



ALL THINGS NEW

ADVENT GUIDE

ALL THINGS NEW

We live in a fast-paced world where “Out with the old, in with the new” has made the last year’s iPhone obsolete, turned Black Friday into Cyber Monday, and replaced the grocery cart with curbside pick-up, yet old Christmas traditions still remain. Despite the chaos of the season, we still find time to decorate the Christmas tree, dust off Grandma’s cookie recipe, and fill our homes with the sounds of classic Christmas carols.

Although some of the best holiday memories come from our traditions, as the family of God, the Christmas season invites us to rejoice in the new - our **new birth** through the Holy Spirit, our **new life** in Christ, our **new joy** in our reconciled relationship with God, and our **new position** as his child.

As a church, we pray that this season brings joyful memories of Christmas past, new traditions of intentionality in God’s Word, and hopeful anticipation in Christ’s long-expected return. What a joy we have that the Lord is come to “**make all things new!**”

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

To Him be the glory forever and ever,

College Park Church Fishers Staff

ADVENT MUSIC

You can't escape the sounds of the season – jingle bells, a crackling fire, the smooth cut of wrapping paper, and Christmas carols like *Silent Night*. The sounds of Christmas fill our homes, and for many of us, set the tone for the holiday season.

As we aim to set our hearts on Christ this Advent, hymns have been included in this guide to reinforce the truths found in each week's reading. Additionally, we've prepared an Advent playlist for you to listen to throughout the month.

WEEKLY HYMNS

Week 1: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

For years, God was silent, seemingly distant and forgetful. But God always keeps his promises, in his timing and in his way. The long-expected Jesus came so unexpectedly as a humble baby to a young, poor family, born in a stable to deliver us, setting us free from our slavery to sin.

Week 2: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

This Christmas hymn begins with a command- to "hark"- listen! Listen to the message of the angels, announcing the birth of a baby. But not just any baby – God became man, "veiled in flesh the Godhead see." His reason for coming- to reconcile God and man, born to keep the covenant that we broke, born to bring us life, "born to give us second birth."

Week 3: Joy to the World!

Based on Psalm 98, Watts draws us to not only celebrate the arrival of Christ as a baby, but also to anticipate with joy his second coming, when we will have a new heaven and a new earth. Rejoice with expectation of the guarantee that the "Lord is come."

Week 4: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Not only do we experience the joy from our new birth and life in and through Christ, but we also have the great blessing to receive a new position because of Christ's righteousness covering us, granting us freedom from ourselves and belonging to God's family. With this new standing as a child of God, we cannot help but shout from the mountains, "Jesus Christ is born. God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn."

ADVENT PLAYLIST

Stream the College Park Church Fishers Advent playlist on Spotify® by visiting [spotify.com](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/37i9dQZF1D10Q3W80X3W80) and searching: [Fishers Advent 2018](#).

NEW BIRTH

WEEK 1



WEEK 1: NEW BIRTH

Day 1: Numbers 21:4-9 & John 2:23-3:15

1. *How would you explain what it means to be "born again"? Have you received "new birth"?*
2. *In what way is Jesus (John 3:14-16) like the serpent and unlike the serpent in Num. 21:4-9?*

Day 2: Isaiah 49:1-7 & John 1:9-13

1. *What are some things we receive or that happen to us when we become God's child?*
2. *How is Jesus a light in darkness and a light to all nations (Isa. 49:6; John 1:9)?*

Day 3: Jeremiah 31:31-34 & 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

1. *Can you think of any ways God has brought newness into your life?*
2. *What are ways you can enjoy the Christmas season by remembering all that God is for you and has done for you through Jesus?*

Day 4: Isaiah 65:17-25 & 1 Peter 1:3-9, 22-25

1. *How does Jesus bring resurrection life to us right now?*
2. *How will Jesus bring the fullness of resurrection life to us in the future?*

