



T H E
Good Book
Advent



2019 Reading Guide

Advent, from the Latin word for “coming,” is a season of preparation and expectation for the celebration of Jesus’ birth and for the final coming of Christ. Christians around the world observe Advent beginning four Sundays before Christmas. This year Advent begins on December 1 and concludes December 24.

As you prepare your home and heart for the coming of Christ, we encourage you to participate in the spiritual practice of reading Holy Scripture daily. In this *Reading Guide* we have provided a daily reading plan to help you read the entire Gospel of Luke during the 24 days of Advent. All you need is a Bible, Bible App, or computer to access the readings (we recommend the NRSV Bible). After each daily reading is a “Spiritual Practice” to help you explore, grow, and deepen your faith and your Advent experience.

Visit www.christchurchcharlotte.org/goodbook to download this guide and learn more about *The Good Book Daily* and *The Good Book Beginning to End*.



Christ Church Charlotte

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Introduction: The Gospel of Mark is the shortest of the four gospels and likely was the first to be written. Mark emphasizes Christian discipleship and includes multiple conflicts, the most significant being Jesus' challenge to the priestly rules and Roman imperial overlords, which eventually culminated in Jesus' arrest and crucifixion. Ancient copies of Mark's Gospel end at 16:8, while other sources complete the narrative through the ascension at Mark 16:20.

The Gospel of Mark

The First Week of Advent

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday | Dec. 1 | Chapter 1:1-20 | Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Book of Common Prayer Pg. 211 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday | Dec. 2 | Chapter 1:21-45 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday | Dec. 3 | Chapter 2:1-28 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday | Dec. 4 | Chapter 3:1-35 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday | Dec. 5 | Chapter 4:1-20 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday | Dec. 6 | Chapter 4:21-41 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | Dec. 7 | Chapter 5:1-20 | |

The Second Week of Advent

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday | Dec. 8 | Chapter 5:21-43 | Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Book of Common Prayer Pg. 211 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday | Dec. 9 | Chapter 6:1-29 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday | Dec. 10 | Chapter 6:30-56 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday | Dec. 11 | Chapter 7:1-37 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday | Dec. 12 | Chapter 8:1-38 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday | Dec. 13 | Chapter 9:1-29 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | Dec. 14 | Chapter 9:30-50 | |

The Third Week of Advent

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday | Dec. 15 | Chapter 10:1-31 | Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen. Book of Common Prayer Pg. 212 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday | Dec. 16 | Chapter 10:32-52 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday | Dec. 17 | Chapter 11:1-33 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday | Dec. 18 | Chapter 12:1-27 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday | Dec. 19 | Chapter 12:28-44 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday | Dec. 20 | Chapter 13:1-37 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday | Dec. 21 | Chapter 14:1-31 | |

