

## Advent words

Advent is here. Jesus is coming, and we know that God will always take care of us. Look hard and find the following Advent words and phrases in the puzzle.

**WATCH    WAIT    WONDER    ADVENT    STAY AWAKE**  
**BE ALERT    JESUS IS COMING    LIGHT CANDLES**

J K A T O P L B M A R C J  
 N E S I Z J W Q U F X M B  
 O V S T A Y A W A K E L F  
 R Y W U B Q Z A H R U C I  
 E N Z A S L W I P K E M D  
 D S O V H I L T H U R W P  
 X G R C E G S O L F W T Y  
 A K T J Z H N C E D A L X  
 G A U H B T E W O N D E R  
 W R I T S C L K B M Y D A  
 T N E V D A N T S Z I B L  
 U F J W E N P K M O V N Q  
 N X I B H D A B R E N T G  
 V L B E A L E R T F J U C  
 O C Y G I E N L B O D R W  
 F Q U V D S J S I R K P D



*God, sometimes it's really hard to watch and wait. Be with us in these Advent days. Amen*

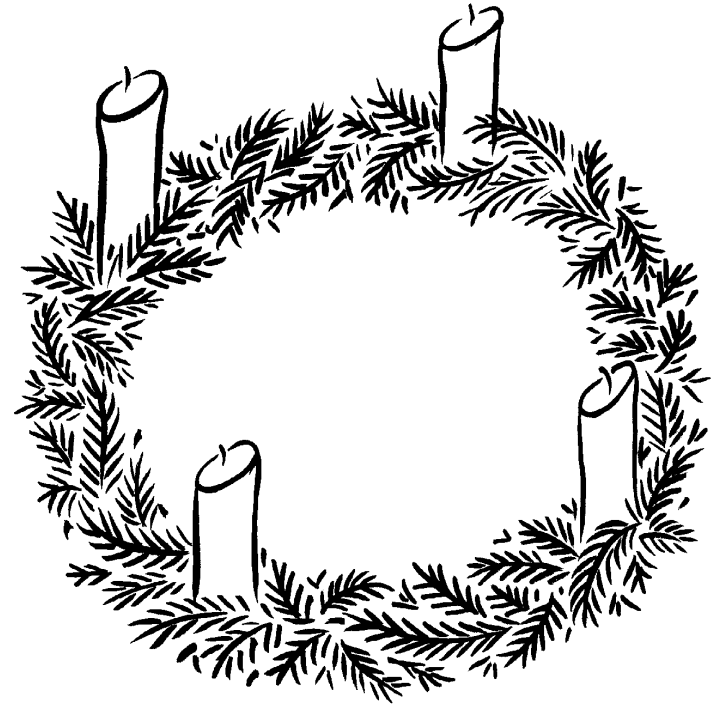
## This week

Practice watching and waiting at home. Plant an amaryllis bulb and watch the new growth appear during the days of Advent.

## gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the first day of Advent, the time when we watch and wait for baby Jesus to come.

**In the advent wreath shown below, color one of the candles, draw any new decorations you see in your worship space, and finally, draw a picture of you waiting for something really exciting to happen.**



At home, light one candle to celebrate the first week of Advent.

## Keep awake! Jesus is coming soon!

Mark 13:24-37

Sometimes it is very hard to wait, and it is especially hard to wait for Jesus to come. It seems to take such a long time! Jesus reminds us that God is with us in all of our waiting. Thanks be to God for that!

**Look at this picture, find the hidden symbols and discover new ways to wait for baby Jesus.**

*I see a crown made of candles, an advent wreath, an angel, a tree with a gift underneath.*



*I see straw in a manger, a shoe filled with treats, and two people walking with sandals on their feet.*



St. Nicholas Day, December 6:  
Surprise a neighbor and leave a bag of sweet treats outside their front door.



Create *Jesus is Coming!* greetings for friends and relatives.



Add pieces of straw or colorful strips of fabric to an empty manger made of a small cardboard box.



First day of Advent: Find 4 candles to light—one on each of the 4 Sundays of Advent.



Wrap gifts together.



St. Lucia Day, December 13: Eat a candlelight breakfast.



Move these pieces of the nativity closer to the manger as Advent progresses.