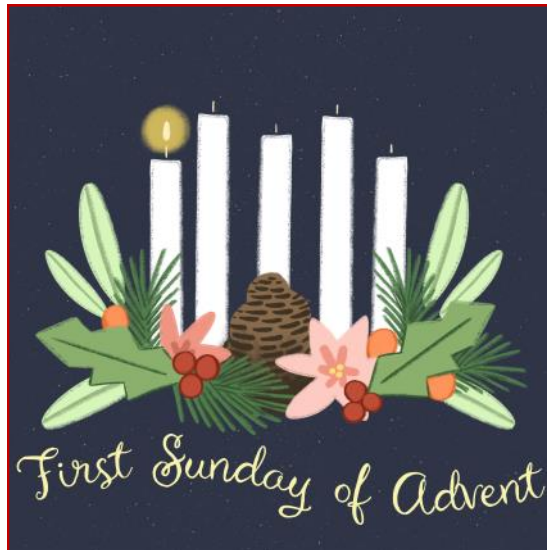


Zion Lutheran Church



December 3rd, 2023
First Sunday in Advent



[Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool!](#)

Thank you for joining us in worship of the Lord. We would love to get to know you, and for you to learn more about our church family at Zion. Please stop by our welcome table as you leave worship. We cordially invite you to talk with Pastor Grimenstein, our Elders, or any of our church members to learn more about our fellowship. At our website -- zlc.org -- you can find out more about the many worship, Christian education, and fellowship opportunities at Zion.

Communion Statement

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, Christ's physical body and blood are present in the bread and wine (1 Cor. 11:23-25). We also believe receiving the Lord's Supper is an act of church fellowship. Scripture cautions that those who receive without recognizing Christ's body and blood will bring judgment upon themselves (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Therefore, out of love to our guests, we invite to our altar to receive the Lord's Supper those who are baptized, confirmed, repentant members of Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod congregations or sister congregations. If you are visiting us today from another Christian denomination, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.

In preparation to receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner please consider reading "Christian Questions with their Answers" on Page 329-330. If you are interested in exploring membership, please talk with Pastor Grimenstein or call the church office.

Our Worship

Our worship services are based on traditional church liturgies in which God speaks to us in His Word and we respond to Him. These liturgies were used by the early church almost 2000 years ago and are rich in scriptural meaning, connecting us to our past -- and future -- in Christ Jesus. There is a depth to Lutheran worship that can take time to appreciate, thus you may find that you don't understand everything that is happening the first week you visit. That's OK, we encourage you to keep visiting!

Opening Hymn -- Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #341



1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the
 2 Arighteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot
 3 How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the
 4 Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a
 5 Redeemer, come and open wide My heart to



King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing
 is humil-ity, His kingly crown is ho-li-
 ruler is confessed! O peaceful hearts and happy
 temple set apart From earth-ly use for heav'n's em-
 Thee; here, Lord, abide! O enter with Thy grace di-



near; The Savior of the world is here. Life and sal-
 ness, His scep-ter, in dis-tress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in triumph comes! The cloud-less
 play, Adorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
 vine; Thy face of mercy on me shine. Thy Ho-ly



va-tion He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
 all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His people free.
 Sov'reign enter in And new and nobler life begin.
 Spir-it guide us on Un-til our glorious goal is won.



To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.
 To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 Eternal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit -- Psalm 25:1–3; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.



P Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;
righteous and having sal- | vation.

C **To you, | O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.**

**O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;
let not my enemies exult | over me.**

**Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

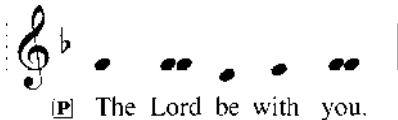
P Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;
righteous and having sal- | vation.

Kyrie

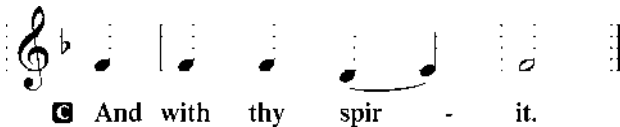


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading -- Isaiah 64:1-9

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.
You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Grace Bell Choir -- *Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending* (8:00 am)

Choir -- *Bethlehem Wind* (10:30 am)

Epistle Reading -- 1 Corinthians 1:3–9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God

is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

G I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day -- Savior of the Nations, Come #332



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
 Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 God was there up - on His throne.
 His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>5 God the Father was His source,
 Back to God He ran His course.
 Into hell His road went down,
 Back then to His throne and crown.</p> | <p>7 From the manger newborn light
 Shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there no more resides;
 In this light faith now abides.</p> |
| <p>6 For You are the Father's Son
 Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
 By Your mighty pow'r make whole
 All our ills of flesh and soul.</p> | <p>△8 Glory to the Father sing,
 Glory to the Son, our king,
 Glory to the Spirit be
 Now and through eternity.</p> |

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Sermon

Offertory



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Gathering of Offerings

Offering plates are located on the tables at the main and side entrance to the sanctuary.

Prayer of the Church

P ... Let us pray to the Lord.

C ... Lord have mercy.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

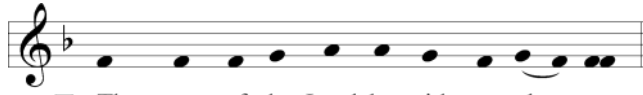
Lord's Prayer

- C** Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
- For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

If you are visiting us today from a Christian denomination outside the Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.