Day 5: Exodus 14:10-31 & Romans 6:1-11

1. *How does new life in Christ free us from old sins and habits we were enslaved to?*
2. *Is there any trial or temptation today where you need to remember God's power is at work for you and in you?*

Day 6: Psalm 103:1-14 & 1 John 4:7-21

1. *What are some of the ways God has set his love upon us?*
2. *Are there any ways you can show God's love to others during this season?*

Day 7: Ezekiel 37:1-14 & Titus 3:1-7

1. *How can you remember today or help others remember God has washed us and made us new?*
2. *What is one dry or dead part of your life you can ask the Spirit to breathe life into today?*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley

Rowland Hugh Prichard

F C F B \flat /DC 7 /E F C Dm C F/A C 7 /G



Come, Thou long — ex - spect - ed Je - sus, Born to
Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a

6 F F/A Gm/B \flat Dm C F C F B \flat /D C 7 /E F



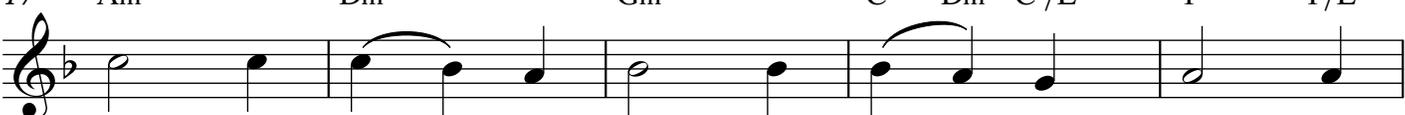
set Thy peo - ple free; From our fears — and sins re -
child and yet — a King, Born to reign — in us for -

12 C Dm C F/A C 7 /G F F/A Gm/B \flat Dm C F



lease — us; Let us find our rest — in Thee.
ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

17 Am Dm Gm C 7 Dm C 7 /E F F/E



In - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of
By Thine own — e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in

22 Dm Gm/B \flat F/A Gm B \flat C(sus 4) C F/A Gm C 7 /E



al — the earth — Thou art; Dear — de - sire — of
al — our hearts — a - lone; By — Thine all — suf -

27 F F/A C F/A B \flat F/A B \flat F/C C 7 F



ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
fi - cient mer - it Raise us to — Thy glo - rious throne.

NEW LIFE

WEEK 2



WEEK 2: NEW LIFE

Day 1: Genesis 22:1-14 & John 3:16-21

1. *Why did Jesus have to give his life so that you could have life?*
2. *How does God sending Jesus for us make Christmas a powerful time of remembrance and celebration?*

Day 2: Ezekiel 11:14-21 & John 5:19-46

1. *Can we experience new life apart from Jesus? Why or why not?*
2. *What are ways your life before and after Christ show him restoring what was broken or corrupt?*

Day 3: Exodus 16:1-12 & John 6:22-51

1. *How can we feed on Jesus and find life in him on a day-to-day basis?*
2. *What are some things you can thank God for today and with this month in mind?*

Day 4: Deuteronomy 8:1-10 & John 6:52-71

1. *How do God's words to us in the Bible give life?*
2. *What are ways we can "live on" God's Word (Deut. 8:3; John 6:63) through reading, memorization, and meditation?*

Day 5: Ezekiel 34:11-31 & John 10:17-19

1. *During this Christmas season, how can we celebrate and find joy in Jesus coming and laying down his life for us?*
2. *If you think of God as your Shepherd, what does that teach you or remind you about God and his relationship with us?*

Day 6: Isaiah 25 & John 11:17-27

1. *How does the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus give us hope and encouragement in these areas: sin, sorrow, pain, and loss?*
2. *Advent looks back at Christ's birth but also forward when all things will be made right again. Why do we need to keep the future resurrection hope in mind in this life?*

Day 7: Psalm 16 & John 17:1-5

1. *John 17:3 and Ps. 16:11 both talk about God's presence giving us true life and joy. How can you draw near to God this month?*
2. *Another role of Jesus now is the ascended High Priest. How is knowing that Jesus prays for you encouraging?*

Hark! The Herald Angel Sings

Charles Wesley

Mendelssohn

F C F C F/A B \flat F/C C F



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, - "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
Hail the heaven - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ - teous - ness!

