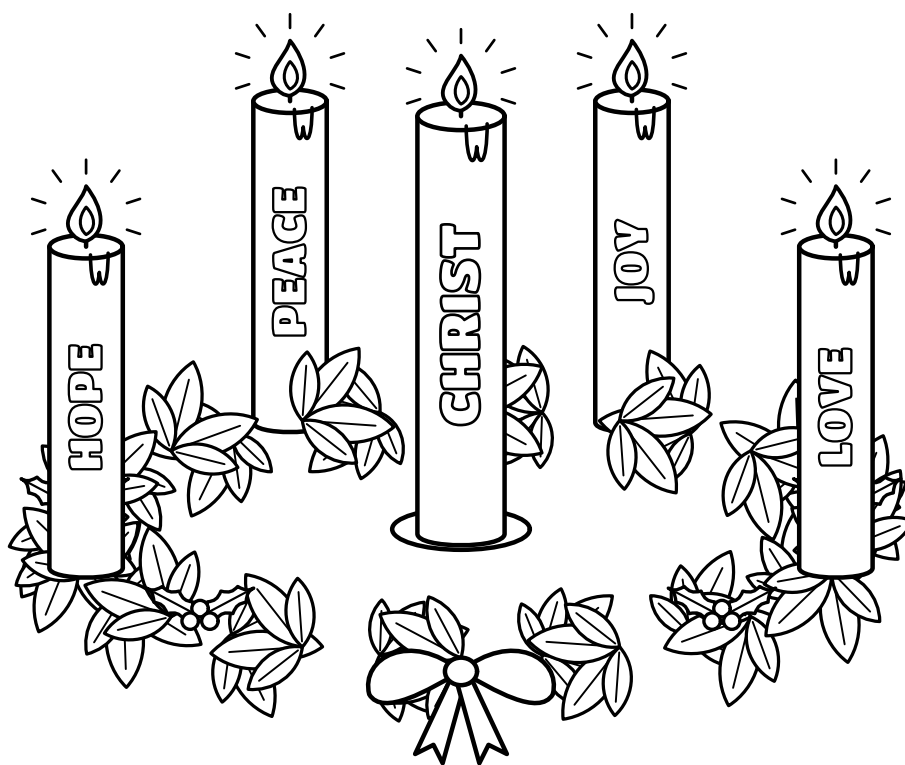




FREE PRINTABLE • KING JAMES VERSION



ADVENT

Candle Guide

☆ — *for families* — ☆

Hope • Peace • Joy • Love • Christ

A candle-lighting guide for each Sunday of Advent with KJV readings and family devotions
Plus an Advent wreath coloring page, paper candles to cut out and a candle tracker • 11 pages
Advent 2026: Sunday, November 29 to Christmas Day, Friday, December 25

— ◆ —
“For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.”

PSALM 18:28 (KJV)

BY SCRIPTURE

byscripture.com



START HERE

How to Use Your Advent Candle Guide

Advent means “coming.” For four Sundays before Christmas, many Christian families gather around an Advent wreath: a circle of evergreens with four candles and one more in the middle. Each Sunday you light one more candle, so the light grows as Christmas comes closer, a picture of Jesus, the Light of the world, coming into the world. This guide gives you one page for each Sunday: a verse to read as you light the candle, a short King James reading, questions to talk about, something to do that week and a family prayer.

THE ADVENT CANDLES • 2026

CANDLE	LIGHT IT ON	THEME	CANDLE COLOR*	LIGHTING VERSE
● Hope	Sun Nov 29	<i>Waiting with hope</i>	purple or blue	Psalms 130:5 • p3
● Peace	Sun Dec 6	<i>The Prince of Peace</i>	purple or blue	Isaiah 26:3 • p4
● Joy	Sun Dec 13	<i>Good tidings of joy</i>	pink (rose)	Psalms 16:11 • p5
● Love	Sun Dec 20	<i>God so loved the world</i>	purple or blue	1 John 4:19 • p6
○ Christ	Dec 24 or 25	<i>The Light of the world</i>	white	John 8:12 • p7

*Customs differ. Many churches use three purple or blue candles, a pink (rose) candle for the third Sunday and a white Christ candle; others use all white or red candles, or name the candles Prophecy, Bethlehem, Shepherds and Angels. Use what your family or church already does. This guide uses Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

