


ADVENT

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 HOPE SUNDAY Attend the Advent Eve Festival at 4:00	2 Talk about: what makes you feel hopeful?	3 Say a prayer that starts with "God, we hope..."	4 Make a Christmas card to send to someone.	5 Listen to a Christmas hymn or carol. What do you hear?	6 Make a plan for something fun to do together during Winter Break.	7 Clean part of your house or car.
8 PEACE SUNDAY Celebrate St. Nicholas Day at St. Mark's 10am service	9 Talk about: where do you find peace?	10 Light a candle and watch the flame quietly for one minute.	11 Do something kind for someone else.	12 Go for a walk outside. What do you notice?	13 Read together, silently or out loud.	14 Donate to a charity or toy drive.
15 JOY SUNDAY Help create Agape treats during the 10am service	16 Talk about: what brings you joy?	17 Say a prayer that starts with "God, thank you for..."	18 Tell someone something you like about them.	19 List three things that made you happy today.	20 Watch a funny movie or TV show together.	21 Shop for or cook a special treat together.
22 LOVE SUNDAY Join for the Greening of the Church & supper at 5:00pm	23 Talk about: How does God show love to us?	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 3:00 Pageant 4:00 Hospitality 4:30 Caroling 5:00 Eucharist	25 CHRISTMAS! 	26-31 THE LORD IS COMING, ALWAYS COMING. WHEN YOU HAVE EARS TO HEAR AND EYES TO SEE, YOU WILL RECOGNIZE GOD AT ANY MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE. LIFE IS ADVENT; LIFE IS RECOGNIZING THE COMING OF THE LORD. - HENRI NOUWEN		

Advent can be thought of as a 'sister season' to Lent - a season of contemplation and preparation, as we get ready for the joy of Jesus's arrival. Of course, the mystery and magic is that Christ's joy is always already here with us, even as we wait in hopeful anticipation for it.

This Advent calendar is designed to help busy families find moments of peace and connection during this season. Many of the activities were brainstormed by the children of St. Mark's as they thought about what they wanted to "add" to their lives during Advent.

Try checking off these activities together each day - dinner or bedtime might be good moments! Or just choose one or two things from this list to try and incorporate into your daily routine. Check in with your family about what faithful practices can help them be part of God's big story of hope, love, and renewal during the season of Advent.

