

Send

Getting ready for Christmas

Jesus told a story to help his disciples get ready for his coming. Jesus wants us to get ready for his coming, too. Praying is one way we can get ready for Christmas.



Ask someone to help you write a prayer of thanks to God.



Dear God, please help me get ready for Jesus' birthday by talking to you. Amen

This week

Every day, thank God for something good that happened that day.



gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent means “coming.” During Advent we get ready and wait for Jesus to come. What’s different in your worship space today? What colors do you see? Do you see an Advent wreath? What color are the candles? Is one candle burning?

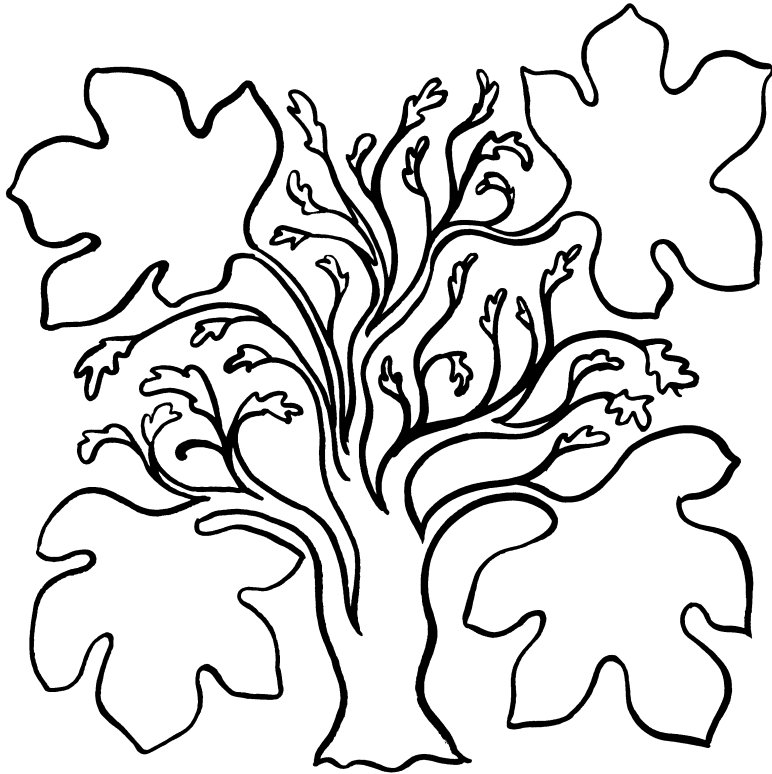
Color and light one candle here.



The fig tree

Luke 21:25-36

Jesus told a story to his friends. In the winter, many trees have no leaves. But in the springtime their leaves begin to appear. These new green leaves show that summer is near. This is one sign that God's kingdom is coming. Look around you: Jesus is coming. Get ready!



Unscramble these words to find ways you can get ready for Jesus. Write one word inside each fig leaf.

apry _____ rashe _____

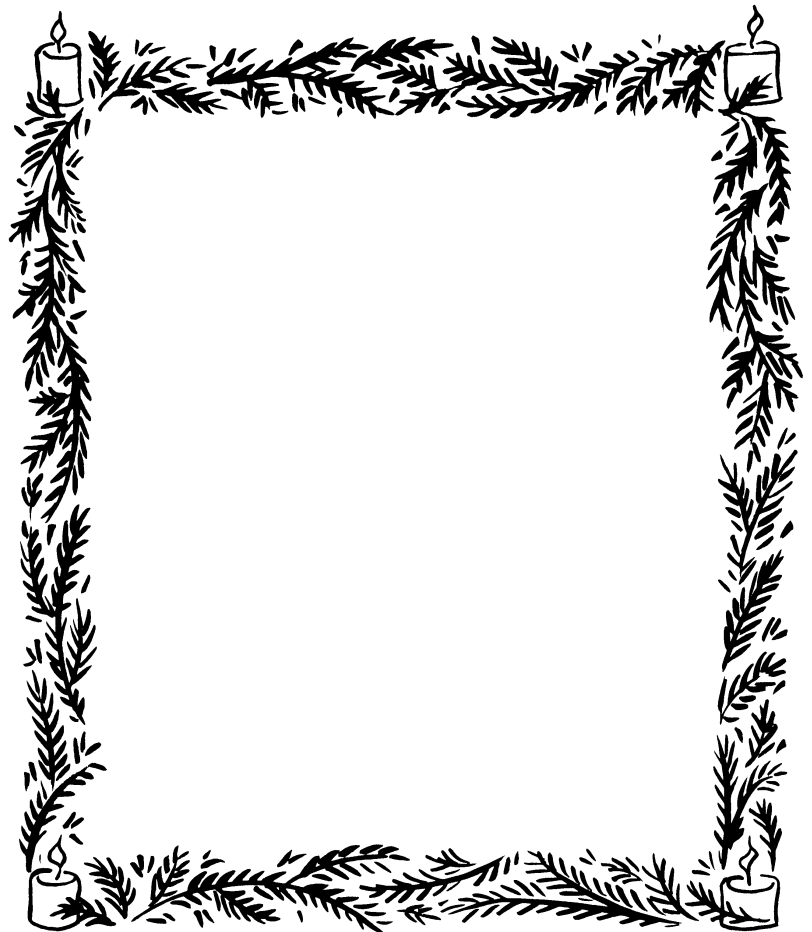
gism _____ sipwroh _____

The Advent wreath

The Advent wreath has four candles to remind us of the four weeks we wait for Jesus' birthday. The circle of the wreath reminds us of God's never-ending love. A circle has no beginning or ending.



Look around you. Where do you see circles?
How many can you find?



Draw your church's Advent wreath in the space above.