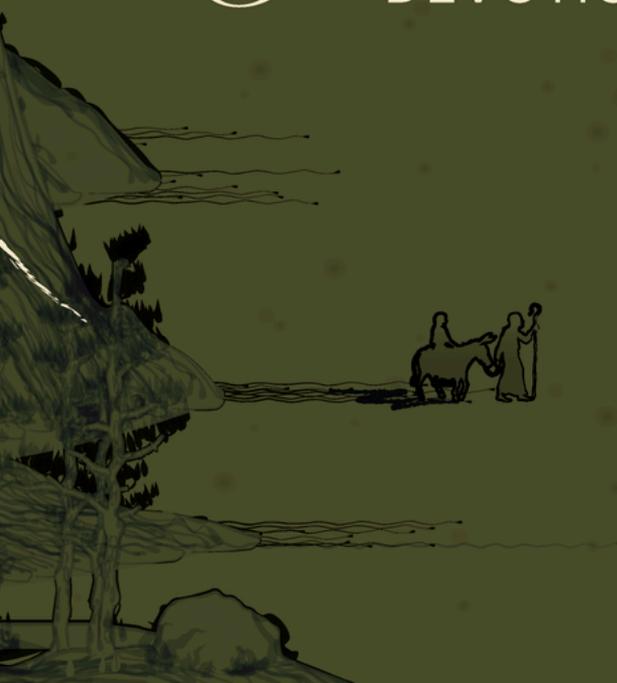


ADVENT

DEVOTIONAL



Celebrating Advent

Advent is a season of anticipation that anchors Christians in the hope of both Christ's first and second coming. We remember His first coming in Bethlehem, where God fulfilled His promise of a Savior (Isaiah 7:14; Luke 2:10–11). At the same time, we look ahead to His return, when He will renew all things and establish His righteous kingdom forever (John 14:3; Revelation 22:12). Advent calls believers to wait with longing, live with readiness, and walk in the light of Christ, celebrating what God has already accomplished while eagerly expecting the glory still to come.

Waiting for the King

Isaiah 9:6

Big Idea

Israel waited for centuries for the Messiah. Waiting on God shapes our faith.

Reflection

- Where in your life are you waiting on God right now?
- Do you see waiting as wasted, or as preparation?
- What does Israel's waiting teach you about God's timing?
- How can waiting increase your hope in Christ?

Action

- Write about a time when waiting grew your faith.
- Pray about an area you're waiting on and surrender it to God.
- Write a hope you're carrying this Advent.

God's Forever Plan

Genesis 3:15

Big Idea

From the beginning, God planned redemption through Jesus.

Reflection

- Are you encouraged that salvation was always God's plan?
- When do you struggle to trust God's plan?
- How does His eternal plan differ from your temporary ones?
- What does this teach you about His love?

Action

- Write about a time when God's plan surprised you.
- Pray through something you can't control.
- Journal about how Christ's birth fits into the story of Scripture.

Hope Is Coming

Psalm 27:13–14

Big Idea

True hope is found only in Christ, not in temporary things.

Reflection

- In what do you usually place your hope?
- How do you respond when those things let you down?
- How is Christ's hope different from worldly hope?
- How could believing this change your daily choices?

Action

- Write about a false hope you've held onto.
- Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for Christ's hope.
- Journal how you can share hope this week.

The Light Shines

Isaiah 60:1

Big Idea

Jesus brings light into the world's darkness.

Reflection

- Where do you see darkness in the world today?
- How has Jesus' light shined in your own life?
- What does it mean to "walk in the light"?
- How can you reflect His light to others?

Action

- Write about a time when Jesus gave you clarity in confusion.
- List areas in your life that need His light.
- Journal a prayer asking to be a light-bearer.

God Chooses Mary

Luke 1:30–31

Big Idea

God chose an ordinary girl for His extraordinary plan.

Reflection

- Why do you think God chose Mary?
- How do you think Mary felt about her calling?
- What does her example teach you about obedience?
- How might God want to use you in His plan?

Action

- Write about a time God asked you to trust Him with something that scared you.
- Journal a prayer of surrender to God's will.
- Reflect on where God might be calling you to serve Him.