F C Dm F/C G 7 Am G/B C C/E F G 7 C



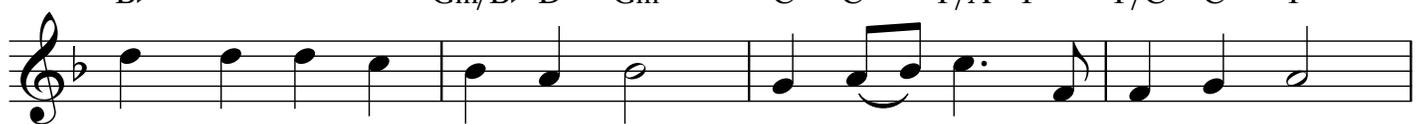
peace on earth and mer - cy mild, - God and sin - ners re - con - ciled!"
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, risen with heal - ing in His wings.

F F/A C 7 /E F C F F/A C 7 /E F C



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, - join the tri - umph of the skies; -
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; - hail in - car - nate De - i - ty, -
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, - born that we no more may die, -

B \flat Gm/B \flat D Gm C C 7 F/A F F/C C F



with an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is - born in Beth - le - hem!"
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, - our Em - man - u - el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to - give us sec - ond birth.

B \flat G/B \flat D Gm C/E C 7 F/A F F/C C 7 F



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry - to the new - born King!"



DATE FILLED COOKIES

by Melissa Crowe

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 c granulated sugar
- 1 1/4 c dates, chopped
- 3/4 c water
- 1 t vanilla extract
- 3/4 c butter, softened
- 1 1/2 c all purpose flour
- 1 1/2 c oatmeal
- 1 c light brown sugar
- 1 t baking soda
- 2 t baking powder
- 4 T milk

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Cover two cookie sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a small saucepan over medium heat combine granulated sugar, dates, and water. Bring to a boil and cook until sugar is dissolved, and mixture thickens to a jam-like consistency.
3. Remove from heat and add vanilla. Stir until combined. Set aside to cool.
4. In a large bowl combine butter, flour, oatmeal, baking soda, baking powder and milk. Mix until combined into a dough.
5. On a floured surface, roll out dough to 1/4" thickness. Using a circular cookie cutter, cut into 24 dough rounds.
6. Once date mixture has cooled, scoop a heaping teaspoon of filling onto 12 dough rounds.
7. Place remaining dough rounds on top. Using a fork, crimp the edges of the cookies together.
8. Place six cookies onto each cookie sheet. Bake for 10-12 minutes or until golden brown.

NEW JOY

WEEK 3



WEEK 3: NEW JOY

Day 1: Psalm 66 & John 3:22-30

1. *What are some things God has done for you and your family this year?*
2. *How can you place God at the center of your life this month and the upcoming year?*

Day 2: Isaiah 27:1-6 & John 15:1-11

1. *What evidence can you see that God is working in and through you?*
2. *What are some signs or symptoms in your life when you don't abide in Christ? How does that look different when you are abiding in Christ?*

Day 3: Psalm 92 & Luke 15

1. *What do you see, hear, taste, smell, and feel that you can praise God for today?*
2. *How does daily remembering God's goodness in your life help remind you about your own free gift of salvation, your "lost to found" status in and through Christ?*

Day 4: Psalm 25:1-10 & Philippians 2:1-11

1. *How is God faithfully leading you in his ways today?*
2. *As Christ models for us, how can you humbly lead others in word and action to walk alongside you in your Christian walk?*

Day 5: Psalm 32 & Philippians 4:4-9

1. *Are there any areas today where you need to confess and embrace God's great forgiveness?*
2. *How does remembrance mold and shape your and your family's prayer life to exalt God and rejoice in his goodness?*