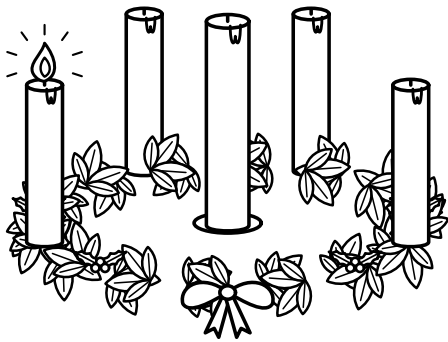
- 1 Set up.** Use a real wreath, four candles in a row, battery candles, or the paper candles on page 9.
- 2 Each Sunday.** Gather at dinner or bedtime. Light one more candle and read that week’s page together (about 10 minutes).
- 3 During the week.** Light the candles again on other evenings, reread the verse, and color a flame on the tracker on page 10.
- 4 Christmas.** On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, light all five candles and read Luke 2:1-20 (page 7).

Candle safety. Let a grown-up light and blow out real candles, keep greenery and paper away from the flames, and never leave burning candles alone. With little ones, battery candles or the paper candles work just as well.

Want a Bible reading for every day, too? This guide is for the Sundays. The free 25-Day Advent Reading Plan gives one short KJV reading for each day from December 1 to 25: byscripture.com/free-advent-reading-plan/

“The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him.”

LAMENTATIONS 3:25 (KJV)



WEEK 1 • FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Hope Candle

Waiting for God's promise

Sunday, November 29, 2026

● Candle color: purple or blue (customs vary)

Long before Bethlehem, God promised that a light would come to people waiting in the dark. The first candle reminds us that God always keeps His promises, even when we have to wait.

1 LIGHT THE CANDLE

Light the first candle, and read:

"I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope."

PSALM 130:5 (KJV)

2 READ TOGETHER

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined." ISAIAH 9:2

"Therefore I will look unto the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me." MICAH 7:7

Read more in your Bible: Isaiah 9:2-7

3 TALK ABOUT IT

LITTLE ONES

What is something you are waiting for? How does waiting feel?

EVERYONE

Isaiah promised "a great light." What does one small candle do in a dark room?

OLDER KIDS & GROWN-UPS

Which promise of God do you want to hold on to this Advent?

4 THIS WEEK

Each evening, switch off the lights for a moment, light the Hope candle and say together: "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light."

5 PRAY TOGETHER

Dear God, thank You that You always keep Your promises. Help us to wait for Jesus with hopeful hearts. In Jesus' name, amen.



WEEK 2 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Peace Candle

The Prince of Peace is coming

Sunday, December 6, 2026

● Candle color: purple or blue (customs vary)

The angels sang of “peace, good will toward men,” and Jesus promised His own peace to everyone who follows Him. The second candle reminds us that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, brings peace with God and peace in our hearts.

1 LIGHT THE CANDLE

Light the Hope candle, then the second candle, and read:

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

ISAIAH 26:3 (KJV)

2 READ TOGETHER

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” LUKE 2:14

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” JOHN 14:27

Read more in your Bible: Luke 1:76-79 · John 14:25-27

3 TALK ABOUT IT

LITTLE ONES

When do you feel calm and safe?

EVERYONE

Jesus said, “Let not your heart be troubled.” What helps our family when we feel worried?

OLDER KIDS & GROWN-UPS

Is there someone we need to make peace with before Christmas?

4 THIS WEEK

Be a peacemaker: write a kind note, say sorry after a quarrel, or help someone without being asked.

5 PRAY TOGETHER

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, quiet our worries and fill our home with Your peace. Help us to be peacemakers. Amen.



WEEK 3 • THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Joy Candle

Good tidings of great joy

Sunday, December 13, 2026

● Candle color: pink (rose) (customs vary)

The angel brought the shepherds good news, and they went home “glorifying and praising God.” Later the wise men followed the star with great joy. The third candle, which many families make pink, reminds us that Jesus is the reason for real joy.

