

ADVENTWORD

Adventword is a global, online Advent calendar. Join an international community in prayer to explore the mystery and wonder of Advent!

<https://adventword.org/en/home/>

There are many ways to participate in AdventWord! And all of them are correct!

- Read and pray over the daily emailed meditation during Advent
- Connect and discuss the day's word with other disciples on our social media pages
- Share your own personal meditation to inspire others—whether visual or written. Haikus and poems, paintings, photographs, personal reflections, and more are all encouraged.

AdventWord is an offering of Forward Movement, a ministry of the Episcopal forwardmovement.org.

How It Works

We choose a single word from the Sunday Lectionary readings for each day of the season of Advent. Shared in English and Spanish, we provide a daily meditation and visual image inspired by this word and invite your personal reflections via social media. The daily meditations are posted on AdventWord.org, emailed to participants, and shared on our Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter accounts.

Around the world, prayers ascend in response to the daily meditations. People share their own reflections and visual art on their social media profiles, tagging #AdventWord to share with the wider community.

Go to <https://adventword.org/en/home/> to sign up to receive the daily email meditation during Advent, and follow AdventWord on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/AdventWordOrg/> and Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/AdventWord/>

AdventWord

NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 25

2022

27	WALK	12	WILDERNESS
28	TOGETHER	13	STRANGER
29	TEACH	14	BELOVED
30	MOUNTAINS	15	THIRSTY
1	MAKE	16	TRAVELER
2	READY	17	MAJESTY
3	UNITY	18	PURIFY
4	DELIGHT	19	SIGN
5	RAIN	20	HEAR
6	WELCOME	21	OBEDIENCE
7	WINNOWING	22	CHOOSE
8	BREATHE	23	RESTORE
9	FIRE	24	BIRTH
10	FLOURISH	25	EMMANUEL
11	MESSENGER		

adventword.org

 Forward
Movement

Introducing the Way of Love

The Way of Love is one type of spiritual rule of life. This is not the only such spiritual rule. There are other ancient spiritual rules of life, such as the Rule of St. Benedict or more contemporary ones like the Rule of the Society of St. John the Evangelist, the Rule of the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross, or the Restoration Project's rule for the modern disciple. A spiritual rule of life is a purposeful tool to help us grow into a more meaningful life with God. As such, following the practices in the Way of Love can change one's relationship with God, ourselves, and others with whom we share the earth. The Way of Love invites us to a rule of life that leads to incarnating Divine Love in the world, so it is appropriate to initiate a journey on the Way of Love during Advent, the season we slow down to get ready to welcome Jesus, God incarnate, anew.

The Way of Love focuses on seven different spiritual practices. On your Journeying the Way of Love Advent Calendar you'll notice each week follows a pattern.

Sunday: Worship Gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and dwell with God When we worship, we gather with others before God. We hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, give thanks, confess, and offer the brokenness of the world to God. As we break bread, our eyes are opened to the presence of Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we are made one body, the body of Christ sent forth to live the Way of Love.

Monday: Go Cross boundaries, listen deeply and live like Jesus As Jesus went to the highways and byways, he sends us beyond our circles and comfort, to witness to the love, justice, and truth of God with our lips and with our lives. We go to listen with humility and to join God in healing a hurting world. We go to become Beloved Community, a people reconciled in love with God and one another.

Tuesday: Learn Reflect on Scripture each day, especially on Jesus' life and teachings. By reading and reflecting on Scripture, especially the life and teachings of Jesus, we draw near to God and God's word dwells in us. When we open our minds and hearts to Scripture, we learn to see God's story and God's activity in everyday life.

Wednesday: Pray Dwell intentionally with God daily Jesus teaches us to come before God with humble hearts, boldly offering our thanksgivings and concerns to God or simply listening for God's voice in our lives and in the world. Whether in thought, word or deed, individually or corporately, when we pray we invite and dwell in God's loving presence.

Thursday: Bless Share faith and unselfishly give and serve Jesus called his disciples to give, forgive, teach, and heal in his name. We are 6 empowered by the Spirit to bless everyone we meet, practicing generosity and compassion and proclaiming the Good News of God in Christ with hopeful words and selfless actions. We can share our stories of blessing and invite others to the Way of Love.

Friday: Turn Pause, listen and choose to follow Jesus Like the disciples, we are called by Jesus to follow the Way of Love. With God's help, we can turn from the powers of sin, hatred, fear, injustice, and oppression toward the way of truth, love, hope, justice, and freedom. In turning, we reorient our lives to Jesus Christ, falling in love again, again, and again.

Saturday: Rest Receive the gift of God's grace, peace, and restoration From the beginning of creation, God has established the sacred pattern of going and returning, labor and rest. Especially today, God invites us to dedicate time for restoration and wholeness - within our bodies, minds, and souls, and within our communities and institutions. By resting we place our trust in God, the primary actor who brings all things to their fullness.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/way-of-love/>

