LIFE425.CHURCH

Where Faith Meets Life

The Promise of CHRISTMAS

AN ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

26 Days of Scripture, Reflection & Prayer



NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 24, 2026

Where Faith Meets Life

A season to remember God's promises.

LIFE425.CHURCH

WELCOME TO ADVENT

Christmas is more than a date on the calendar. It is the celebration of a promise kept.

Long before a baby was born in Bethlehem, God promised to send a Savior. Advent is a season to remember His faithfulness, to slow down, and to let the truth of Jesus' coming shape our hearts and daily lives.

Over the next 26 days, we'll walk together through four powerful themes — Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Each day includes Scripture, a short reflection, a question to consider, and a simple prayer.

Our prayer is that this season will not just be something we celebrate, but something that changes us.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jim Beirne
and your Leadership Team

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Join us Christmas Eve for our
Candlelight Service
Thursday, December 24 • 4:00 PM



DAY 1 | NOVEMBER 29, 2026

A Promise Worth Waiting For

SCRIPTURE • Isaiah 9:2–7

Long before Jesus was born, Isaiah spoke of a child who would bring light into darkness. God's people could not see the whole picture, but they had a promise. We also face unanswered prayers and uncertain seasons. Advent reminds us that God is faithful even when we are waiting.

REFLECT

What are you waiting on God for right now?

PRAY

Father, help me trust Your promises even when I cannot see what You are doing. Amen.



DAY 2 | NOVEMBER 30, 2026

God Is Working While We Wait

SCRIPTURE • Galatians 4:4–7

Jesus came at exactly the right time. From a human perspective, the wait was long, but God had not forgotten His plan. Our waiting is not necessarily wasted time. God may be shaping our faith and preparing what we cannot yet see.

REFLECT

Where are you tempted to rush ahead of God?

PRAY

Lord, teach me patience and trust in Your timing. Amen.



DAY 3 | DECEMBER 1, 2026

Make Room for Jesus

SCRIPTURE • Luke 2:1–7

Bethlehem was crowded and busy when the Savior arrived. Our Christmas calendars can feel the same. We can spend so much time preparing for a holiday that we miss the One we celebrate. Making room for Jesus means inviting Him into our priorities and ordinary moments.

REFLECT

What distraction can you set aside this Advent?

PRAY

Jesus, be at the center of my Christmas and everyday life. Amen.



HOPE

Hope Has a Name

DECEMBER 2 – 8



DAY 4 | DECEMBER 2, 2026

Hope Has a Name

SCRIPTURE • Romans 15:13

Biblical hope is more than wishful thinking. It is confidence grounded in God's character and promises. Circumstances change, but Jesus does not. He entered our broken world, died for our sins, and rose again. Because of Him, hope is a reality we can build our lives upon.

REFLECT

Where have you been placing your hope lately?

PRAY

God of hope, fill my heart with confidence in Jesus. Amen.



DAY 5 | DECEMBER 3, 2026

Light in the Darkness

SCRIPTURE • John 1:1–5

Darkness can feel overwhelming when we face fear, grief, or uncertainty. John tells us that Jesus is the light darkness cannot overcome. The darkness does not need to disappear before His light begins to shine. Whatever you face today, darkness does not have the final word.

REFLECT

What area of your life needs Christ's light?

PRAY

Jesus, shine Your light into my discouragement and fear. Amen.



DAY 6 | DECEMBER 4, 2026

Hope When Life Is Hard

SCRIPTURE • Romans 5:1–5

Following Jesus does not mean we avoid suffering. Paul reminds us that God can use trials to produce perseverance, character, and hope. That does not make pain easy, but it means pain is not pointless. God is with us and continues His work in us.

REFLECT

How has God strengthened you in a difficult season?

PRAY

Father, build lasting hope in me through every trial. Amen.



DAY 7 | DECEMBER 5, 2026

Remember His Faithfulness

SCRIPTURE • Lamentations 3:21–26

Jeremiah remembered God’s mercy while surrounded by sorrow. He did not deny his pain; he chose to remember what was true. God’s compassion had not ended. Sometimes the surest way to find hope for tomorrow is to remember His faithfulness yesterday.

REFLECT

Name three ways God has been faithful this year.

PRAY

Lord, thank You for mercies that are new every morning. Amen.



DAY 8 | DECEMBER 6, 2026

Hope for the Weary

SCRIPTURE • Matthew 11:28–30

Jesus invites the weary, not only the strong. Responsibilities and disappointments can leave us exhausted. He does not promise a burden-free life, but He welcomes us to find rest in Him. Our hope rests in a Savior who cares for tired people.