1 LIGHT THE CANDLE

Light the Hope and Peace candles, then the third candle, and read:

“Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”

PSALM 16:11 (KJV)

2 READ TOGETHER

“And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.” LUKE 2:20

“When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.” MATTHEW 2:10

Read more in your Bible: Luke 2:8-20 • Matthew 2:1-11

3 TALK ABOUT IT

LITTLE ONES

What makes you smile at Christmas time?

EVERYONE

The shepherds told everyone what they had seen, and the wise men were full of joy when they saw the star. Who could we tell about Jesus?

OLDER KIDS & GROWN-UPS

How is joy in God different from just having a happy day?

4 THIS WEEK

Sing a favorite Christmas carol together after you light the candles, or make a “joy list” of good gifts from God.

5 PRAY TOGETHER

Father, thank You for the good news of Jesus. Fill our family with joy this week, and help us to share it. Amen.



WEEK 4 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Love Candle

God so loved the world

Sunday, December 20, 2026

● Candle color: purple or blue (customs vary)

Christmas is God's love made visible: He "gave his only begotten Son." The fourth candle reminds us that God loved us first, and that His love teaches us to love one another.

1 LIGHT THE CANDLE

Light the Hope, Peace and Joy candles, then the fourth candle, and read:

"We love him, because he first loved us."

1 JOHN 4:19 (KJV)

2 READ TOGETHER

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." JOHN 3:16

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God." 1 JOHN 4:7

Read more in your Bible: 1 John 4:7-11

3 TALK ABOUT IT

LITTLE ONES

How do you know that someone loves you?

EVERYONE

God gave His Son at the first Christmas. What is the best gift you have ever been given?

OLDER KIDS & GROWN-UPS

Who could use some extra love from our family this week?

4 THIS WEEK

Do a secret kindness: bake for a neighbor, call a grandparent, or make a card for someone who is lonely.

5 PRAY TOGETHER

God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus. Help us to love others the way You love us. Amen.



CHRISTMAS • THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Christ Candle

The Light of the world has come

Christmas Eve, Dec 24, or Christmas Day, Dec 25, 2026

○ Candle color: white (customs vary)

On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, gather around the wreath one more time. The waiting is over: the baby in the manger is “a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.”

1 LIGHT THE CANDLE

Light all four candles, then the white Christ candle in the middle, and read:

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

JOHN 8:12 (KJV)

2 READ TOGETHER

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” ISAIAH 9:6

“And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.” LUKE 2:12

Read more in your Bible: Luke 2:1-20 • John 1:1-14

3 TALK ABOUT IT

LITTLE ONES

Who was born in Bethlehem? Where did His mother lay Him?

EVERYONE

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.” How can our family shine His light?

