



Advent 2011 Candle Lighting Services For Home

Lighting the advent candle at Islington is an important part of our Advent worship services. We invite you to celebrate Advent in your home with a family Advent wreath. Use the following Advent celebration each week as you light the candles. This is a good time to consider the meaning of Advent and Christmas and to counter some of the commercialism of the season.

Advent 1 - November 27th

We are getting ready because Christmas is coming; Jesus is coming. Jesus brought hope to his world and to ours. **We light the candle of hope.**

Light the first candle.

Hope is like a candle shining bright. This week we will remember to look for hope in our world.

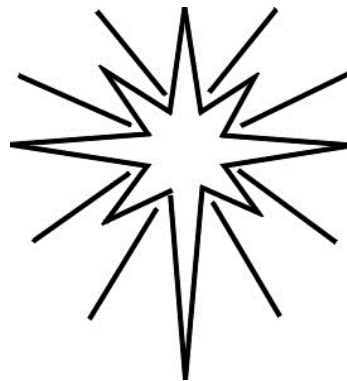
Talk about what hope means for each one in the family. What gift can we give to others this week?

Prayer to say together or for children to repeat after their parents.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus,
and the gift of hope.

We remember
that Jesus is the hope
and the light of the world.

Help us to be like Jesus. Amen



Advent 2 - December 4th

We are getting ready because Christmas is coming; Jesus is coming. Jesus brought hope to his world and to ours. We light the candle of hope.

Light the first candle.

Jesus taught his followers and us to be peace-makers. **This is the candle of peace.**

Light the second candle.

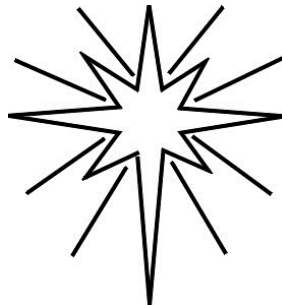
Peace is like a candle shining bright. This week we will remember to be peacemakers in our world.

Talk about what peace or peacemaker means for each one in the family. What gift can we give to others this week?

Prayer to say together or for children to repeat after their parents.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus,
and the gift of peace.

We remember
that Jesus is a peacemaker
and the light of the world.
Help us to be like Jesus. Amen



Advent 3 - December 11th

We are getting ready because Christmas is coming; Jesus is coming. Jesus brought hope to his world and to ours. We light the candle of hope.

Light the first candle.

Jesus taught his followers and us to be peace-makers. This is the candle of peace.

Light the second candle.

Jesus wants us to be happy and filled with joy. **This is the candle of joy.**

Light the third candle.

Joy is like a candle's dancing light. This week we will remember to be joyful and to make others happy.

Talk about what each one in the family is happy about and about how each can bring joy to others. What gift can we give to others this week?

Prayer to say together or for children to repeat after their parents.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus,
and the gift of joy.
We remember
that Jesus wants joy
and light in the world.
Help us to be like Jesus. Amen



Advent 4 - December 18th

We are getting ready because Christmas is coming; Jesus is coming. Jesus brought hope to his world and to ours. We light the candle of hope.

Light the first candle.

Jesus taught his followers and us to be peace-makers. This is the candle of peace.

Light the second candle.

Jesus wants us to be happy and filled with joy. This is the candle of joy.

Light the third candle.

Jesus brought love to his world and ours. **This is the candle of love.**

Light the fourth candle.

Love is like a candle that brightens our life. This week we will remember to be loving to others.

Talk about what makes each one feel love and how each can show love to others. What gift can we give to others this week?

Prayer to say together or for children to repeat after their parents.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus,
and the gift of love.
Jesus showed us how to love everyone
and to treat others like we want to be treated.
Help us to be like Jesus. Amen



Christmas Eve or Day

We have been getting ready and now Jesus is here. Jesus brought hope to his world and to ours.
We light the candle of hope.

Light the first candle.

Jesus taught his followers and us to be peace-makers. This is the candle of peace.

Light the second candle.

Jesus wants us to be happy and filled with joy. This is the candle of joy.

Light the third candle.

Jesus brought love to his world and ours. This is the candle of love.

Light the fourth candle.

This is the Christ candle for Jesus' birthday.

Light the fifth candle.

Jesus came to the world as a tiny baby but he was a great gift from God. He showed us how to bring hope, peace, joy, and love to others and to the earth. The flames of the Advent candles remind us of all these things.

Talk about all the gifts we get at Christmas. Talk about the gifts we receive every day from God. Our church gives many gifts to others through Mission and Service: food, medicine, homes, education, safety, friendship, and love. How can we plan to give our money this year to help make that happen?

Prayer to say together or for children to repeat after their parents.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus.
Christ is the light of the world.
Help us to be like Jesus. Amen

