



*Christ is the
light of the world.*

Advent

3rd December -24th December



Welcome to our Christmas celebration of the word.
We have just spent 4 weeks in the liturgical season of Advent. Advent is 4 weeks long and is a time of preparation for Christmas.

Firstly lets begin this celebration of the Word by making the sign of the cross.

In the name of the Father, Son
and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

*Christ is the
light of the world.*

**Christ, come into our world of darkness
Light up our lives with your coming.**

**Fulfil all our longings
with the joy of your birth
Strengthen our resolve to
work for change in our world
And to share the hope of your
birth that each Advent brings.
Amen.**



Advent Assembly PowerPoint

Running time: 2m 45s

Sound required.

Click to start. Do not press click again.

The church's year has come to an end . . .

. . . and a new year begins.

The mood changes from celebration and hope . . .

. . . to preparation and expectation.

Green changes . . .

. . . to purple.



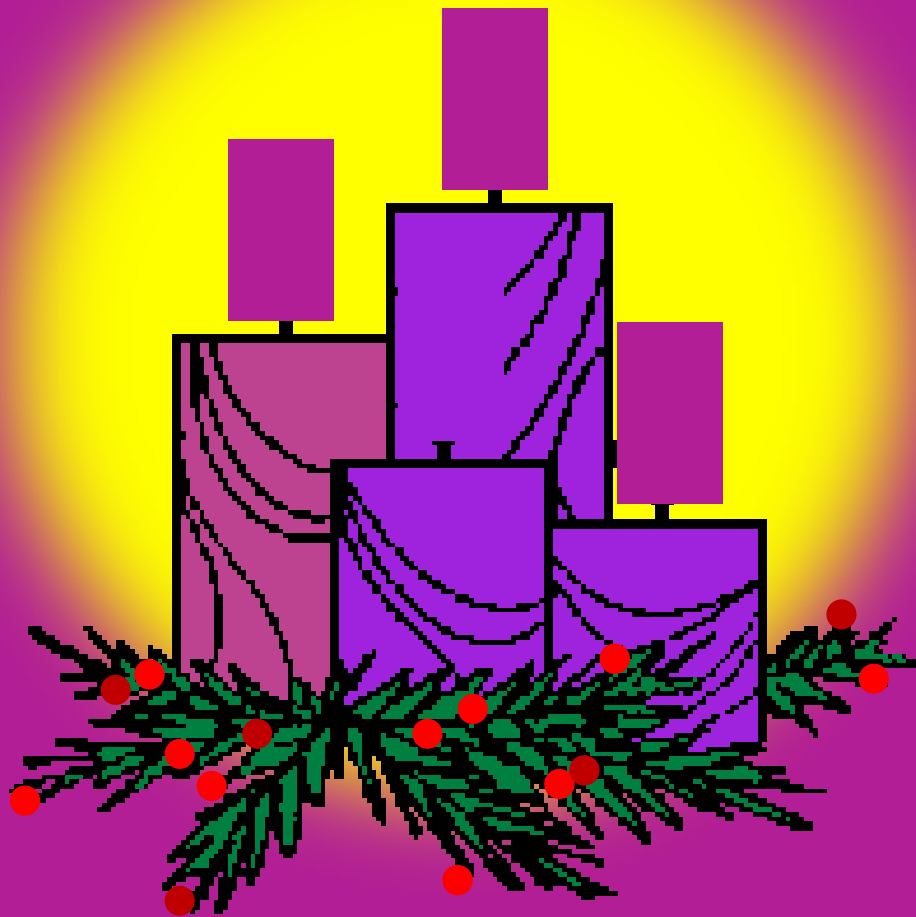
The **red berries** represent the blood that Jesus will shed on the cross.

This is Advent

The symbol of Advent is the Advent wreath

The circle of the wreath represents the eternity of God's love.

The **red ribbon** represents the blood that flowed from Jesus' side.



The four candles
represent the four weeks
of Advent

On each Sunday of Advent
another candle is lit.

As Christmas comes closer
the light grows.

Christ is the
light of the world.

Emmanuel, come, Emmanuel,
is the name we use for Jesus
and cheer our spirits
at this time of year.
Emmanuel means

‘God is with us.’



“An angel
appeared to Joseph in a dream
and said:
‘Do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife.
She will give birth to a son
and you must name him Jesus,
because he is the one who is to save his people.’
The virgin will conceive
and give birth to a son
and they will call him
Emmanuel.”





ADVENT

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**Look forward by
looking backwards.**



The letter of St Paul to the Romans

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

The word of the Lord

Response is: Thanks be to God

Hope

*Christ is the
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Christ be our Light

Please join in with the chorus

Christ be our Light

Longing for light, we wait in
darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy
people,

Light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the
darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church

gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is
troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save
us,
Make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the
darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church

gathered today.

Longing for food, many are
hungry.

Longing for water, many still
thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for
others,
Shared until all are fed.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church
gathered today.

Longing for shelter, many are
homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering
others,

Walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church
gathered today.

Many the gifts, many the
people,
Many the hearts that yearn to
belong.

Let us be servants to one
another,
Making your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church
gathered today.

*Christ is the
light of the world.*

**Peace is taking
what's broken and
restoring it to
wholeness.**



A reading from the letter of St Paul to Ephesians,

*Christ is the
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Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who were once far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,

Response:

Thanks be to God

Peace



Silent Night

SOLO

*Christ is the
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The joy of people is not
determined by their struggles but
by their future destiny.



