

# ADVENT 2021

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ourney through every day this Advent season, discovering all the places where God meets us with the promise of freedom, joy, and life in the birth of Jesus, the Christ!



**1**  
Advent! The start of a new church year! We remember Christ's birth and look for the resurrected Christ to come into our hearts in new ways. Light one candle. Read Luke 21:25-28.

**2**  
God's advent, or coming in Christ, will not always be gentle. Read Luke 21:25-28 again. For courage this week, pray this breath prayer: **stand up / raise your head**

**3**  
Collect warm socks, thermal underwear, and winter gloves for the Homeless Ministry or order them online and have them delivered to the church.

**4**  
Listen to Barbara Brown Taylor's Advent sermon on Luke 21:25-28. The sermon begins at 24:15. <https://tinyurl.com/3dz237a7>

**5**  
The second Sunday of Advent. Light two candles and read Luke 3:1-6. The promise of salvation comes from wilderness. What has been a wilderness experience for you?

**6**  
Read, pray, or sing hymn #243 in the ELW, "Lost in the Night." How does it speak to your journey today?

**7**  
Read Mark 13:1-8. We see signs of distress and confusion in our daily journeys, and we search for signs of God's activity along the way. What signs have gotten your attention today?

**8**  
Read Baruch 5:1-9. Close your eyes, and imagine yourself taking off any affliction or sorrow you feel, as if it were a garment. Imagine then God clothing you in glory. Pray this breath prayer: **God leads / with joy and mercy**

**9**  
Read, pray, or sing hymn #248 in the ELW, "People, Look East." Let it train your eyes on signs of hope today.

**10**  
Make a donation of hand lotion, lip balm, feminine hygiene products and toilet paper to the Food Pantry, or order them online and have them delivered to the church.

**11**  
Listen to "Be Still, My Soul" performed by VOCES8. May this prayer bring peace to today's journey. <https://tinyurl.com/vbw3wva9>

**12**  
The third Sunday of Advent. Light three candles and read Luke 3:7-18. John the Baptist tells us how we can prepare for Christ's coming. What does the journey require of you today?

**13**  
Read Malachi 3:1-4. Many Advent texts give us images of the refining fire of purification. What associations do you have with fire? How might they open you to the purifying power of Christ's spirit?

**14**  
Read, pray, or sing hymn #252, "Each Winter As the Year Grows Older." Pray this breath prayer: **I am baptized / with spirit and fire.**

**15**  
Read Luke 1:68-79 aloud, slowly, several times. What phrase speaks to you? What feeling does it give? Strength? Peace? Hope? Sit silently in the blessing of the phrase and the feeling.

**16**  
Listen to "The Road Home," by VOCES8. Let it comfort you in the knowledge that the Advent journey is the road home, the road to Christ, to God, to love. <https://tinyurl.com/6v3dnckw>

**17**  
Make a donation of shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste to the Food Pantry, or order them online and have them delivered to the church.

**18**  
Listen to James Finley's Advent meditation. <https://tinyurl.com/56jhpt2y>

**19**  
The fourth Sunday of Advent. Light four candles and read Luke 1:39-55. Listen to the Magnificat from Holden Evening Prayer. <https://tinyurl.com/ytudwze>

**20**  
Read, pray, or sing the words of hymn #258 in the ELW, "Unexpected and Mysterious." Reflect on "the momentary meeting of eternity and time." How is this mystery being revealed to you today?

**21**  
The Advent journey is almost over. "A promise lives within you now." Listen to "May It Be," performed by VOCES8. <https://tinyurl.com/4js8wetw>

**22**  
Read Zephaniah 3:14-20. What words or images speak to your journey today? Sit quietly with them. Pray the breath prayer: **I will/bring you home.**

**23**  
Listen to Fr. Richard Rohr's Advent meditation on the coming of the Universal Christ. <https://tinyurl.com/472ucakv>

**24**  
Listen to "The Deer's Cry" performed by VOCES8. Lyrics from St. Brendan's breastplate. Meditate on Christ in, with, and before you, the fulfillment of your journey. <https://tinyurl.com/29z4s5wd>

**25**  
Christmas Day! Light five candles, read John 1:1-14. Pray this breath prayer: **the light shines in the darkness/and the darkness did not overcome it.**