REFLECT

What burden do you need to bring to Jesus?

PRAY

Jesus, teach me to rest in Your grace and care. Amen.



DAY 9 | DECEMBER 7, 2026

Hope That Reaches Others

SCRIPTURE • 1 Peter 3:15

Hope is not something God gives us only to keep. Our kindness, patience, and willingness to speak about Jesus can encourage others. You do not need a perfect testimony. Simply be ready to share why Christ matters to you.

REFLECT

Who could use encouragement and hope this week?

PRAY

Lord, give me an opportunity to point someone toward You. Amen.



DAY 10 | DECEMBER 8, 2026

Holding On to Hope

SCRIPTURE • Hebrews 10:19–23

Our hope is secure not because our faith always feels strong, but because God is faithful. Some days we have confidence; other days we wrestle with questions. His promises do not change with our emotions. We can hold firmly to hope because He keeps His word.

REFLECT

Which promise of God do you need to remember?

PRAY

Father, strengthen my confidence in Your faithfulness. Amen.



PEACE

Peace in the Midst of Chaos

DECEMBER 9 – 15



DAY 11 | DECEMBER 9, 2026

The Prince of Peace

SCRIPTURE • Isaiah 9:6–7

Isaiah called the coming Messiah the Prince of Peace. Jesus entered a world of conflict and suffering to address our deepest need: reconciliation with God. True peace begins with Him and can sustain us even when our circumstances remain unsettled.

REFLECT

Are you seeking peace in circumstances or in Christ?

PRAY

Prince of Peace, rule in my heart today. Amen.



DAY 12 | DECEMBER 10, 2026

Peace with God

SCRIPTURE • Romans 5:1–2

Sin separated us from a holy God, but Jesus made reconciliation possible through His death and resurrection. Peace with God is not earned by being good enough. It is received by faith. This gift is the foundation of a life marked by genuine peace.

REFLECT

How does being accepted through Christ change today?

PRAY

Father, thank You for the gift of peace through Jesus. Amen.



DAY 13 | DECEMBER 11, 2026

Peace for Anxious Hearts

SCRIPTURE • Philippians 4:4–9

Worry invites us to rehearse everything that might go wrong. Paul calls us to bring our concerns to God through prayer and thanksgiving. God's peace does not require us to know every outcome. It invites us to trust the One who does.

REFLECT

What worry can you surrender to God today?

PRAY

Father, replace my anxious thoughts with prayer and trust. Amen.



DAY 14 | DECEMBER 12, 2026

Be Still

SCRIPTURE • Psalm 46:1–11

Life is noisy, and our attention is constantly pulled in different directions. Psalm 46 reminds us that God is our refuge and strength. Being still is not ignoring responsibility; it is remembering who is ultimately in control. Take a quiet moment to rest in His presence.

REFLECT

Can you spend five undistracted minutes with God?

PRAY

Lord, quiet my heart and remind me You are my refuge. Amen.



DAY 15 | DECEMBER 13, 2026

Peace in Our Relationships

SCRIPTURE • Colossians 3:12–15

Holidays can bring joy and relational tension. Paul urges believers to practice compassion, humility, patience, and forgiveness. We cannot control another person's response, but we can choose to reflect the peace and grace of Jesus.

REFLECT

Whom might you need to forgive or encourage?

PRAY

Jesus, let Your peace shape my relationships. Amen.



DAY 16 | DECEMBER 14, 2026

Peace in the Storm

SCRIPTURE • Mark 4:35–41

The disciples were terrified by a storm even though Jesus was in their boat. His presence did not prevent the storm, but He had authority over it. Following Jesus does not keep us from every difficulty. It means we are never abandoned in them.

REFLECT

What storm needs to be entrusted to Jesus?

PRAY

Lord, remind me of Your presence when I am afraid. Amen.



DAY 17 | DECEMBER 15, 2026

A Peace the World Cannot Give

SCRIPTURE • John 14:25–27

The world often defines peace as the absence of problems. Jesus gives a deeper peace rooted in His presence, promises, and victory. It can remain even when circumstances are difficult because it rests on a foundation that does not change.

REFLECT

How can you carry Christ's peace into today?

PRAY

Jesus, help me walk in the peace only You can give. Amen.



JOY

A Joy That Changes Everything

DECEMBER 16 – 22



DAY 18 | DECEMBER 16, 2026

Good News of Great Joy

SCRIPTURE • Luke 2:8–14

The angels announced extraordinary news to ordinary shepherds: a Savior had been born. Christmas joy is not ultimately about decorations, traditions, or gifts. It is about God coming near to rescue sinners and give new life. That joy lasts beyond December.