Day 6: Isaiah 40:3-31 & John 1:19-28

1. *In the busyness of the Christmas season, how are you preparing for the greatest gift of this season, walking with our promise-keeping, God-revealing, joy-giving Savior?*
2. *How are you making room in your home and your calendar for the only One who brings true joy and celebration, our reason for this season?*

Day 7: Isaiah 41:1-20 & Luke 7:18-35

1. *What places do you go to take rest and comfort?*
2. *For this upcoming week, what do you want to intentionally do to rest and find peace in God?*

Joy To The World

Isacc Watts

Handel

D A/D G/D D Em/G D/A A⁷ D D/F#

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns; Let
 3. No more let sings and sor - rows grow, nor
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and

5 G A D G/D D

earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry
 men their songs em - ploy; While field and
 thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
 makes the na - tions prove the glo - ries

9 G/D D

heart pre - pare Him room. And and na - ture
 floods, rocks, hills and plains, re - peat the sound - ing
 make His bless - ings flow far as the curse is
 of His righ - eous - ness. And won - ders of His

13 A A⁷ D/A A

sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing. And
 joy, re - peat the sound - ing joy. Re -
 found, far as the curse is found. Far
 love, and won - ders of His love. And

16 D G/D D Em/G D/A A⁷ D

heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 -peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as, the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of His love.

NEW POSITION

WEEK 4



WEEK 4: NEW POSITION

Day 1: Genesis 3:8-15 & John 3:31-36

1. *How did Adam and Eve's relationship change with God after sinning?*
2. *How did Christ's obedience and sacrifice lead to your renewed position with God the Father?*

Day 2: Isaiah 11:1-10 & Luke 2:1-38

1. *If Jesus had never come for us, what are some ways your life would look different?*
2. *What are some things you can celebrate and thank God for as you reflect upon the coming of Jesus this Advent season?*

Day 3: Micah 5:1-9 & Matthew 1:18-2:12

1. *In Micah 5, as Israel approaches battle, where are they to find their hope and strength?*
2. *Like the wise men, how should we respond to Christ's birth?*

Day 4: Isaiah 9:2-7 & John 1:1-18

1. *What are ways Jesus has and does bring light into darkness?*
2. *How can we become lights in the darkness as we reflect the true light, Jesus?*

Day 5: Jeremiah 23:1-6 & Luke 19:1-10

1. *How seriously does God take the care of his sheep?*
2. *How does Jesus the Good Shepherd pursue his sheep? How does he protect and provide for you?*

Day 6: Psalm 51:1-12 & 1 John 1:5-2:2

1. *From Psalm 51, what are some things we desperately need from God?*
2. *Looking at 1 John 1:5-2:2, how does Jesus provide and secure what we need?*

Day 7: Jeremiah 33:1-16 & Mark 2:13-17

1. *What does God remind his people of, even during difficulties, weakness, and sin?*
2. *How is our life forever changed because of our new position in Christ?*

Go Tell It On The Mountain

F B \flat F C F



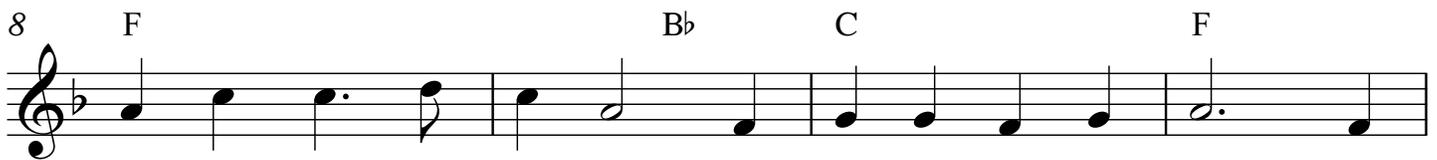
Go, tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry- where;