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A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”
At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

Response is:

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Joy



Gaudete Choir

*Christ is the
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**Love is action. It's a
choice that you make to
seek the well-being of
people other than
yourself.**



A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew,

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Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

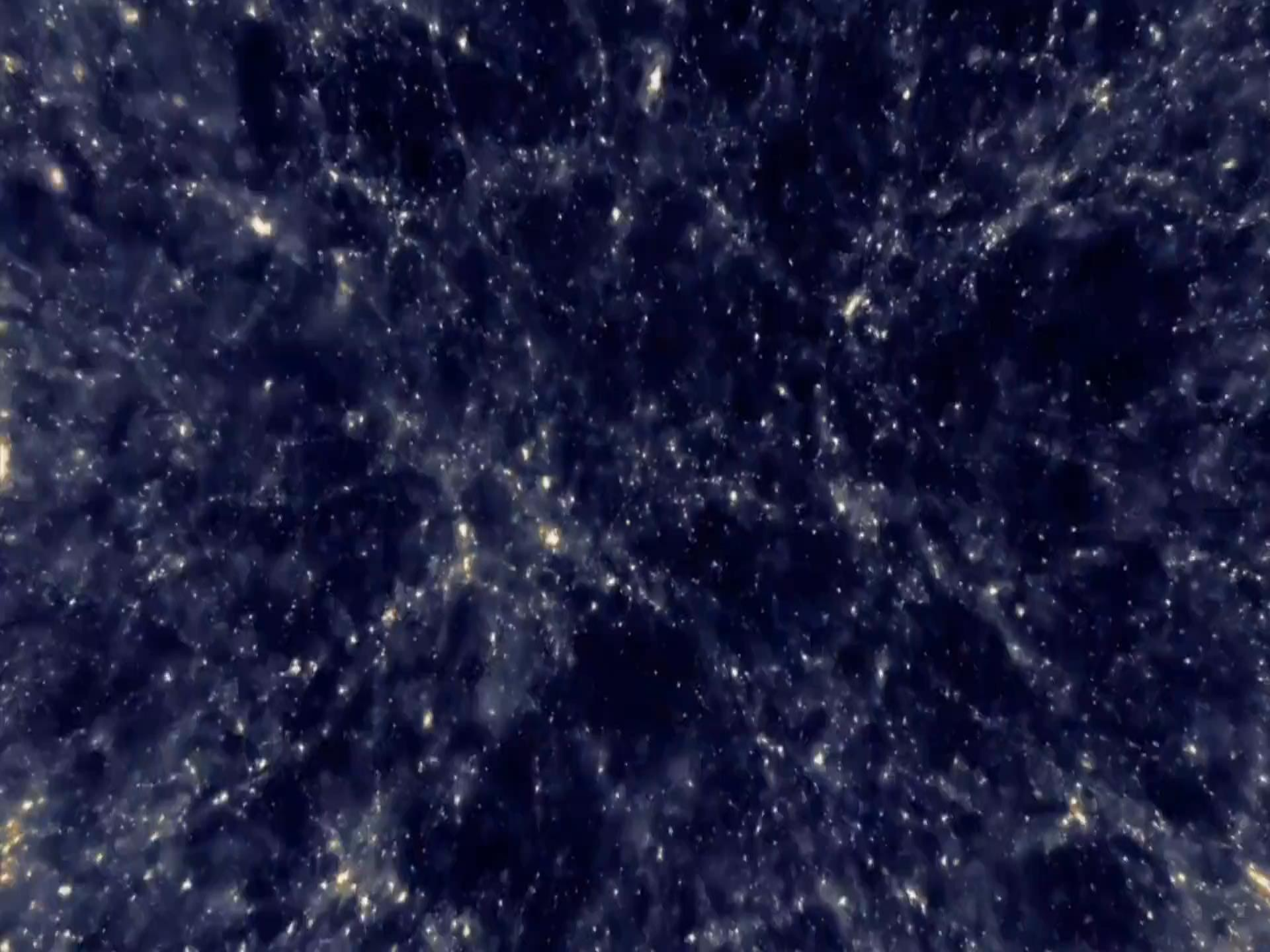
Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Response is:

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

love





This Advent we have searched for peace, hope, joy and love in the following ways:

- **Shoe boxes for Stella Maris**
- **Christmas Jumper day for the food bank**
- **Norah's North Pole**
- **Pensioners Christmas dinner 12th December**
- **Advent prayers throughout December**
- **Wait a minute reflection's sent out every day in Advent.**
- **Advent crafts**

Christ is the light of the world.



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In praise and thanksgiving,
let us rejoice as we await our Saviour,
Christ the Lord,
God-with-us,
Prince of peace.

For all the oracles of the prophets foretold him;
the Virgin Mary longed for him with love beyond all
telling;

John the Baptist sang of his coming and proclaimed
his presence when he came.

It is by his gift that we already rejoice at the
mystery of his nativity,
so that he may find us watchful in prayer
and exultant in his praise.



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light of the world.*

**Jesus Christ came into this
world so we could become
sons and daughters of God.
May we all have courage to
prepare ourselves for his
arrival during the weeks of
Advent.**

**May the God of infinite
goodness brighten our hearts
with his light.**



O little town of Bethlehem - ALL

O Little Town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet, in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

O, morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels
keep
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive
him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels,
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!