

Send

Getting ready for Christmas

Jesus told a story to help his disciples get ready for his coming. Jesus wants us to get ready for his coming, too. Praying is one way we can get ready for Christmas.



Ask someone to help you write a prayer of thanks to God.



Dear God, please help me get ready for Jesus' birthday by talking to you. Amen

This week

Every day, thank God for something good that happened that day.



gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent means “coming.” During Advent we get ready and wait for Jesus to come. What’s different in your worship space today? What colors do you see? Do you see an Advent wreath? What color are the candles? Is one candle burning?

Color and light one candle here.



The fig tree

Luke 21:25-36

Jesus told a story to his friends. In the winter, many trees have no leaves. But in the springtime their leaves begin to appear. These new green leaves show that summer is near. This is one sign that God's kingdom is coming. Look around you: Jesus is coming. Get ready!



Unscramble these words to find ways you can get ready for Jesus. Write one word inside each fig leaf.

apry _____ rashe _____

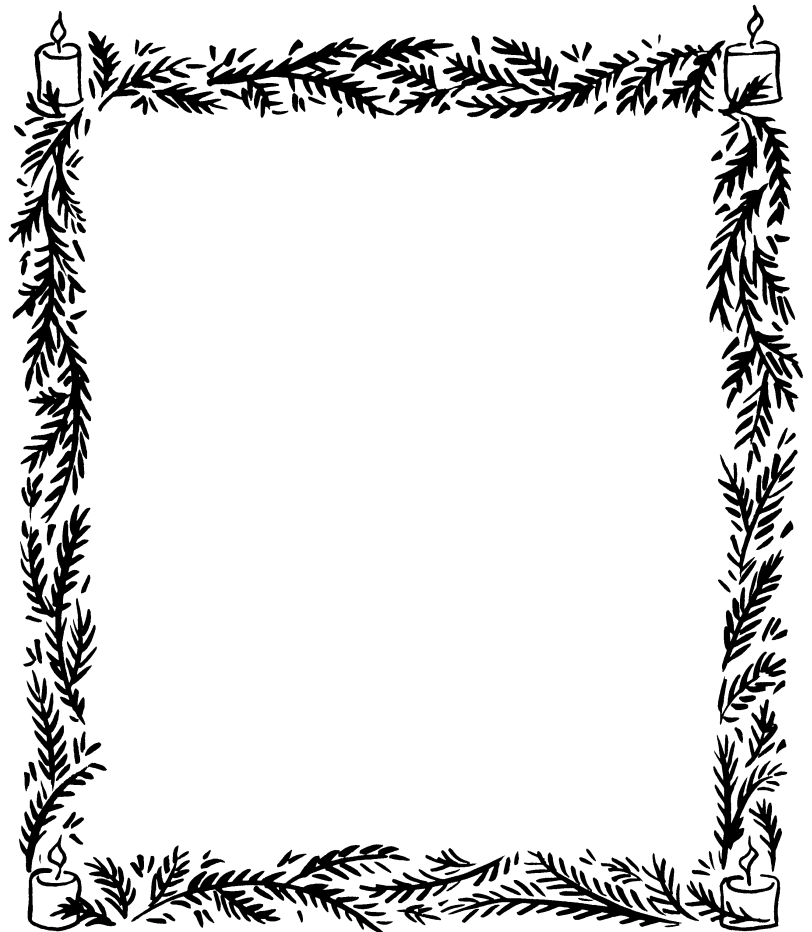
gism _____ sipwroh _____

The Advent wreath

The Advent wreath has four candles to remind us of the four weeks we wait for Jesus' birthday. The circle of the wreath reminds us of God's never-ending love. A circle has no beginning or ending.



Look around you. Where do you see circles?
How many can you find?



Draw your church's Advent wreath in the space above.

Decorate for Advent

Below is a picture of a sanctuary. During Advent, many churches decorate their worship spaces. Decorate this sanctuary for Advent using the ideas provided below or ideas you see in your own worship space.