4 F B \flat F Dm Gm F/C C 7 F



Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born. While
The
Down

8 F B \flat C F



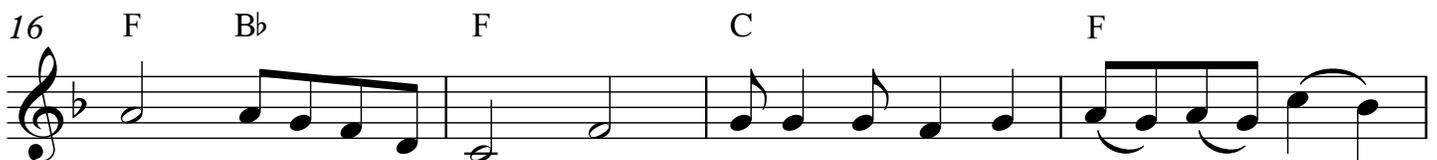
shep-herds kept their watch-ing Over si - lent flocks by night, Be -
shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo! A - bove the earth, Rang-
in a low - ly man - ger Our hum-ble Christ was born, And

12 F Dm 7 G 7 C C 7



hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.____
out the an - gel chor-us That hailed our Sav - ior's birth:____
God sent us sal - va - tion, That bles - sed Christ-mas morn:____

16 F B \flat F C F



Go, tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry- where;

20 F B \flat F Dm Gm F/C C 7 F



Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.



SIMPLE CINNAMON ORNAMENTS

by Heidi Sweet

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 c applesauce
- 1 bottle (4.12 oz.) ground cinnamon

DIRECTIONS

1. Mix applesauce and cinnamon to form a stiff dough.
2. Roll dough to a 1/4" thickness.
3. Cut dough with cookie cutters.
4. Make hole at the top of the ornament using a straw or skewer. This hole will later be used to thread a ribbon through for hanging.
5. Carefully lay ornaments on a cooling rack to dry. Leave ornaments for 1-2 days or until thoroughly dry. Turn ornaments occasionally.
6. Once dried, thread ribbon or decorative thread through the ornament.

Makes 12 - 15 ornaments

TRADITIONS

We have a wooden Advent calendar. I go out and purchase little trinkets or small candies and place one in each day for each child. In the twenty-five days leading up to Christmas we do a devotional as a family (we've done a book, video devotional, etc.) then let the kids open the treat for the day. We (and obviously the kids) really enjoy this tradition and it's a way to make sure we are focusing on Christ everyday leading up to Christmas.

Paul and DeAnn Farthing

We have had a yearly Christmas Eve tradition that has changed as years have passed and our grandkids have gotten older. The birth of baby Jesus has been acted out, with each of the grandkids being one of the characters: Mary, Joseph, the angel, shepherd, and even the donkey. The first years, I would read from Scripture, and they would come into the living room when their part came up. As they aged, the oldest grandkid would read, and then the younger ones as they age.

Bill and Linda Armstrong

Starting December 1, one door of the Advent calendar is opened and a surprise is inside. For the little kids, it is usually candy or a small item that will fit in the calendar. For the older kids, it is a clue of where to find a small surprise in the house. It helps the kids track how many more days until Christmas. It also makes the kids want to come over! On Christmas Eve, our extended family goes to church together. We then gather for our traditional Christmas Eve celebration. It starts with reading the Bible about the birth of Christ and is followed with prayer. Our traditional pitch-in meal of soup, sandwiches and sweets follows with games and gift opening. It is a wonderful time.

Mark and Annette Farthing

The night of Thanksgiving, my dad would pull out the artificial tree and all of the Christmas ornaments from the basement. After the tree was set up, we each took turns hanging ornaments on the tree. As my mum handed out the ornaments to each of us, she shared the story of each ornament, or the memory that was associated with it. My parents started collecting ornaments when they were married, and marked every big occasion with a new ornament, and through the years we added to them as well. It's always a special time of reflection and thankfulness for the life that our family shares together and the fun memories we have to look back on.