REFLECT

What does Jesus' birth mean to you personally?

PRAY

Father, renew my joy in the good news of Jesus. Amen.



DAY 19 | DECEMBER 17, 2026

Joy Beyond Circumstances

SCRIPTURE • James 1:2–4

James does not ask us to pretend hardship feels good. He reminds us that God can work through trials to mature our faith. Christian joy is deeper than temporary happiness. We can grieve and still trust the God who is at work.

REFLECT

How might God be growing you through a challenge?

PRAY

Lord, root my joy in You, not in circumstances. Amen.



DAY 20 | DECEMBER 18, 2026

The Joy of Being Known

SCRIPTURE • Psalm 139:1–18

God knows our thoughts, weaknesses, fears, and struggles. Nothing about us surprises Him. Yet He invites us into relationship with Himself through Jesus. We do not need to perform or pretend to earn His attention. We are known and cared for.

REFLECT

How does being known by God bring you joy?

PRAY

Father, thank You for knowing and caring for me. Amen.



DAY 21 | DECEMBER 19, 2026

Joy in the Ordinary

SCRIPTURE • Colossians 3:16–17

We often search for joy in extraordinary moments, yet most life happens in ordinary places. Paul reminds us that everything can be done in Jesus' name. Kitchens, workplaces, and everyday conversations become places to practice gratitude and worship.

REFLECT

What ordinary blessing have you overlooked?

PRAY

Lord, open my eyes to Your goodness today. Amen.



DAY 22 | DECEMBER 20, 2026

Joy That Overflows

SCRIPTURE • Philippians 4:4–5

Paul rejoiced in the Lord even in difficult circumstances. His joy was grounded in Christ, not convenience. When our hearts are filled with that joy, it can spill over into kindness, generosity, patience, and encouragement toward others.

REFLECT

How can you bring joy to someone else today?

PRAY

Jesus, let Your joy overflow through my words and actions. Amen.



DAY 23 | DECEMBER 21, 2026

The Joy of Salvation

SCRIPTURE • Psalm 51:10–12

David knew failure and the need for forgiveness. He asked God to restore the joy of salvation. Our joy can fade when we forget the grace we have received. Christmas reminds us that Jesus came to save, forgive, and make us new.

REFLECT

What has distracted you from the joy of salvation?

PRAY

Father, renew my heart and restore my joy in You. Amen.



DAY 24 | DECEMBER 22, 2026

A Reason to Celebrate

SCRIPTURE • Luke 1:46–55

Mary praised God despite an uncertain future. She recognized that His work was greater than anything she could imagine. Joy grows when we shift our attention from what we cannot control to the greatness of the God we can trust.

REFLECT

Praise God today for who He is, not only His gifts.

PRAY

Lord, fill my heart with wonder and gratitude. Amen.



LOVE

The Greatest Gift of All

DECEMBER 23 – 24



DAY 25 | DECEMBER 23, 2026

The Greatest Gift of All

SCRIPTURE • John 3:16–17; 1 John 4:9–10

The greatest Christmas gift was God's own Son. He did not wait for us to become worthy of His love. He sent Jesus to rescue us in our brokenness. The manger points toward the cross, where His love would be displayed through sacrifice.

REFLECT

How does Jesus' sacrifice deepen your understanding of love?

PRAY

Father, thank You for loving us through Your Son. Amen.



DAY 26 | DECEMBER 24, 2026

Christmas Eve — The Light Has Come

SCRIPTURE • John 1:1–14; Luke 2:1–20

Tonight we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Hope arrived. Peace came near. Joy was announced. Love took on flesh. The manger is not the end of the story: Jesus lived, died for our sins, and rose again so that we could be reconciled to God. He is the reason we have hope, peace, joy, and love.

REFLECT

What has God taught you during these 26 days?

PRAY

Jesus, thank You for coming to save us. Shape our hearts, homes, church, and everyday lives. Amen.



A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May the hope we have in Christ carry us through uncertainty. May His peace steady us in life's storms. May His joy strengthen us through difficult days. And may His love remind us that we belong to Him. May our homes reflect His grace, our relationships demonstrate His kindness, and our lives point others toward the Savior. Merry Christmas from Life425.Church!



MY ADVENT REFLECTIONS

What has God been teaching you this Christmas?

Where have you experienced His hope, peace, joy, and love?

How will you carry these truths into the coming year?



THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS

A 26-Day Advent Journey

Read the Scripture. Consider the reflection. Bring your questions to God in prayer. Share the journey with your family, a friend, or someone in your church community.

LIFE 425
church



Invite Family and Friends

and Join Us Christmas Eve

for our Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 24

4:00 PM

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