Candles
Wreath

Garland
Blue stole on pastor
Blue cloth on altar

Blue cloth on lectern
Christmas tree

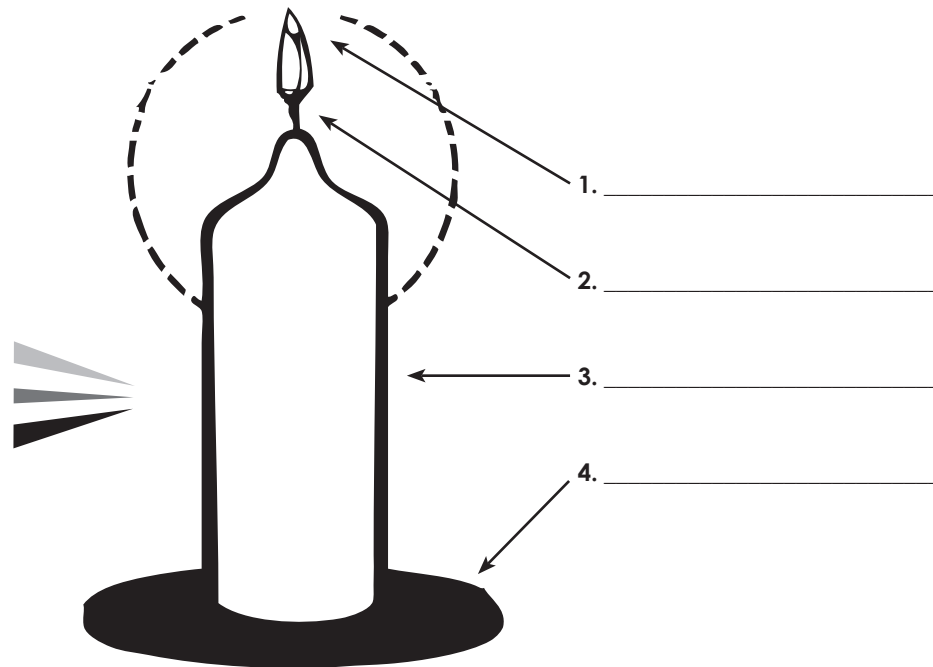


- Today is the **first** Sunday in **Advent**.
- The color of Advent is **blue**.
- During Advent we wait for God's **promise of Jesus**.

Break It Down

In Advent, the church uses candles to count the Sundays until Christmas. Do you know the parts of a candle? Use the clues to fill in the candle diagram.

1. The lit part that gives off warmth and light
2. The long string or cord that holds the candle's flame
3. A sticky, yellow substance used by bees to make honeycombs. (It's also found in your ears!)
4. The plate (usually metal) on which candles stand.



Learn Some Pig-Latin!

Want to learn a new language? Try Pig Latin! To speak Pig Latin, simply take the first letter of the word and move it to the end of the word. Then add the "ay" sound to the letter you moved. However if the word begins with a vowel, then just put -AY at the end.

Example: Pig Latin is fun!

Pig Latin: Igpay Atinlay isay unfay!

Now translate today's memory verse into Pig latin! To check your work, see the answer below.

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths."

Pig Latin Translation: _____

Answer: Akemay meay olay nowkay ouryay aysway, Ohay
ordlay : eachtay meay ouryay aithspay.



-Psalm 25:4

Do the Math

Draw a line from each description to the correct number.

Week of Advent	365
Number of total weeks of Advent	1
Number of books in the Bible	66
Number of days a year that Jesus loves you	4

I Promise

Today's reading talks about God fulfilling a promise to us. God promises to send his son Jesus because God loves us so much. What are some promises that you want to make to those that you love? Brainstorm your promises below.

