

**“Tidings of Comfort and Joy”**  
**An Advent Wreath Liturgy**  
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This Advent wreath liturgy is inspired by the Psalms for Advent in the [Revised Common Lectionary \(Year A\)](#) and the lyrics of the classic Christmas carol, “[God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen](#).” Special care was used to present expansive language for God and inclusive language for humankind. The candle names follow a traditional pattern of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Faith.

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<b>Occasion</b>	<b>The Advent Wreath Candle</b>	<b>Psalm Text</b>	<b>Carol</b>
Advent I	Lighting the Candle of Hope	<a href="#">Psalm 122</a>	Verse 1
Advent II	Lighting the Candle of Peace	<a href="#">Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19</a>	Verse 2
Advent III	Lighting the Candle of Joy	<a href="#">Psalm 146:5-10</a>	Verse 3
Advent IV	Lighting the Candle of Faith	<a href="#">Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19</a>	Verse 4
Christmas Eve	Lighting the Christ Candle	<a href="#">Psalm 96</a>	Verse 5

### **Advent I**

We gather in the season of Advent, a season of Hope.

Let us be glad in that which binds us firmly together.  
Peace prevails in this place. Peace be within you.  
God keeps our merriness up and turns us from dismay.  
We await the one to be born, the one who saves.  
Tidings of comfort and joy fill the winter air.

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Hope.  
For the sake of the LORD, let us seek out the good of God!  
May Hope light up this world. **Amen.**

### **Advent II**

We gather in the season of Advent, a season of Peace.

On the mountains and in the grass, through the sun and the rain,  
Blessed be the LORD who defends, delivers, does wondrous things.  
God sends news from the heavens to the shepherds.  
The name they speak throughout the land is a blessing to all.  
Tidings of comfort and joy fill the winter air.

On this second Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Peace.  
Blessed be the name of God forever and fill the whole earth!  
May Peace light up this world. **Amen.**

### **Advent III**

We gather in the season of Advent, a season of Joy.

God who made heaven and earth and keeps faith forever,  
champion justice, uplift the forgotten, bring freedom to all.  
In the tempest storm and wind, your message remains clear.  
We rejoice in this journey to seek the holy around us.  
Tidings of comfort and joy fill the winter air.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Joy.  
The LORD is here forever, known for all generations!  
May Joy light up this world. **Amen.**

### **Advent IV**

We gather in the season of Advent, a season of Faith.

A vision shines bright and stirs something in us.  
God knows our name, gives us life, bears our pains.  
We pray to the Spirit and find what we are looking for.  
We discover a Savior not in the palace, but in the manger.  
Tidings of comfort and joy fill the winter air.

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Faith.  
Restore us, save us, reveal to us your face, O LORD!  
May Faith light up this world. **Amen.**

### **Christmas Eve**

We gather in the season of Advent, a season of Love.

Sing with praise, give thanks for beauty and sanctuary.  
Sing of God's marvelous works among all the peoples.  
Sing praises to the LORD, all you within this place.  
Embrace one another in love and kinship forever.  
Tidings of comfort and joy fill the winter air.

On this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ Candle.  
The Son of the LORD is here with truth and righteousness!  
May Christ light up this world. **Amen.**