



Called to Wonder

Are You waiting for Christmas?

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Now that it is December, most people are thinking of Christmas! Everywhere we look we see signs of Christmas—especially at the mall! But it is actually not the Christmas Season yet.

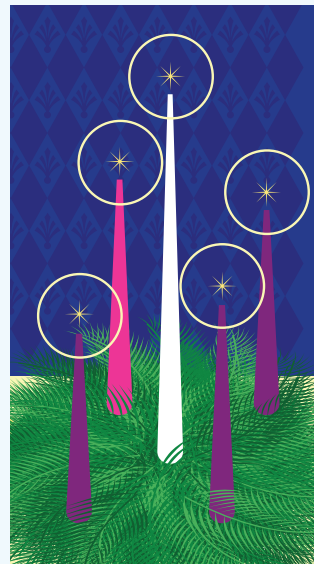
We are in the season of waiting for Christmas. This special season is called “Advent,” which means coming or arrival. If you think waiting for Christmas is hard, imagine how the Israelites felt waiting 500 years for the birth of Jesus—talk about patience!!!

The season of Advent starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. This year, Advent is Dec. 2 to Dec. 24.

Special things YOU can do this Advent season...

- 1. MAKE A JESSE TREE** JUST GOOGLE “ MAKING A JESSE TREE” AND TONS OF RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE.
- 2. VOLUNTEER** TO BE AN ADVENT LITANY READER AT YOUR CHURCH.
- 3. KEEP AN ADVENT CALENDAR** AT HOME TO OPEN DAILY WITH YOUR FAMILY.

The Advent Wreath



You may have noticed an Advent Wreath has appeared in your church. The circle of the wreath reminds us of God Himself; his eternity and endless mercy which has no beginning or end. The candles each represent something Jesus would bring into the world with his birth. Unscramble the following words to reveal each of the candles we light on the advent wreath during this season:

- PEOH** _____
- ACPEE** _____
- OYJ** _____
- LVOE** _____
- RISHCT** _____

The location of the Christ candle reminds us that the incarnation of Christ is the heart of the season, giving light to the world. The light of the candles reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world that comes into the darkness of our lives.