

# Elements of an Advent Wreath

What is an Advent wreath?

An Advent wreath is a liturgical and spiritual tool used to mark the four weeks of Advent. This practice originated as a home practice for families. Consider setting aside a special time to light your wreath as a family and have a devotion together.



## 1 Gather your candles

Traditionally, a simple Advent wreath uses five candles. Four for the four Sundays in Advent, three blue or purple and one pink candle for the third Sunday. A fifth candle is placed in the center, typically white. Ultimately, candles of any color, shape, or size are appropriate.



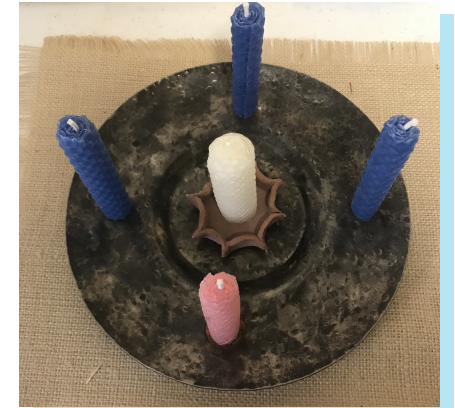
## 2 Find your setting

As a setting for your Advent wreath, you can use a full evergreen wreath with candle holders or you can use a household plate upon which to place your candles. You can find greenery of any kind to place around or near the plate as a symbol of God's unchanging love.



## 3 Christ at the center

The wreath is circular to remind us that God's love is infinite. Place your fifth candle at the center of your wreath. This candle is lit as Advent breaks way to Christmas as a sign of Christ's arrival! All five candles are lit on Christmas and may be lit daily until Epiphany (Jan. 6)



## 4 Ta-da!

Whatever materials used, your Advent wreath is a tool to mark the passage of time in the Advent season. As the nights grow longer, the brightness of the Advent wreath glows brighter. Christ is present in a dim and weary world. The shadows cannot overcome the brightness.