Joseph's Obedience

Matthew 1:20–21

Big Idea

Joseph trusted God even when it didn't make sense.

Reflection

- How do you think Joseph felt when he first heard the news?
- Why is obedience to God sometimes difficult?
- What can Joseph's faith teach you about trusting God?
- Where do you need to obey God today?

Action

- Write about a time when obedience was costly but worth it.
- Pray about an area where you need courage to obey.
- Journal how obedience leads to peace.

Good News for the World

Luke 2:10

Big Idea

The angel announced good news of great joy—for all people.

Reflection

- Why do you think the angels told shepherds first?
- What does “good news for all people” mean to you?
- How does this show God’s heart for everyone?
- Who in your life needs to hear this good news?

Action

- Write the names of people you want to pray for this Advent.
- Journal about the joy of hearing the gospel.
- Write a prayer for courage to share Jesus with someone.

Peace on Earth

Luke 2:14

Big Idea

Jesus came to bring peace with God and peace within us.

Reflection

- What does peace mean to you?
- How does Jesus bring peace between us and God?
- Where do you need His peace in your life right now?
- How can you bring peace into your relationships?

Action

- Write about a time you felt God's peace in chaos.
- List areas where you want to experience His peace.
- Pray for peace in your family, friends, and community.

Joy in the Savior

Luke 2:20

Big Idea

The shepherds rejoiced when they met Jesus.

Reflection

- What brings you joy right now?
- How is joy different from happiness?
- Why does Jesus bring lasting joy?
- How can you celebrate Jesus daily?

Action

- Write a list of blessings you're thankful for.
- Journal about the difference Jesus makes in your joy.
- Pray for joy that isn't shaken by circumstances.

Guided by the Star

Matthew 2:10–11

Big Idea

The wise men followed God's sign and found Jesus.

Reflection

- How did the wise men show faith?
- What does it mean to seek Jesus today?
- What “signs” point you back to God?
- What can you give Him as your worship?

Action

- Write about what you would bring to Jesus if you were there.
- Journal a prayer of thanksgiving for His guidance.
- Reflect on how you can seek Him daily.

A Refugee King

Matthew 2:13–14

Big Idea

Jesus' family fled to Egypt. He knows what it means to be vulnerable.

Reflection

- How does it comfort you that Jesus experienced hardship?
- What does this show about God's humility?
- How can you trust Him in your struggles?
- How should Christians care for the vulnerable?

Action

- Write about a time you felt out of place and how God met you.
- Journal a prayer for refugees and the hurting today.
- Reflect on how Jesus' life shows empathy for us.

The Word Became Flesh

John 1:14

Big Idea

Jesus, God Himself, came to live among us.

Reflection

- What does it mean that God became human?
- Why is it important that Jesus understands our struggles?
- How does His presence bring you comfort?
- How can you live differently because of this truth?

Action

- Write a prayer of thankfulness for God's nearness.
- Journal about times when you've felt God's presence.
- Reflect on how Jesus' life shows empathy for us.

Emmanuel: God with Us

Matthew 1:23

Big Idea

God is not far away—He came near through Jesus.

Reflection

- How does knowing God is with you change how you face challenges?
- What makes you feel distant from God?
- How does Emmanuel give you courage?
- How can you remind yourself of His presence this week?

Action

- Write about a moment you felt God close to you.
- Journal a prayer of praise for Emmanuel.
- List 3 ways you can stay aware of His presence daily.

Jesus Our Shepherd

John 10:11

Big Idea

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep.

Reflection

- How does a shepherd care for sheep?
- What does it mean that Jesus is your Shepherd?
- Where do you need His guidance right now?
- How do you hear His voice in your life?

Action

- Write about an area where you need God's direction.
- Journal a prayer thanking Jesus for protecting you.
- Reflect on what it means to belong to His flock.

Jesus Our Savior

Matthew 1:21

Big Idea

Jesus came to save us from our sins.

Reflection

- What does “Savior” mean to you?
- Why is sin something we can’t fix on our own?
- How does it change your life knowing Jesus saves completely?
- How would you explain salvation to a friend?