OLDER KIDS & GROWN-UPS

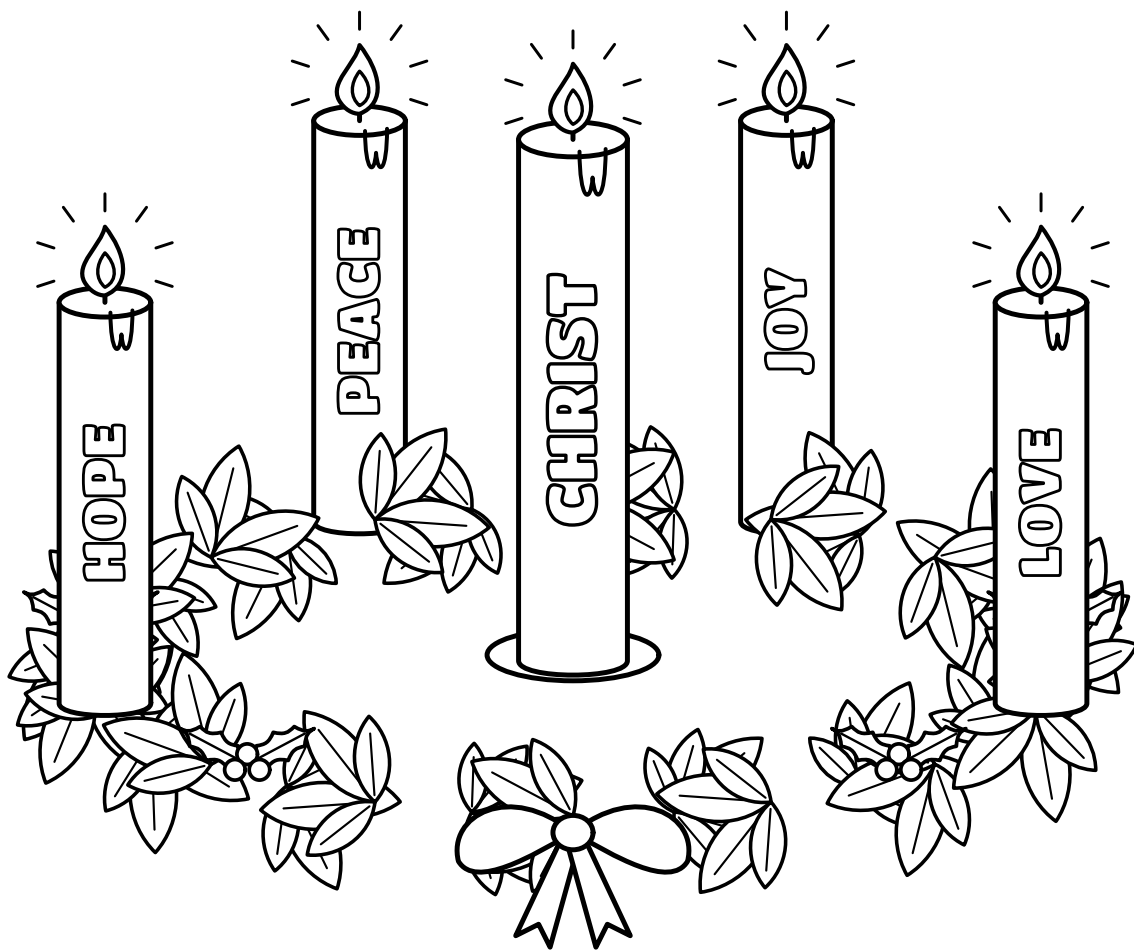
Look back at the four candles. Which word, hope, peace, joy or love, meant the most to you this Advent?

4 THIS CHRISTMAS

Before the presents, read Luke 2:1-20 aloud together and let each person thank God for His greatest gift.

5 PRAY TOGETHER

Lord Jesus, You are the Light of the world. Thank You for coming to us at Christmas. We welcome You with all our hearts. Amen.



☆ — *in thy* — ☆
LIGHT

☆ — *shall we see* — ☆
Light

Color idea: three purple or blue candles, a pink Joy candle and a white or gold Christ candle in the middle.

"For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light."

PSALM 36:9 • KJV

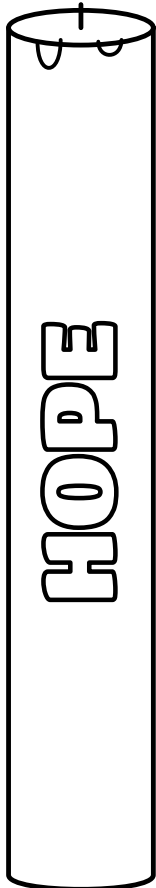
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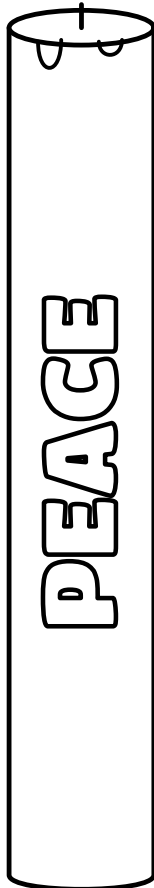


Paper Advent Candles to Color

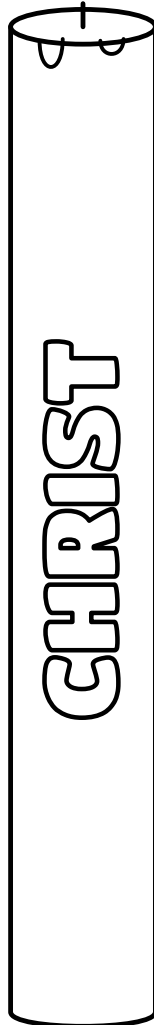
Color the candles and flames, cut them out on the dashed lines and tape the candles to a wall, a door or a paper-plate wreath. Each Sunday of Advent, add one flame. On Christmas Eve, add the flame to the Christ candle.
No matches needed!



