



# CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

2022 CABC  
ADVENT DEVOTIONAL



We have plenty of traditions that fill our days leading up to Christmas. Some are passed down from generations and other we may have started recently. They can be family traditions, church traditions, or even cultural traditions. What I love about this time of year is that there many more things than normal that can point us to Jesus. However, much of the trappings of the season can also distract us from the real focus for the festivities.

With all that in mind we hope you join us this Christmas as we take some time to examine those traditions we carry and use them to help us focus on Jesus throughout the whole holiday season. We know life is busy, but that is all the more reason to be intentional with the time that we have. Our hope is that this small devotional can be a small part of a season that is more focused Jesus than ever before.

You are also invited to join us on Sunday mornings as we walk through these traditions together. Keep an eye on our social media and website for other Advent resources and video devotions to add to your weekly time with Jesus this Christmas season. 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!  
-Pastor Josh

CABC Sunday Morning Worship – 9:00am

Christmas Eve – 6:00 & 8:00pm | Christmas Day – 10:00am

Find us online at [www.christabc.org/live](http://www.christabc.org/live) or [www.youtube.com/@christabc](http://www.youtube.com/@christabc)

## **First Week of Advent: Starting November 27**

**Candle of Hope:** Purple

**Christmas Reading:** Luke 1:26-38

**Tradition:** Christmas Tree (John 11:17-27)

**Song:** "Angels We Have Heard on High"

**Discussion:** What memories come to mind when you think of a Christmas Tree? In John 11, we see Jesus says that we will have everlasting life if we believe in Him. How does this gift of everlasting life change the way you see your life today?

**Prayer:** Lord, we thank you for this Christmas season and a new chance to point ourselves and those around us back to you. Help us to see what you are wanting to do in and through us this Christmas.

## **Second Week of Advent: Starting December 4**

**Candle of Peace:** Purple

**Christmas Reading:** Matthew 1:18-25

**Tradition:** Holiday Gatherings (Acts 2:42-47, Mark 2:13-17)

**Song:** "Silent Night"

**Discussion:** What type of gatherings do you plan to have this Christmas? Do they make you excited, anxious, sad, or happy? The scripture above shows us some of the intentionality we can have with our gatherings. What can you do in the gatherings of this season to point others and yourself back to Jesus?

**Prayer:** We thank you that we have an invitation to your table. As we gather with others this season, we ask for your help in being an example of your love to those who share our moments together.

### **Third Week of Advent: Starting December 11**

**Candle of Joy:** Pink

**Christmas Reading:** Luke 2:1-20

**Tradition:** Music of the Season (Psalm 150, Luke 1:46-56)

**Song:** "Joy to the World"

**Discussion:** What are some of your favorite songs of the Christmas season? Why do they resonate with you? Music can certainly be a part of our worship to God. Take some time, alone or with others, to worship God using the songs of the season.

**Prayer:** We praise the name of the Lord today. Thank you for the gift of music and the joy that comes with our relationship with you.

### **Fourth Week of Advent: Starting December 18**

**Candle of Love:** Purple

**Christmas Reading:** Matthew 2:1-12

**Tradition:** Hanukkah (John 10:22-30, John 8:12, Matthew 5:14-16)

**Song:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

**Discussion:** How has God demonstrated His faithfulness to you over this past year? In John 8:12, Christ refers to himself as the "light of the world." In Matthew 5:14-16, Jesus calls His church the "light of the world". How have you had the opportunity to reflect the light of Christ into the world this past year?

**Prayer:** Father God, thank you for sending your son, Emmanuel, God with us, to bring light into the world. Help us to be faithful in reflecting that light into the lives of others in a way that points them to you.

## **Christmas Eve: December 24**

**Christ Candle:** White

**Christmas Reading:** James 1:17-18, Romans 6:23, John 3:16-17

**Tradition:** Gift Giving

**Song:** "Silent Night"

**Discussion:** Is there a gift better than what Jesus gave us? In light of this great gift, what can we give to Him?

**Prayer:** Lord, on this night we thank you for this amazing gift! May we be able give you the focus and worship you rightly deserve on this night and the days to come.

## **Christmas Day: December 25**

**Christ Candle:** White

**Christmas Reading:** Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:1-20, Matthew 2:1-12

**Tradition:** The Nativity

**Song:** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

**Discussion:** What part of the nativity are you usually drawn towards?

What does the birth of Jesus mean for you? Have you accepted this gift for yourself? Amidst the traditions and plans of this day, take some time out to read the scripture above, sing a song, and thank God for the best gift you could ever receive.

**Prayer:** Lord, this Christmas Day, we pray that you would refocus our hearts on yours so that we can experience the peace only you give. Thank you for the amazing gift of your love given to us!