Action

- Write a thank-you prayer for Jesus’ forgiveness.
- Journal about how salvation changes your identity.
- Reflect on how you can share the gospel with others.

The Humble King

Philippians 2:6–7

Big Idea

Jesus, though God, chose humility and came as a servant.

Reflection

- How is Jesus' humility different from worldly power?
- Why is humility powerful?
- Where can you practice humility in your life?
- How can Christ's example shape how you treat others?

Action

- Write about someone you admire for their humility.
- Pray for humility in your relationships.
- Reflect on ways to serve others this week.

God's Great Love

John 3:16

Big Idea

God loved the world so much He sent His Son.

Reflection

- What does God's love mean to you personally?
- Why is Jesus the greatest gift of love?
- How does His love change the way you see yourself?
- How can you love others more like God loves you?

Action

- Write a prayer of thankfulness for God's love.
- Journal about a time you felt deeply loved by God.
- List ways you can show love this Christmas season.

The Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:6

Big Idea

Jesus brings peace into a world of chaos.

Reflection

- Where do you long for peace right now?
- How does Jesus bring peace with God?
- Why is His peace different from the world's peace?
- How can you be a peacemaker for others?

Action

- Write a prayer asking for peace in your heart.
- Journal about a relationship where you want to see peace.
- Reflect on how Christ's peace changes your outlook.

Light to the Nations

Isaiah 49:6

Big Idea

Jesus is not just for one people, but for the whole world.

Reflection

- What does it mean that Jesus is for all nations?
- How do you see God's love reaching the world today?
- Why is the gospel for everyone, not just a few?
- Who in your life needs to see this light?

Action

- Write a prayer for missionaries and global churches.
- Journal about how you can be a light where you live.
- Reflect on God's heart for the nations.

God Keeps His Promises

2 Corinthians 1:20

Big Idea

Every promise God made is fulfilled in Jesus.

Reflection

- Why is it important that God always keeps His word?
- What promises of God do you lean on most?
- How do fulfilled promises grow your trust?
- How does Jesus prove God's faithfulness?

Action

- Write a list of God's promises that encourage you.
- Journal about a time you saw His promise fulfilled.
- Pray through a promise you want to hold onto.

The Servant King

Mark 10:45

Big Idea

Jesus came not to be served, but to serve and give His life.

Reflection

- How does Jesus redefine greatness?
- Where can you serve others humbly this week?
- Why is service so powerful in God's kingdom?
- How does serving reflect Jesus' heart?

Action

- Write about a way you can serve someone this Advent.
- Pray for a servant's heart.
- Journal about how serving grows your faith.

God with the Lowly

Luke 1:52–53

Big Idea

God lifts up the humble and cares for the lowly.

Reflection

- Why did God choose to reveal Jesus to shepherds?
- How does God's kingdom flip the world's values?
- What does this show about His heart for the overlooked?
- Who are the "lowly" in your life that you can love?

Action

- Write a prayer thanking God for valuing the humble.
- Journal about ways to show kindness to the unnoticed.
- Reflect on how God values you, even when you feel small.

The Gift of Grace

Ephesians 2:8–9

Big Idea

Salvation is God's free gift of grace through Jesus.

Reflection

- What does “grace” mean to you?
- Why can't we earn salvation?
- How does grace free you from guilt or striving?
- How can you extend grace to others?

Action

- Write a prayer of thanksgiving for God's grace.
- Journal about how grace has changed your life.
- Reflect on one person you can show grace to this week.

The King Is Born

Luke 2:11

Big Idea

Jesus, the promised Savior, is here!

Reflection

- How do you think the shepherds felt hearing this announcement?
- Why is Jesus' birth still good news today?
- How do you celebrate His coming?
- How will you center Christmas on Christ this year?

Action

- Write a prayer of joy celebrating Jesus' birth.
- Journal about how His coming has changed your life.
- Reflect on how you can make Him the focus of Christmas.

