

# ADVENT 2025 AT THE BRIDGE

Advent is a season of preparing. We don't just prepare our homes with lights, trees, and traditions—we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ.

This December, our church family will journey together through four weeks of reflection and response, asking: ***What does it mean to make room for Jesus this Christmas?***

Each week, we'll focus on a theme in service and invite you to carry it into your home. Use this guide to light a candle on the Advent wreath, read Scripture, and pray together—whether as a family, with friends, or in your own quiet time.

As we do this in many homes, we are united as one church, preparing together for the celebration of Christ's coming.

## **Extra Resources to Help You Follow Along:**

1. Daily Devotional Plan: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/13415-making-space-an-advent-devotional>
2. Families with Young Children: <https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/ideas-for-celebrating-advent-as-a-family>

## **Advent Candles at Home**

1. You don't need a formal Advent wreath to follow along. Here are a few simple options:
2. Use five candles (four for each Sunday of Advent, plus one for Christmas Eve/Day if you'd like).
3. Place them in a circle (like a wreath), line them up on your table, or set them wherever your family gathers.
4. Any candles will work—tea lights, jar candles, or a simple set you can order online.

***Tip: If you'd like a traditional Advent wreath, you can find many options locally or on Amazon.***

## **WEEK ONE: NOVEMBER 30**

Theme: The Promise of His Coming

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

*“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.”*

Long before Bethlehem, God promised a Savior. Advent begins with anticipation—the reminder that God always keeps His word. As we step into this season, we pause to recognize the waiting, the longing, and the hope fulfilled in Jesus.

### **At Home Practice:**

- Light the first Advent candle (Hope).
- Read Isaiah 9:2, 6–7 together.
- Pray: *“Lord, as we begin Advent, we remember Your promise and place our hope in You. Prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus.”*
- Reflection question: Where in your life do you need the light of Christ’s hope right now?

## **WEEK TWO: DECEMBER 7**

Theme: Preparing Room

Scripture: Luke 2:1–7

*“...and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”*

Jesus came, but people weren’t ready. Advent asks us: will we make room for Him? Preparing room means clearing away distractions and opening our hearts to His presence.

### **At Home Practice:**

- Light the first and second candles (Hope and Preparation).
- Read Luke 2:1–7 together.
- Pray: *“Lord, help us to make space for You—in our schedules, our homes, and our hearts. We want You to be at the center this Christmas.”*
- Reflection question: What is one thing you can set aside this week to make room for Jesus?
- Legacy Offering Prayer Focus

As a church, we are praying about the Legacy Offering (December 14). Take time this week to ask God: *“What room are You asking me to make for You? How might You be inviting me to prepare a gift that will build Your Kingdom?”*

## **WEEK THREE: DECEMBER 14**

Theme: Bringing Our Best

Scripture: Matthew 2:1–12

*“On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts...”*

The magi remind us that preparing for Jesus leads to giving. Not out of obligation, but out of worship. True joy is found when we offer our best—our time, our talents, and our treasures—to the King.

### **At Home Practice:**

- Light the first three candles (Hope, Preparation, and Joy).
- Read Matthew 2:1–12 together.
- Pray: *“Lord, we offer You our best. May our gifts—our worship, our time, and our giving—bring glory to You.”*
- Reflection question: What is a meaningful gift you can bring to Jesus this week—through generosity, service, or worship?

## **WEEK FOUR: DECEMBER 21**

Theme: Heaven Came Down

Scripture: Isaiah 7:14 & John 1:14

*“...The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”*

*“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.”*

Heaven came down. God didn’t stay far away—He came near. Advent ends with celebration: Christ has come, and we are sent to share this good news with the world.

### **At Home Practice:**

- Light all four candles (Hope, Preparation, Joy, and Love).
- Read Isaiah 7:14 and John 1:14 together.
- Pray: *“Lord, thank You for coming near. As we celebrate Your birth, send us out with Your light and love to the world around us.”*
- Reflection question: Who can you share the good news of Jesus with this Christmas?