



# Advent

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Reimagining the Advent Wreath on  
your Kitchen Table



# *The Advent Wreath*

- The Advent wreath, or Advent crown, is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western church.
- It is an evergreen wreath with four candles, sometimes with a fifth, white candle in the center. Beginning with the First Sunday of Advent, the lighting of a candle can be accompanied by a Bible reading, devotional time and prayers.
- An additional candle is lit on each subsequent Sunday until, by the last Sunday of Advent, all four candles are lit. Some Advent wreaths include a fifth, Christ candle which is lit at Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.
- The custom originated in family settings but has also become widespread in public worship.





## *Light a Candle a Week*

- The Wreath has four candles in a circle – with greenery.
- Traditionally the three candles are purple (for Week 1,2,&4)
- A pink candle represents Gaudete Sunday – week 3.
- A white candle can be lit on Christmas Day



# *Place the Advent Wreath on your Table*



Many people love to decorate their homes with Christmas Wreaths.

Advent Wreaths are also part of our tradition, a prominent item in homes and churches.

The wreath is usually set in the middle of the dining-room table or another prominent place, and a prayer is recited as each candle is lit before a meal each day.

Why not make an Advent Wreath this year for your home and/or make the following a daily prayer as you journey through?

# *Prayer on the Kitchen Table – During Advent*

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Each Sunday – light a new candle –  
Be Still – take some time of silence at the table.

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Each Sunday if you can remember someone in prayer.

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Say Grace Before Meals

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Read the prayer for the lighting of each candle  
(next slide)

## ***Grace Before Meals***

Bless us, O God, as we sit  
together,

Bless the food we eat today,

Bless the hands that made the  
food,

Bless us, O God.

Amen.



# *Prayer – for Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles @home*



- **First Week [Purple Candle]**
  - All powerful God, Increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, for ever and ever. Amen
- **Second Week [Purple Candle]**
  - God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for his lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.
- **Third Week [Pink Candle]**
  - Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen
- **Fourth Week [Purple Candle]**
  - Father, all-powerful God, Your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen