

Children's Liturgy of the Word

1st Sunday in Advent
1 December 2024 - Year C
"Your redemption is near at hand."

Something to Think About

Can you remember a time when you had to get ready for a special celebration? How did you prepare? How did it feel to wait for that special time?

The Story

Jesus predicts a time of destruction when some people may be frightened, but Jesus tells his disciples not to be afraid. He encourages the disciples (and us!) to pray for strength. We may have difficult times in our lives, but when we pray, we find comfort and courage.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (21:25-28, 34-36)

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Strange things will happen to the sun, moon, and stars. The nations on earth will be afraid of the roaring sea and tides, and they won't know what to do.

People will be so frightened that they will faint because of what is happening to the world. Every power in the sky will be shaken.

"Then the Son of Man will be seen, coming in a cloud with great power and glory.

When all of this starts happening, stand up straight and be brave. You will soon be set free.

"Don't spend all of your time thinking about eating or drinking or worrying about life.

If you do, the final day will suddenly catch you like a trap. That day will surprise everyone on earth.

"Watch out and keep praying that you can escape all that is going to happen and that the Son of Man will be pleased with you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Group Discussion

Talk about some of your hopes and dreams for the holidays and for Christmas. Consider ways of making both the holidays and Christmas a time to think of others.

Praying For Others

Leader: As we begin this season of Advent, let us bring our hopes and dreams to God.

Reader 1: We pray for a world of justice and fairness. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for a world of truth and peace. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for a world of love and happiness. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for a world of truth and honesty. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for our own needs. *(Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions).* Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



Dear God,
Thank you for this special time of Advent. Help us to use this time to make our hearts ready for Jesus.
Amen.

Video (optional)

Click to watch the video: [Jesus is Coming!](#)



Group Activity (optional)

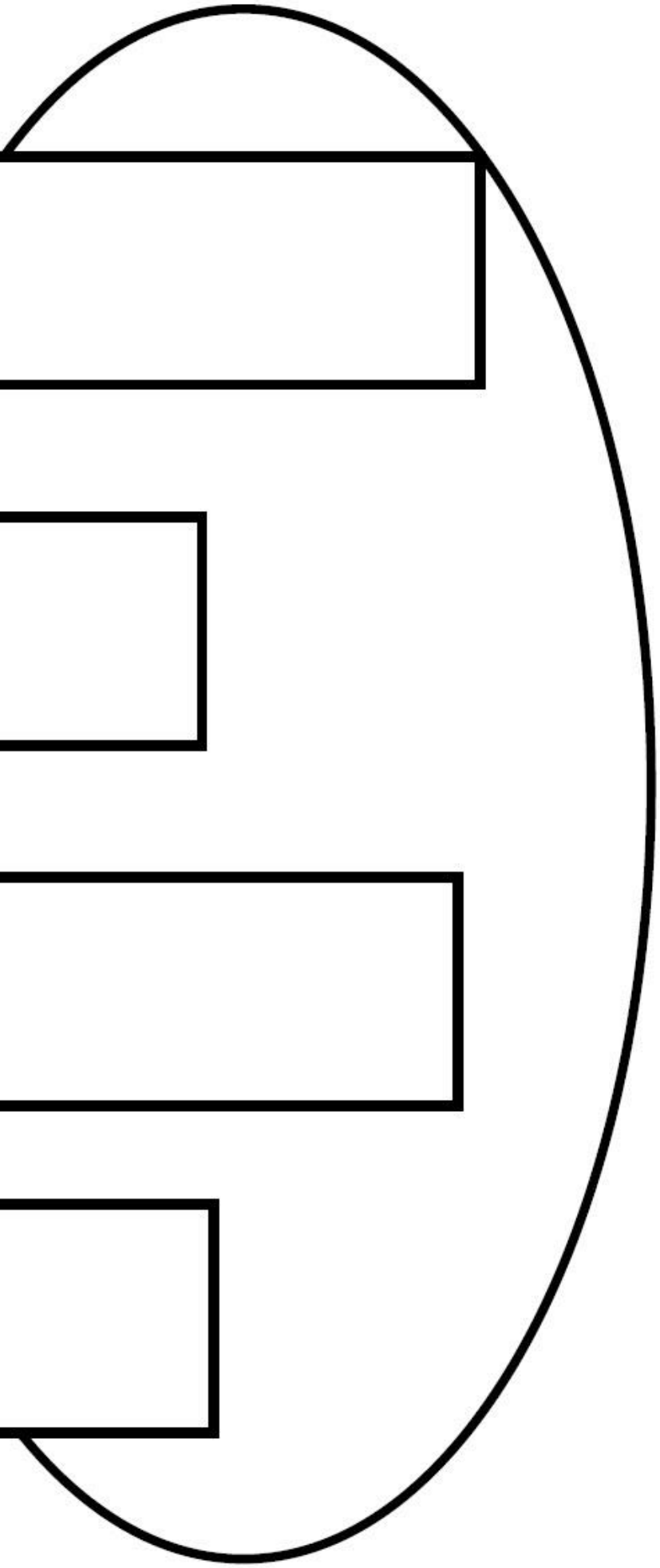
ADVENT WREATH

You will need: a template for each child, purple paper in different shades, pink paper in different shades, green paper in different shades, yellow and orange paper, glue sticks.

1. Tell the children about the Advent wreath. One candle is lit on each of the Sundays of Advent. The first, second and fourth candles are purple. The third is pink (rose), the liturgical colour for joy.
2. Rip paper into small pieces. Start with the purple.
3. Put some glue on a small area at a time and cover with the small pieces of paper.
4. Then move to the pink candle, then the flames, then the green wreath.
5. For an extra special effect, you could glue the completed artwork to black construction paper to create a framed look.



HAPPY ADVENT



WAITING FOR THE DENTIST,
I FEEL _____

WAITING FOR CHRISTMAS,
I FEEL _____

**WAITING FOR
A STORM TO HIT,**
I FEEL _____

WAITING FOR DINNER,
I FEEL _____

WAITING FOR A FRIEND TO VISIT,
I FEEL _____