Chloe Lukasiewicz

At Christmas, we send to our families four recipes that are family favorites. These might be holiday recipes or just recipes our family has kept over the years. We print them out and put them on recipe cards. It says whose favorite in the family it was. The families love getting these and trying them.

Lew and Sheron Gibbs

Advent holds a special place in my heart. I love that it provides an annual opportunity to quiet our hearts and homes during a chaotic season and reflect on all the promises fulfilled by Jesus' birth, life, and resurrection. One of my favorite traditions growing up was attending Christmas Eve services with my family, and I love being able to do that with my kids now. As we thought about our own family traditions, Chris and I were excited to start walking through the days of Advent with Ellie as a toddler. Although we've tried a variety of tools given the young age of our kids, the constant thread has been spending time reflecting on God's Word each morning at breakfast and discussing our gratitude for his gift of Jesus.

Chris and Lindsay Beals

RESOURCES

ACTIVITIES

- [Christmas Bible-Learning Activities for Babies](#) from kidsministry.lifeway.com
- [Christmas Bible Skill Games](#) from kidsministry.lifeway.com
- [Christmas Dates with Mommy and Daddy](#) from kidsministry.lifeway.com
- [5 Christmas Projects for Your Family](#) from kidsministry.lifeway.com
- [Advent Coloring Sheets](#) from marymarthamma.com
- [The Christmas Story Nativity Lunch](#) from thelittlesandme.com
- [Advent Activity Chain](#) from heatherhaupt.com
- [Birdseed Ornaments](#) from thespruce.com

ARTICLES

- [*What Is Advent All About?*](#) by John Piper
- [*Why Celebrate Advent?*](#) by Timothy Paul Jones
- [*Make this Christmas Unforgettable for Your Children*](#) by Christine Hoover
- [*How to Use Christmas Carols for Family Devotions*](#) by Luke & Trisha Gilkerson
- [*A Brief History of "Joy to the World"*](#) by Greg Forster
- [*The Story Behind the Carol: "Joy to the World!"*](#) by Tyler Scarlett
- [*When You Feel Like You've Failed Before You Even Start - An Easy Way to Win with Advent this Year*](#) by Barbara Rainey

DEVOTIONALS/BOOKS

- [*The Advent of the Lamb of God*](#) by Russ Ramsey
- [Devotionals](#) by John Piper
- [Devotional](#) from The Village Church
- [*Come Let Us Adore Him*](#) by Paul Tripp
- [*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*](#) by Nancy Guthrie
- [*Unwrapping the Names of Jesus*](#) by Asheritah Ciuciu
- She Read Truth Advent Devotional and He Reads Truth Advent Devotionals – available in [book](#) form or through the [app](#).

RESOURCES CONT.

BOOKS FOR FAMILIES

- [*Unwrapping the Greatest Gift*](#) by Ann Voskamp
- [*The Wonder of the Greatest Gift*](#) by Ann Voskamp
- [*Treasuring Christ in Our Traditions*](#) by Noel Piper
- [*My Christmas Activity Book*](#) by Catherine Mackenzie
- [*The Christmas Promise*](#) by Alison Mitchell & Catalina Echeverri
- [*The Christmas Promise Advent Calendar*](#) by Alison Mitchell & Catalina Echeverri
- [*Counting the Days, Lighting the Candles*](#) by Elyse Fitzpatrick
- [*Christmas Carols for a Kid's Heart*](#) (Volume 3) by Bobbie Wolgemuth & Joni Eareckson Tada
- [*The Stories Behind the Music: Christmas Carol Devotions and Activities for Your Family*](#)
by Luke Gilkerson
- [**She Reads Truth Advent Table Cards**](#)
- [**Jesus Story Book Bible Advent Reading Plan**](#)

NOTES



COLLEGE PARK CHURCH FISHERS