

ADVENT

# Devotional

O COME,  
O COME,  
EMMANUEL!

By: Erika Hayes

WEEK ONE  
DAY ONE

Advent is a time to prepare ourselves for the coming of the baby Jesus.

There are four weeks to Advent.

The first candle of the Advent wreath represents Hope.

Hope is a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

1. What are you excited or hopeful about as we wait for Christmas?
2. Are you hopeful or have you lost hope?
3. Where in your life do you need to invite the Holy Spirit to come bring you hope?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with hope.

WEEK ONE  
DAY TWO

The first candle of the Advent wreath represents Hope.

Hope is a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

“For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.”

Romans 8:24-25

1. Are you hoping for something that you actually already have?
2. Are you in a season of waiting? How can you wait patiently for the the right time for the Holy Spirit to work in you?
3. Are you patient? Who are you not patient with? God asks us to wait patiently for him to work in our lives.

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with hope.



WEEK ONE  
DAY THREE

The first candle of the Advent wreath represents Hope.

Hope is a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

“And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.”

Romans 5:2-7

1. When have you been through a hard time but learned from it and persevered?
2. Where have you felt the Holy Spirit pour God’s love into your heart?
3. How can you pour love and therefore hope in others’ lives? Where have you fallen short in this call to love and hope for others?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with hope.

WEEK ONE  
DAY FOUR

The first candle of the Advent wreath represents Hope.

Hope is a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

“Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.”

Proverbs 13:12

1. When have you wished for something to happen and it came about? When did it not come about? How did you feel?
2. How can you fulfill others hopes and give them life?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with hope.



WEEK ONE  
DAY FIVE

The first candle of the Advent wreath represents Hope.

Hope is a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

“Oh, that I might have my request, that God would grant what I hope for...”

Job 6:8

1. What do you request of God right now?
2. Knowing that this may not be God’s will or maybe just not now, how do you feel?
3. What would you like to ask God for today?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with hope.

WEEK ONE  
DAY SIX

The first candle of the Advent wreath represents Hope.

Hope is a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

1. What plans do you think God has for you?
2. How can you work on them today? If you don’t know, how can you try and listen better to the Holy Spirit? It could be there is no answer right now, so how can you practice patience and remain faithful?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with hope.



WEEK TWO  
DAY ONE

The second candle of the Advent wreath represents Faith.

Faith is complete trust or confidence in something.

“Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

Hebrews 11:1

1. In what you put your faith? What areas of your life are you not surrendering to God but trusting in the ways of this world?
2. We cannot see God, but how do we see signs that he exists?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with faith.

WEEK TWO  
DAY TWO

The second candle of the Advent wreath represents Faith.

Faith is complete trust or confidence in something.

“And Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

Matthew 11:22-24

1. Jesus says we can move mountains with our faith in God - what kind of metaphorical mountains are in your life that you wish you could move?
2. What mountain would you like to ask God to move for you today? Why?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with faith.



WEEK TWO  
DAY THREE

The second candle of the Advent wreath represents Faith.

Faith is complete trust or confidence in something.

“That your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”  
1 Corinthians 2:5

1. What lies about God or yourself have you been listening to or hearing from the wisdom of men? Ask God to come into that place and change your heart.
2. God is all powerful - how do you picture God in your mind? What images come to mind when you hear he is all powerful?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with faith.

WEEK TWO  
DAY FOUR

The second candle of the Advent wreath represents Faith.

Faith is complete trust or confidence in something.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”  
Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Where are you trying to control areas of your life or lean on your own understanding instead of listening to the Holy Spirit's wisdom?
2. How can you acknowledge God in “all your ways” throughout the day? Come up with at least one way and try and do it today.

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with faith.



WEEK TWO  
DAY FIVE

The second candle of the Advent wreath represents Faith.

Faith is complete trust or confidence in something.

“What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. . .”

James 2:14-26

1. What is one good work we can do today to reaffirm our faith in the God of love? How can we radiate his love to others?
2. Do you feel the Holy Spirit prompting you to do good works? If so, what has held you back?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with faith.

WEEK TWO  
DAY SIX

The second candle of the Advent wreath represents Faith.

Faith is complete trust or confidence in something.

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

2 Timothy 4:7

1. The writer is comparing life to fighting a “good” fight. How were you faithful today by fighting the good fight? How can you do better tomorrow?
2. How have you kept your faith even during “fights” in your life? Are going through a specific struggle right now that requires more faith? Ask for strength to remain faithful.

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with faith.



WEEK THREE  
DAY ONE

The third candle of the Advent wreath represents Joy.

Joy is a feeling of great happiness, rejoicing.

“This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.”  
Psalm 94:19

1. What are you grateful for today? How can you rejoice over the blessings you’ve experienced today?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with joy.

