Christ?

Saturday 12/9 | Hebrews 6:13-20

How does knowing Christ provide us an anchor of hope?

Visit | resbalt.org/christmas

**for a complete listing of Res
celebrations and preparation!**

WEEK II : December 11th-16th

Advent: A Season of Faith

"If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from your majesty's hand. But even if He does not, we want you to know, your majesty, that we will not serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up."

*– Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego
~ Daniel 3:17-186*

Monday 12/11 | Psalm 33: 16-22

In whom or what do you place your trust?

Tuesday 12/12 | Matthew 9:23-27

What storms are exposing your lack of faith? Pray through them.

Wednesday 12/13 | Genesis 18: 9-15

Can you remember a time you laughed at the impossibility of God working and then He came through in ways you couldn't have imagined?

Thursday 12/14 | Romans 4:18-25

On what basis did Abraham trust God with his circumstances?

Friday 12/15 | Romans 3:21-26

Have you put your faith in Jesus? If yes, rejoice! If not, perhaps today?

Saturday 12/16 | Ephesians 3:14-21

Where do you need to be strengthened in your faith?

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY 12/24 | ADVENT IV

10am | Worship Service

SUNDAY 12/24 | CHRISTMAS EVE

4pm | Family Service

Children's Program & Holy Communion

**ResKids for Ages 0-5*

6pm | Candlelight Service

Full Brass & Holy Communion

*Musical Prelude at 5:40pm *ResKids Ages 0-5*

9pm | Candlelight Service

Full Brass & Holy Communion

*Musical Prelude at 8:30pm *No ResKids*

Celebration to Follow - All Welcome!

MONDAY 12/25 | CHRISTMAS DAY

10 am | Baptism & Holy Communion

**Children in Service, No ResKids*

WEEK III: December 18th- 23rd

Advent: A Season of Joy

"There is enough in God to furnish us with real joy in the worst circumstance on earth. If men have not a continual feast of joy, it is due to their lack of trust and knowledge of the love of God. If so, then they should ask and He will give." – Matthew Henry

Monday 12/18 | Deuteronomy 16:13-15

How can you celebrate God during Advent?

Tuesday 12/19 | I Chronicles 29:6-9

How does giving and watching others give bring joy?

Wednesday 12/20 | Ezra 6:22

In whom or what do you place your hope?

Thursday 12/21 | Nehemiah 8:9-12

When did you first understand God's Word with joy?

Friday 12/22 | Psalm 43

How can you find joy and delight in the ups and downs of your life?

Saturday 12/23 | Thessalonians 1: 4-6

Who brings you joy because of their love for Christ?

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Sunday 12/3

Old Testament Reading | Obadiah 1:1-14

New Testament Reading | 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Gospel Reading | Matthew 24:42-44

Sunday 12/10

Old Testament Reading | Obadiah 1:15-18

New Testament Reading | 1 Peter 1:13-19

Gospel Reading | John 1:10-14

Sunday 12/17

Old Testament Reading | Obadiah 1:19-21

New Testament Reading | 1 Peter 5:6-10

Gospel Reading | John 10:6-10

Sunday 12/24

Old Testament Reading | 2 Samuel 7:12-16

New Testament Reading | Psalm 132:11-16

Gospel Reading | Luke 1:26-38