

## Advent wreath

The Advent wreath symbolizes the Christian journey through Advent. It can be made of fresh greenery, fake greenery, or no greenery and simply placing the candles in a circle. There are five candles, traditionally, three purple, one pink, and a white candle in the center. The candles can be real or battery, whatever works best for you.

Christians use the Advent candles to celebrate this period with one lit every Sunday of advent, so that during the last week of advent all the candles are lit. The last candle, the central candle, represents Christ and is lit on Christmas day. You may remember seeing the advent wreath hanging near the altar at church each advent season.



### Advent Prayers

(BCP pages 598-599)

#### Advent Week 1: Purple candle themed for HOPE

Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

*Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

#### Advent Week 2: Two purple candles, the candle from Advent wk 1 and now another themed for PEACE

Peace is like a light comforting and protecting us in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

*Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Advent Week 3:** Two purple candles, and now the Rose pink candle themed for JOY

Joy keeps the darkness at bay. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

*Oh Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Advent Week 4:** Light the two purple candles, the Rose pink candle and now the purple candle of LOVE

We love because He first loved us. As we look at this candle, we celebrate the love we have in Christ.

*Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*














**Christmas Day:** All candles are lit, including the white candle in the middle

The fifth candle represents the birth of Christ. The flame of this candle reminds us that He is the light of the world and that if we follow him, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

*Almighty God, you have given your only- begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born (this day) of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

# Advent 2020

## St Matthias Parish Walk Through Advent Together

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 HOPE 	30	1 	2	3	4 	5 
6 PEACE 	7 	8	9 	10	11 	12
13 JOY 	14	15 	16	17 	18	19 
20 LOVE 	21	22 	23	24 	25 Merry Christmas 	

And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.

Matthew 2:6

## St Matthias Walk Through Advent Together

The St Matthias ACW invites you and your family to walk through Advent together as a church family. Below you will see a daily Advent activity. Mark your calendar as you complete the daily activity and know that we are celebrating this season together. Participate as much as you are able.

Before we start: Prepare your Advent wreath.

**Nov 29-** Light a purple candle for hope and pray the advent prayer (*See prayer on pg 2*)

Nov 30- Donate something to charity (i.e. food, clothing, monetary, etc)

Dec 1- Pray for someone's needs

Dec 2- Reflecting on this week's Advent prayer, spend time today considering how Jesus has brought us hope

Dec 3- Send a Christmas card to someone special

Dec 4- Watch a Christmas movie

Dec 5- Bake your favorite holiday treat and join us for a social visit on Zoom (invite to follow)

**Dec 6-**Light a purple candle for peace and pray the advent prayer.

Dec 7- Listen to faith inspired music

Dec 8- Pass the peace to someone

Dec 9- Write a letter to God or make a list about the ways God has been faithful this year

Dec 10- Start the day by spending time resting in God's peace

Dec 11- Drive or walk and look at Christmas lights

Dec 12- Have or drop off breakfast or lunch to a friend or neighbor

**Dec 13-** Light the rose candle for joy and pray the advent prayer

Dec 14- Take a walk or look outside observing those things God created that bring you joy

Dec 15- Listen to Christmas music

Dec 16- Make a list of things about St Matthias Anglican Church that bring you joy

Dec 17- Read Isaiah 9:2-7

Dec 18- Call a friend or relative spreading Advent joy

Dec 19- Ugly Christmas sweater social hour Zoom party (invite to follow)

**Dec 20-** Light a purple candle for love and pray the advent prayer.

Dec 21- Practice forgiveness

Dec 22 Read Luke 2:1-20 and pray about how you can follow the shepherds' example and spread the good news about Jesus' birth.

Dec 23 Smile at someone live or on zoom

Dec 24- Attend the Christmas Eve services live or on zoom

Dec 25- Light the white candle and say the prayer for Christmas day

## St Matthias Kid Advent Chain

- Nov 29-** With you parents, light a purple candle and pray the advent prayer for hope
- Nov 30- Donate one of your gently used toys to children who don't have toys
- Dec 1- Say a prayer today for your brother, sister, mother or father
- Dec 2- Color a picture for Jesus today and put it on your fridge.
- Dec 3- Make a homemade Christmas card to share with someone
- Dec 4- Watch a Christmas movie with your parents.
- Dec 5- Bake your favorite holiday treat and join us for a social visit on Zoom
- Dec 6-With your parents light a purple candle and pray the advent prayer for peace
- Dec 7- Read or listen to a Christmas book
- Dec 8- Pass the peace with someone
- Dec 9- Draw a picture for God
- Dec 10- Do something nice for your mom and dad today
- Dec 11- Drive or walk and look at Christmas lights with your parents
- Dec 12- Clean your room without being asked
- Dec 13- With your parents, light the rose candle and pray the advent prayer for joy
- Dec 14- Take a walk or look outside observing those things God created that bring you joy
- Dec 15- Listen to Christmas music
- Dec 16- Do something nice for your brother or sister
- Dec 17- Make hot cocoa together.
- Dec 18- Play a game with your family.
- Dec 19- Ugly Christmas sweater social hour zoom party (invite to follow).
- Dec 20- With your parents, light candle and pray the advent prayer for love
- Dec 21- Show forgiveness to your sibling by giving them a hug
- Dec 22- Listen to your parents read Luke 2:1-20.
- Dec 23- Smile at someone live or on zoom
- Dec 24- Light a candle and sing Silent Night with your family
- Dec 25 Light all the candles with your parents and after the prayer sing Happy Birthday to Jesus.