Advent Devotional 2026



Let's Have a Retro Christmas!

The following devotional was designed to give a framework for discussion around the advent candles and the birth of Jesus in these weeks leading up to Christmas. Each week of Advent we encourage you to light the weekly candle and spend some time with the pieces of the devotional as an individual or family. As we take time to look back on Christmases past, we have a chance to pause and put our reflections back on the real meaning for the season for our Christmas Today!

Join us on Sunday mornings as we go back in time to look our Christmases Past and use those memories to launch us into our Christmas Present. Our prayer is that we can all refocus our hearts and minds on the One who should truly be the center of this season and our lives.

Happy Advent(ures) & Merry Christmas!

-Your CABC Family

CABC Morning Worship – Sunday at 9:00am In person or online at www.christabc.org/live or www.youtube.com (search for ChristsABC)

The Gift of Presence: A Blue Christmas Service
December 20th, 4:00pm - Light Meal to Follow

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24
6:00pm (With Kids Christmas Pageant) & 8:00pm

Retro Christmas: The Past Informs the Present

Advent Week #1: November 29

HOPE: A New Christmas; Same Hope

Candle #1: Purple

Character: Mary

Readings: Luke 1:26-56; Psalm 34:17-18

Song: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Discussion:

· How is this Christmas season different for you and your family?

· Psalm 34:18 says “the Lord is close to the brokenhearted.” How can you have a Hope in what God is doing even when this Christmas may be different than those past?

Prayer: Lord, we pray that you would give us the strength to be your servant as Mary was and that Your Hope would fill our lives this Christmas season.

Advent Week #2: December 6

PEACE: Today Doesn’t Have to Carry Yesterday’s Burdens



Candle #2: Purple

Character: Joseph

Readings: Psalm 34:4-7; Isaiah 54:10; Matthew 1:18-25

Song: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Discussion:

· What parts of your Christmases, past or present, prevent you from experiencing God’s peace?

· Once he experienced God’s peace through understanding, Joseph purposefully walked into an unknown future because of that peace. What steps can you take to allow the peace of God to guide your life this week?

Prayer: Lord, help us to not be afraid of the world that is before us. We ask for Your Peace to guide each step we take in the days to come.

Advent Week #3: December 13

JOY: Our Joy Doesn't Have to Stay in the Good Ole Days

Candle #3: Pink

Character: Shepherd

Readings: Psalm 34:1-3; Isaiah 12:5-6; Luke 2:1-20

Song: Joy to the World

Discussion:

· What areas of your life are missing joy right now?

· The shepherds dropped their work to share the joy they had experienced in the sight of this amazing news. In what ways can you change priorities or schedules to let joy be your focus this week?

Prayer: Lord, we praise you for the Joy of your Son's birth. We pray that you allow Your Joy to fill our hearts so that we can be used by You to spread that joy to others.

Advent Week #4: December 20

LOVE: God's Love Never Goes Out of Style

Candle #4: Purple

Character: Wiseman

Readings: Psalm 34:8; Matthew 2:2-12; 1 John 4:7-11; John 3:16

Song: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Discussion:

· The wisemen gave of their greatest treasure to this new gift of love in Jesus. What are you giving (to God and to others) that shows His love this season?

· Who can you and/or your family share the Love of Jesus to this week?

Prayer: Lord, we thank you for Your Love in the form of a baby who came to save us! May our lives lived out be examples of that same love you gave to us.

Christmas Eve: December 24

CHRIST: Emmanuel is Still With Us

Candle #5: White

Character: Us

Readings: Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 2:1-12; Psalm 34:22

Song: O Holy Night!

Discussion:

· What does the birth of Jesus mean for you Today?

· Take some moments to rest and reflect as we remember this amazing gift God sent for us, not just for year's past, but for our moments right now!

Prayer: Lord, on this night we pray that you would refocus our hearts on you so that we can continue to live a life worthy of the Son You Sent for each of us. Thank you for this amazing gift!

Additional Resources:

· Daily Devotional from Region's Partner Ascent o https://www.ascentmovement.org/advent

· The Wonder of Christmas Family Devo from RightNow Media o https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/study-guide/3086/950823

o This aligns with our School of Christian Living Class which follows worship each Sunday during advent at 10:30am. Join us for the discussion, use the resource at home as a family, or both!

o You can sign up for a free RightNow Media account at: https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/christsamericanbaptistchurch