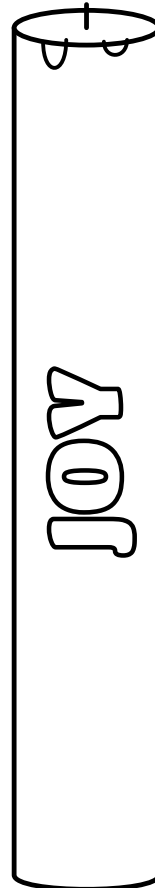
Week 1
Psalm 130:5



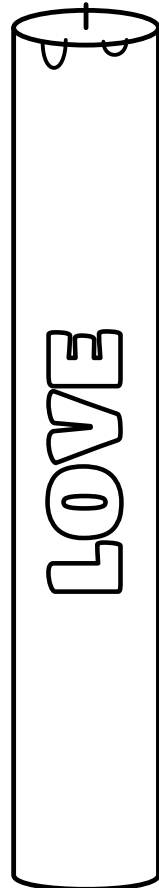
Week 2
Isaiah 26:3



Christmas
John 8:12



Week 3
Psalm 16:11



Week 4
1 John 4:19



Hope flame



Peace flame



Christ flame



Joy flame



Love flame

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

PSALM 119:105 (KJV)

Light a Candle, Color a Flame

Each evening you light your Advent candles or read the verse together, color the flame for that day. Sundays are the big days: one new candle each week.

● Hope week 1	SUN Nov 29	MON Nov 30	TUE Dec 1	WED Dec 2	THU Dec 3	FRI Dec 4	SAT Dec 5
	SUN Dec 6	MON Dec 7	TUE Dec 8	WED Dec 9	THU Dec 10	FRI Dec 11	SAT Dec 12
	SUN Dec 13	MON Dec 14	TUE Dec 15	WED Dec 16	THU Dec 17	FRI Dec 18	SAT Dec 19
	SUN Dec 20	MON Dec 21	TUE Dec 22	WED Dec 23			
○ Christ Christmas					THU Dec 24 Christmas Eve	FRI Dec 25 Christmas Day	

Dates are for Advent 2026. In any year, Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day.

OUR FAMILY'S ADVENT

This Advent we are waiting and praying for: _____

Someone we will show God's love to: _____

Our favorite Christmas carol this year: _____

"My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him."

PSALM 62:5 (KJV)



The Light Has Come

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING FOR YOUR FAMILY

"The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace."

NUMBERS 6:24-26 (KJV)

Thank you for keeping Advent together. Leave the wreath out through Christmas Day, keep your colored tracker as a family keepsake, and next year start again on the fourth Sunday before Christmas.

KEEP GOD'S WORD CLOSE IN THE NEW YEAR

SOAP Bible Study Journal

Read, notice, live and pray one passage at a time. A gentle way to keep reading after Christmas.

byscripture.com/shop/soap-bible-study-journal/

30-Day Prayer Journal

One guided page a day for praise, requests, the people you pray for and answered prayers.

byscripture.com/shop/30-day-prayer-journal/

Learn the Advent verses by heart: Scripture Memory Cards at byscripture.com/shop/scripture-memory-cards/
All three together: the ByScripture Starter Bundle at byscripture.com/shop/starter-bundle/

ALSO FREE FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

25-Day Advent Reading Plan (one reading a day, Dec 1-25): byscripture.com/free-advent-reading-plan/

12 free Christian Christmas coloring pages: byscripture.com/free-christian-christmas-coloring-pages/

Christmas Bible trivia with KJV answer key: byscripture.com/free-christmas-bible-trivia/

12 Days of Christmas Scripture cards: byscripture.com/free-christmas-bible-verse-printables/

Christmas gift tags with Bible verses: byscripture.com/free-christmas-gift-tags-printable/

8 Christmas Bible word search puzzles: byscripture.com/free-christmas-word-search-printable/

Bible verses about Advent (KJV): byscripture.com/bible-verses-about-advent/

A prayer for Christmas morning. Father, thank You for the gift of Your Son. Thank You for the hope, the peace, the joy and the love we remembered around our wreath. Help our family to carry the light of Jesus into the new year. In His name, amen.

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