



## Using an Advent Wreath

Many Christians celebrate Advent in their homes through daily prayers around the Advent wreath. This traditional circular wreath reminds us that God, like the circle, has no beginning and no end. Evergreens are used on the wreath as a symbol of our everlasting relationship with God.

Each wreath includes four candles, one for each of the four weeks of Advent. The colors of the candles (three purple or dark royal blue and one rose or pink) represent the major themes of Advent: kingship and repentance

(purple) and joy (rose). The four candles are lit, one each week, during the four weeks of Advent—one on the first Sunday of Advent and an additional candle each week until Christmas. Some households like to add a fifth candle that is white to represent Christ to the center of the circle and light it on Christmas Eve.

Lighting these candles reminds us throughout Advent that the incarnation of Christ transforms the darkness of hatred and evil into the light of joy and love.