



ADVENT

Hope



Word of the Week

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

During the season of Advent, we are called to seek the light of Christ, even in the midst of darkness. We are invited to face the darkness in our own lives and in the world around us with hope. We are called to watch for the light. We are called to wait, to hope, to trust in promises made.

As we make this Advent journey in faith, we invite God's light, God's hope, to dispel any darkness, in our hearts or in our world darkness.



Prayer for the Week

Lord Jesus, in this Advent season we wait eagerly for your arrival. Come fill us with your hope, your peace, your love, and your joy. Come, Lord Jesus, come! Amen.

Take a moment to reflect on the following questions either in silence or in conversation with the person next to you.

- How would you define 'hope'?
- Why is it important that I have hope in today's world?
- How can we show that we are people of hope in our everyday lives?



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

Imagine a Christmas scene that has been arranged under the altar of a church. This is probably the most meaningful crib you have ever seen. The wood-carved figures are made in India: a poor woman, a poor man and a small child between them. The carving is simple, nearly primitive. No eyes, no ears, no mouths, just the contours of the faces. The figurines are smaller than a human hand – nearly too small to attract attention. But then a beam of light shines on the figures and projects large shadows on the walls of the sanctuary. That says it all. The light thrown on the smallness of Mary, Joseph, and the Child projects them as large hopeful shadows against the walls of our life and our world. Without the radiant beam of light shining into the darkness, there is little to be seen. We might just pass by these simple people and continue to walk in darkness. But everything changes with the light. (Adapted from Henri Nouwen)



The Hope of Advent (3:40-9:27)

[CLICK HERE](#)

O Come O Come Emmanuel
([CLICK HERE](#))

Something to do...

At some point this week look out for a story in the newspaper, on social media or in the news which fills you with hope. Then tear it out, print it off, to email it across and share with your form!

Advent Appeal

As you all know this year we are collecting for our local Churches Together Foodbank. Each year group has been assigned a different group of items to collect and donate. Please keep your donations coming, the more the better!