I promise to my friend: _____

I promise to my teacher: _____

I promise to my family: _____

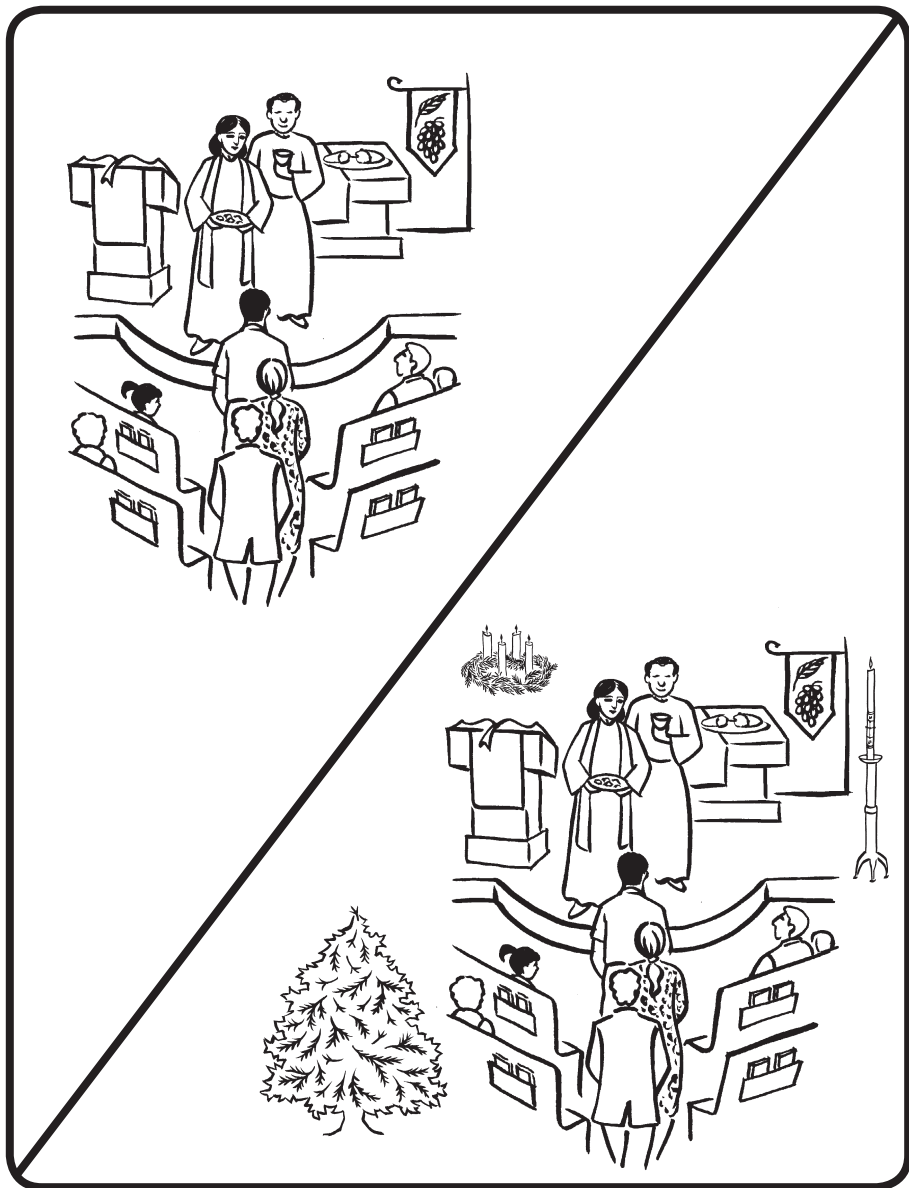
I promise to God: _____

I promise to my church: _____



For different seasons in the church, your worship space might look different. Below are two sanctuaries. One looks like the ordinary time of the church year. The other is decorated for Advent.

Find the differences and circle them.

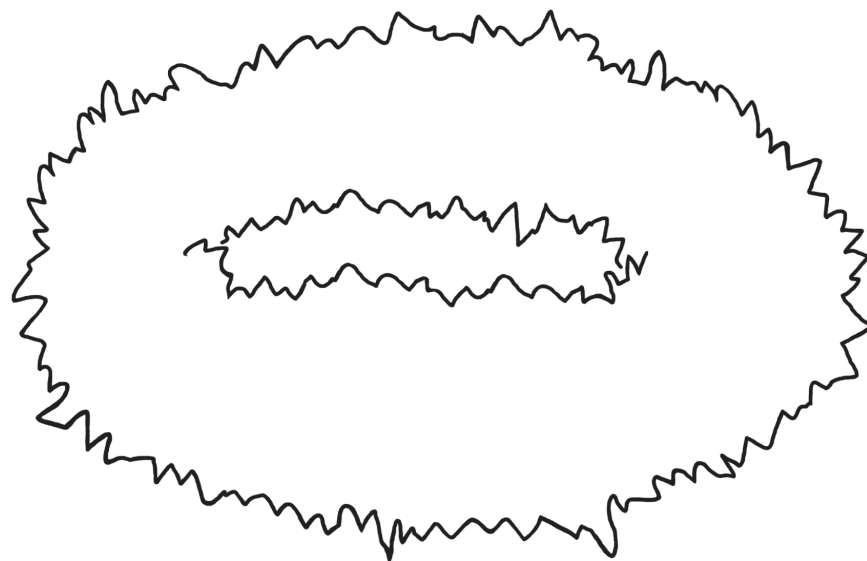


PRE-READER

Advent 1

- Today is the **first Sunday** in **Advent**.
- The color we use for Advent is **blue**.
- Advent is the season when we prepare for the **coming of Jesus!**

In Advent, we use candles to count the Sundays until Christmas. Draw four candles on the wreath below. Then color the candles and the wreath.





God will send a leader from King David's family, and he will be a good ruler!

Jeremiah told people that some good news was coming. You can share the good news of Jesus, too!

Color in the picture of yourself at the START of the maze. Then complete the maze to help you get the good news to your friends!