FOLLOWING THE WAY OF LOVE ADVENT CALENDAR 2022

Sunday 27 Worship	Monday 28 Go	Tuesday 29 Learn	Wednesday 30 Pray	Thursday 1 Bless	Friday 2 Turn	Saturday 3 Rest
Advent 1 Read Luke 21:25-36. How do the symbols of the Advent season help you understand the story of Jesus? Where do you see them in your worship today?	Go out of your way to have a conversation with someone you might not normally visit with today. Ask God to open your heart to hear this person as God does.	Read Matthew 4:18-22. How do these verses inspire you to read Scripture with new eyes? Try reading several different translations of this passage. See how the language might change your reading of it.	Pray along with the Collect for Advent 1, found on page 211 of The Book of Common Prayer. Set a timer for three minutes to sit in silence and hear what God might be saying back to you.	We know that angels are God's special messengers to us, and that Gabriel spent intentional time with Mary, helping her to understand her part in God's story. Who has shared an important lesson or their presence with you this week? Thank them today.	Read Isaiah 58. How does this reading challenge you to think about feasts and festivals differently? How might this lesson change the way you celebrate or recognize this holy season?	Put your phone on airplane mode and leave it in a dresser drawer for an hour or two. Whatever happens in that time, you can handle later. Give this time to yourself and Jesus, to rest and recharge for the week ahead.
4 Worship Advent 2 Read Luke 3:1-6. How does the story of John the Baptist fill your heart with hope?	5 Go Read or watch your local news. Ask God to open your heart and eyes to ways you can promote reconciliation and healing in your community.	6 Learn Read Luke 1:45. Share your faith story with one new person this week. It can be someone you have known for a while who has not heard the faith part of your story.	7 Pray Pray along with the Collect for Advent 2, found on page 211 of The Book of Common Prayer. As you are out and about for the rest of this week, notice the people you pass. Ask God to bless them in their lives and work. See how this changes the way you go about your week.	8 Bless Call or write a letter to a family member with whom you would like to have a closer relationship. Make plans in the new year to chat on the phone or meet over Zoom or in person. Let them know how much you love them and look forward to knowing them better.	9 Turn Where did you struggle this week? Do you have amends or apologies or adjustments you need to make? Ask God to open your heart and mind to opportunities for reconciliation and growth. Thank God for the gifts of mercy and love, and the courage to make the changes necessary. And then do your best, with God's help, to make changes.	10 Rest Set aside 30 minutes to spend in silence with a close friend today. Sure, it may feel a little weird to be silent on the phone or while sitting next to each other on the couch or across the table. Just give it a try. Make sure to set aside time after your silence to pray for each other and to say thanks for the time of rest.
11 Worship Advent 3 Imagine the faces you'd like to see at church — an all-star list of folks you want to worship with. This could be people you know from summer camp when you were a kid, people who might have already died, people you work with — all your favorites. Commit to pray for those folks this week. And make a commitment to ask one of your all-stars to come to church with you in the next month.	12 Go Take a new or different route to work, or school, or out to run errands. See how using a different route requires you to see the world differently — to pay a different kind of attention. What do you notice along the way that makes you stop and take a second look? Does anything on this new route inspire your faith journey or remind you of lessons learned?	13 Learn Read Luke 1:59-80. When Zechariah's speech returns, he praises God. If you lost the power to speak for nine months like Zechariah did, what would be your first word of praise? Share this with your family, friends, and on social media.	14 Pray Pray along with the Collect for Advent 3, found on page 212 in The Book of Common Prayer. How will prayer guide you through the rest of the week? Set aside special time today to focus your intentions on stirring up peace and spreading joy.	15 Bless Spend a significant amount of time today discerning if there is a special blessing or gift you can share with your church, a local ministry, or with your community. Ask God to inspire and equip you with the fortitude and tools to make this gift something truly memorable and heartfelt.	16 Turn Turn away from the busyness of the world right now. Turn your heart and mind toward giving thanks for this time of reflection, refreshment, and renewal. Turn your attention toward how you will be resting tomorrow, and put things in place so you can make the most of your sabbath time.	17 Rest Spend at least 45 minutes outside today, without doing yard work or fixing lights or redoing bows on the garland. Take some time to just sit outside and let the air wash over you, taking away the stress and worry of the moment. Read Psalm 100 before and after your outside time. See how this psalm may help you rest and recharge your spirit.
18 Worship Advent 4 Linger before leaving your worship time today. How is God calling you to hear and sing along with Mary's Song? Read Luke 1:39-55.	19 Go Go out into your neighborhood today. Where is God at work? Ask God to show you how you can celebrate that good work and name God's presence in your community.	20 Learn Read Habakkuk 2:1-4. Does this reading remind you of Thomas the disciple? Why do you think the folks who organized the lectionary picked this reading from the Old Testament for this friend of Jesus?	21 Pray Pray along with the Collect for Advent 4, found on page 212 in The Book of Common Prayer. Pick three or four of your beloveds to focus your prayers on today. Make sure to leave some silent space for God to offer you some wisdom about what they may need right now.	22 Bless Make sure to pick up an extra present or two — a nice candy sampler or a warm pair of slippers or pajama pants, just in case you have extra friends or guests drop by. Ask God to bless those who travel and those who may be alone in the coming days. Take some bottled water and sports drinks over to your local community cold weather shelter. They will be extra glad to have that during the winter months.	23 Turn If you are gathering with friends and family today, consider taking time during the meal to turn to the folks on your right, and then on your left, to thank them for their love in your life. See how this might spread some joy and comfort around the table — or maybe even ease some potentially prickly guests.	24 Rest Christmas Eve The conventional wisdom is that new parents should rest when the baby is resting. Make sure you take some time out to rest with Baby Jesus — and marvel in the wonder of a fresh, new, clean, shiny, tiny, precious start. Take a nap and thank God for the gift of Jesus and for peace at Christmas.