Christ Our King

Revelation 11:15

Big Idea

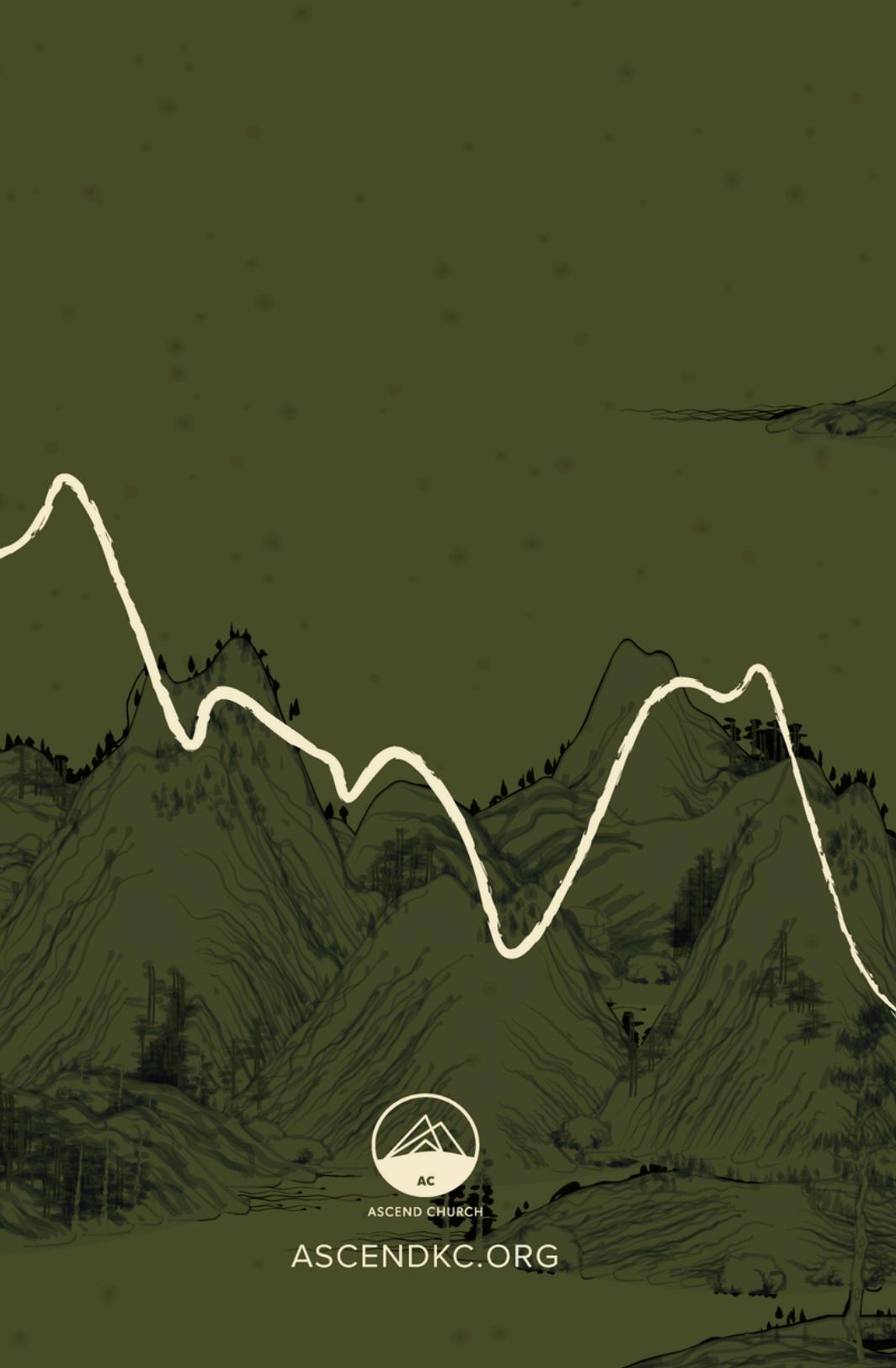
One day Jesus will return as King forever.

Reflection

- How does Advent point to Jesus' second coming?
- Why does His return give us hope?
- How should knowing this change the way you live today?
- What are you most excited about when Christ returns?

Action

- Write about what you look forward to in eternity.
- Pray for readiness and faithfulness until He comes.
- Journal a personal "Maranatha" prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus."



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