

# Advent 2020

Saint Sunday	Meditation Monday	Thankful Tuesday	Tradition Wednesday	Servant Thursday	Family and Friends Friday	Discipleship Saturday
		<p><i>1</i> Today is day one in our December journey to Christmas! Begin by thanking Jesus that he still comes to us, no matter where and how we celebrate Advent in this time of pandemic.</p>	<p><i>2</i> Blue is a liturgical color for Advent. Look up or ask your pastor what blue paraments symbolize.</p>	<p><i>3</i> Pick out some yummy foods from your pantry or the grocery store and donate them to the Blessing Box (or your local food pantry).</p>	<p><i>4</i> If you have a favorite family Christmas recipe, make your holiday treat and reflect (on your own or with your family) on your favorite Christmas food memories.</p>	<p><i>5</i> Build a relationship with a neighbor by reaching out with cookies, a card, or a gift.</p>
<p><i>6</i> Look up the story of Saint Nicholas and figure out why oranges are a symbol for this “real Santa Claus.” Eat an orange or have some orange juice!</p>	<p><i>7</i> Read Sunday’s Gospel (Mark 1:1-8). Think about what it means for John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. Pray for your Pastor, who also prepares the way for the Lord.</p>	<p><i>8</i> Prepare (or help prepare) a favorite meal and thank God for providing each element as you work.</p>	<p><i>9</i> Candy canes are a Christmas tradition. Look up their meaning and eat something peppermint flavored!</p>	<p><i>10</i> Send a card to a church member you haven’t seen in awhile to wish them a happy Advent and let them know you’re thinking of them.</p>	<p><i>11</i> Keep your friends and family close when far apart by writing a sending a Christmas letter, making a phone call or two, or video chatting.</p>	<p><i>12</i> Model love for people by being intentional about doing acts of kindness today.</p>
<p><i>13</i> Light a candle and look up the story of Saint Lucy, whose feast day (today!) is celebrated as a festival of light in Scandinavia.</p>	<p><i>14</i> Read the gospel lesson from Sunday (John 1:6-8, 19-28); Think about or write down ways in which Jesus is a light to the world.</p>	<p><i>15</i> Jesus is called Emmanuel (God with us). Find symbols of Jesus in your home and thank him for being with you in your dwelling place.</p>	<p><i>16</i> Stars are a common tree topper. Go outside and look at the stars and remember that they are the same stars that shone over the shepherds on Christmas Eve,</p>	<p><i>17</i> Get the house ready for Christmas by helping someone in your home with one of their chores. If you live alone, call the church to see how you can serve.</p>	<p><i>18</i> Have a conversation with a friend or family member about what your favorite Christmas movies are and watch one of them (together or individually).</p>	<p><i>19</i> Invite someone you know to attend Christmas Eve service with you (or send them the link to your church’s online service).</p>
<p><i>20</i> Today, we remember the saint Katharina von Bora, wife of Martin Luther, who died December 20, 1552. Look up her story and thank God for her example.</p>	<p><i>21</i> Read the gospel lesson from Sunday; Think about how Mary might have felt. Pray that God would help you to trust His Word and plan for you.</p>	<p><i>22</i> Reflect on the people God has put in your life this year. Call someone who has done something kind for you in 2020 and thank them.</p>	<p><i>23</i> Choose your favorite ornament, remember where it came from, and reflect on how it relates to the true meaning of Christmas.</p>	<p><i>24</i> This Christmas Eve, call someone who could use encouragement and give them some holiday cheer.</p>	<p><i>25</i> Celebrate the joy of Jesus’ birthday by spending time with loved ones. If you live alone, call a friend or family member to wish them Merry Christmas.</p>	