WEEK THREE  
DAY TWO

The third candle of the Advent wreath represents Joy.

Joy is a feeling of great happiness, rejoicing.

“When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.”  
Psalm 94:19

1. What are you anxious about? Take a few moments to name your anxieties, maybe write them down and then tell God you are placing them all under his control.
2. Which of these are due to something you can take action to reduce anxiety? Which are needless anxieties that you cannot help the outcome at all? Ask God to bring you his joy in place of anxiety.

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with joy.



WEEK THREE  
DAY THREE

The third candle of the Advent wreath represents Joy.

Joy is a feeling of great happiness, rejoicing.

“My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you—I whom you have delivered.”

Psalm 73:21

1. Where did you see God’s goodness and beauty today? Did you praise and thank Him? If not, do so now!
2. Has God slowly been delivering you from something lately or is there something you need to be delivered from at this time? Let Him in to deliver you, follow the Holy Spirit’s lead and rejoice!

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with joy.

WEEK THREE  
DAY FOUR

The third candle of the Advent wreath represents Joy.

Joy is a feeling of great happiness, rejoicing.

“Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

1. Invite the Holy Spirit to come and fill you with peace, joy and hope right now.
2. When did you feel peace and joy today? Take a moment to analyze why you felt peace at that time. Can you create more moments like this tomorrow?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with joy.



WEEK THREE  
DAY FIVE

The third candle of the Advent wreath represents Joy.

Joy is a feeling of great happiness, rejoicing.

“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Revelation 21: 3-4

1. What makes you sad? God says he will wipe away our tears and replace it with joy. How can you give your sadness to God next time and not carry it alone? Can you make up some quick words to call to mind?
2. God is dwelling among men, where have you felt God’s presence lately? If you haven’t felt it, why do you think that is?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with joy.

WEEK THREE  
DAY SIX

The third candle of the Advent wreath represents Joy.

Joy is a feeling of great happiness, rejoicing.

“Then Jesus told them this parable: “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”

Luke 15:3-7

1. Have you ever lost something and then found it again? How did you feel? That is how God feels only so much more than we can imagine when we listen and follow him.
2. God is rejoicing over you - allow yourself a moment to sit in that knowledge, let it settle in your bones.

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with joy.



WEEK FOUR  
DAY ONE

The fourth candle of the Advent wreath represents Love.

Love is an intense feeling of deep affection.

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13: 4-8

1. What are the characteristics of love in this verse?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with love.

WEEK FOUR  
DAY TWO

The fourth candle of the Advent wreath represents Love.

Love is an intense feeling of deep affection.

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13: 4-8

1. How are you doing really well loving according to this verse's characteristics? Can you come up with examples?
2. What areas do you need to work on? How can you do better tomorrow in love?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with love.



WEEK FOUR  
DAY THREE

The fourth candle of the Advent wreath represents Love.

Love is an intense feeling of deep affection.

“Do everything in love.”  
1 Corinthians 16:14

1. When we do everything - even the boring moments of every day - with love, it gives them meaning. What did you do with love today? Where did you fall short doing actions and words without love?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with love.

WEEK FOUR  
DAY FOUR

The fourth candle of the Advent wreath represents Love.

Love is an intense feeling of deep affection.

“Let love and faithfulness never leave you;  
bind them around your neck,  
write them on the tablet of your heart.  
Then you will win favor and a good name  
in the sight of God and man.”  
Proverbs 3: 3-4

1. The verse says to write love on a tablet of your heart. What do you think this means? What could you do tomorrow and every day to try and recall love as the way to live all your actions? (create a prayer card, a necklace, etc)
2. Think about the moments you didn't love well today. Why was that? How can you change those moments tomorrow?

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with love.



WEEK FOUR  
DAY FIVE

The fourth candle of the Advent wreath represents Love.

Love is an intense feeling of deep affection.

“We love because He first loved us.”

1 John 4: 19

1. God loves us so much he came down from Heaven as a baby and then died on the cross for us. Where else have you felt that kind of love? From whom?
2. Take a few moments to ponder the love of God and let it settle in your being try and let it settle in your soul so you can pass it on to everyone you meet today - even those who it's hard to love in our lives.

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with love.

WEEK FOUR  
DAY SIX

The fourth candle of the Advent wreath represents Love.

Love is an intense feeling of deep affection.

“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13: 13

“And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”

Colossians 3:14

1. Recall the virtues of this advent: faith, hope, joy, love. These verses say that love pulls them all together and is the greatest. Who can you pass on some love to today? A friend, a family member, someone who is sad or lonely - come up with a simple action you can take today to love them. No action is too small!
2. Take a moment to reflect on where you are lacking love in your life. Ask God to go there and bring love to that part of your life.

Holy Spirit, come into our home this Advent and fill us with love.