The Fourth Week of Advent

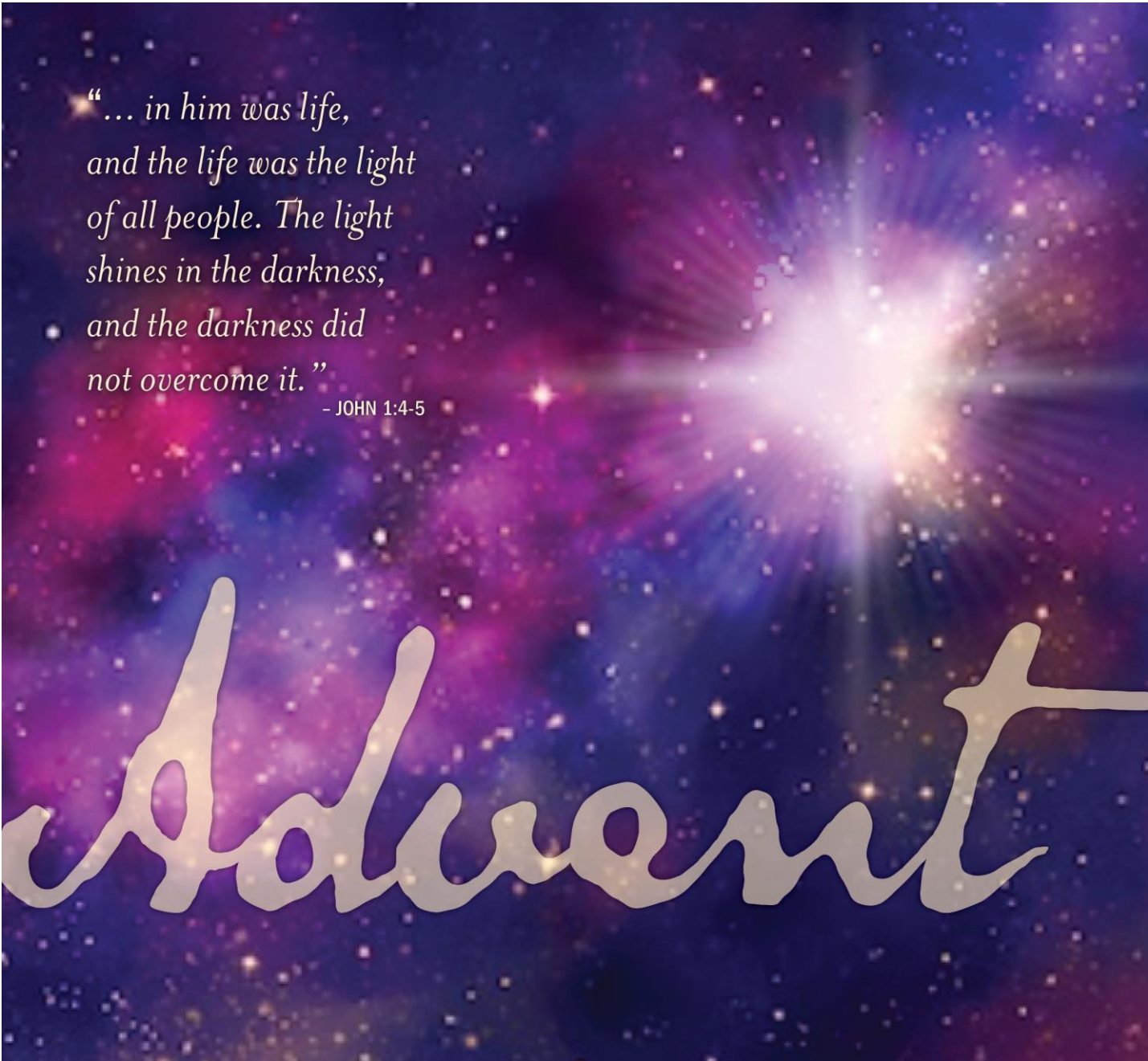
| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday | Dec. 22 | Chapter 14:32-72 | Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Book of Common Prayer Pg. 212 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday | Dec. 23 | Chapter 15:1-47 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday | Dec. 24 | Chapter 16:1-20 | |

Daily 2019 Advent Word and Spiritual Practices

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sunday | Dec. 1 | Unexpected | Keep alert for the unexpected. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday | Dec. 2 | Visit | Prepare for visitors to bring good news. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tuesday | Dec. 3 | Time | Be steady and sure in your use of time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Wednesday | Dec. 4 | Humble | In humility, welcome the coming of the Christ child. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Thursday | Dec. 5 | Raise | Raise your voice in anticipation of the coming of Christ. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friday | Dec. 6 | House | Think of your life as a house established in wisdom. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Saturday | Dec. 7 | Unity | What builds unity in your community? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sunday | Dec. 8 | Worthy | Align your life with the character of Christ. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday | Dec. 9 | Root | How has Jesus taken root in your life? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tuesday | Dec. 10 | Grace | Give thanks for the gift of God's grace. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Wednesday | Dec. 11 | Confess | Notice the connection of prayer, healing and confession. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Thursday | Dec. 12 | Harmony | What will you do today to promote harmony? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friday | Dec. 13 | Water | Refresh yourself in the waters of eternal life. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Saturday | Dec. 14 | Gather | Prepare to gather and welcome the presence of Christ. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sunday | Dec. 15 | Turn | Turn your heart to hear the words of peace. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday | Dec. 16 | Learn | Learn what it means to practice justice. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tuesday | Dec. 17 | Pray | Be purposeful in your prayer life. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Wednesday | Dec. 18 | Worship | Let your heart be glad. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Thursday | Dec. 19 | Bless | Give thanks for these good words of blessing. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friday | Dec. 20 | Go | Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Saturday | Dec. 21 | Rest | Bring your weariness to Jesus and find rest. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sunday | Dec. 22 | Restore | Welcome that which is restorative in hope. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday | Dec. 23 | Message | Prepare yourself for the light of Christ. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tuesday | Dec. 24 | Beloved | Beloved of Christ, share that love with one another. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Wednesday | Dec. 25 | Celebrate | Share the joy. |

During Advent we invite you to focus on the daily #AdventWord and the spiritual practice or question associated with each word. #AdventWord is out of Lifelong Learning at Virginia Theological Seminary. *Using social media you can meditate on the daily word and post a picture with two hashtags; #AdventWord and the daily word (ie. #Awaken).* Visit www.AdventWord.org to learn more.





*“... in him was life,
and the life was the light
of all people. The light
shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did
not overcome it.”*

- JOHN 1:4-5

Advent