

ADVENT

WHAT IS ADVENT?

Advent is the first season on the liturgical calendar and is like the "New Year's Day" of the Christian calendar. It is the season of preparation before Christmas - while we wait, we remember what it would have been like to wait and wonder as history longed for a Messiah. It is the ongoing realization of daily inviting the Holy Spirit into our lives and making room for Christ. Advent is the season of expectancy, preparation and longing. Advent also recognizes the tension of the 'right now' state of life and the 'not yet' of waiting for the work of redemption to be finished when Jesus comes again.

Shadow & Light, Tsh Oxenreider

MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH

Advent wreaths come in many shapes and forms. Some have three purple and one pink candle, some are all red or all white. Some have four candles - one for each week and some have five, adding one for Christmas Day. Often there is some type of greenery around the candles. You can make it as elaborate or as simple as you like but an Advent wreath is a reminder of the upcoming celebration of Christmas as we move through the Advent season. It reminds us to prepare our hearts, to look inward at our relationship with God. The traditional themes for each week are: hope, peace, joy, and love.

IDEAS FOR YOUR OWN WREATH

[Advent Wreath](#)
[Family Friendly Craft](#)