Faith Bell Choir -- Prepare the Royal Highway

Distribution Hymns

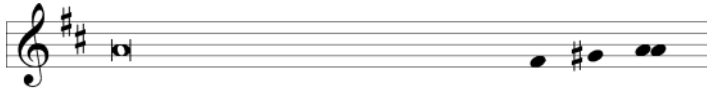
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You	#334
Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come	#350
Once He Came in Blessing	#333

Nunc Dimittis

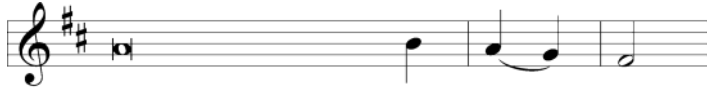


Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus



A Bless we the Lord.

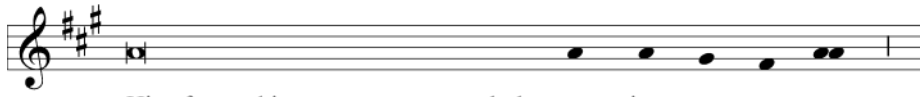


C Thanks be to God.

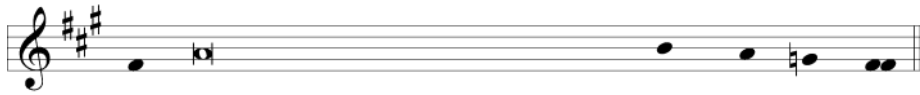
Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.



Closing Hymn -- Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending #336



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Prayer Requests for Family & Friends

The Church:

- For our homebound members:** Florence Boehme.
- Healing & Strength for:** Celia Evans, Amy (niece of Jodi Fitzgerald), Natalie Cicioni (Ryan Cicioni's sister), Michelle Hopkins (sister of Mark Killinger), Pam Riley (friend of Bobbie Hoelle), Tom & Kim Erbrecht, Mary Lou Neill, Dante (cousin of Maryann McClure), Pastor Ernest Knoche, Jen Fitzgerald, Barbara & Kara Koski, Mike Wallace, Joanne Garloff, Richard Hultman, Rita Sheldon, Dennis & Esther Finney, Eva Bukovitz, Judy Graziano, Alyssa Mance, Shannon Mance, Dave Hutula, and Mabel Granke.
- **For the bereaved:** Families of Millie Thielet and Roxanne Burgh.
- For the ministry of Zion Lutheran Sunday School and Preschool.

The World:

- For peace in Ukraine.
- For an end to abortion and human trafficking.
- For the youth in our community.

Our Nation:

- For our leaders and government officials.
- For those in foster care and those looking to adopt.
- For the disabled, unborn and aged.



Service Participants

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
Organist:	Doug Krantz
Elders:	Mike Wallace & Sam Garloff (8:00) Bill Bishop & Jim Neill (10:30)
Acolytes:	Emily Trentini (8:00); Pippa Carter (10:30)
Ushers:	Bill, Ken & Will Schrag; Jason Trentini (8:00) John, Liz, Luke & Johnny Lemonovich (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Janet & Marian Oelschlager

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by the Lemonovich family in memory of Richard Wible; and by Andy Weldon in memory of his grandparents.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Carolyn Wible in memory of Richard Wible.

POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY are now available for order in honor of, or memory of, loved ones. The flowers will be displayed in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, then you may pick them up following the 7 pm service. Order forms are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary -- last day to order is Sunday 12/10.



CALLING ALL BAKERS! Please consider donating cookies for our reception following the 10:30 service on Sun., Dec. 10. On this date our Sunday School kids will be singing during late service and we'll watch their Christmas video pageant. Cookie donations should be at church by 9:30 am on Sun. 12/10. Any questions, contact Megan Pasquini -- meganpasquini@hotmail.com.



ANGEL TREE GIFTS are due next Sunday 12/10. Please return your gift under the small tree unwrapped.

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (11/26) -- 51 (8 am); 73 (10:30 am)

Mid-Week Worship (11/29) -- 14 (2 pm)

Plate Offerings (11/26) -- \$4362 Online Offering -- \$15,805

Online giving is available on Zion's website at www.zlcb.org/donate



This Week at Zion

SUN 12/3 1 st Sunday in Advent	8:00 AM -- Worship 9:15 AM -- Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday school 10:30 AM -- Worship <i>Soup Fundraiser Pick-Up</i>
MON 12/4	7:00 PM -- Preschool Christmas Program
TUE 12/5	7:00 PM -- Preschool Christmas Program
WED 12/6	2:00 PM -- Mid-Week Advent Service -- Week 1 7:00 PM -- Mid-Week Advent Service -- Week 1
THU 12/7	7:00 PM -- Preschool Christmas Program
FRI 12/8	
SAT 12/9	
SUN 12/10 2 nd Sunday in Advent	8:00 AM -- Worship (SS Christmas Video Showing after service) 9:15 AM -- Adult/Teen Bible Study & Sunday school 10:30 AM -- Worship (SS Christmas Video Showing after service) <i>Cookie & Punch reception following second service</i> 6:00 PM -- Ladies Dinner & Ornament Exchange (Napoli Restaurant)



Mid-week Advent services ...



... begin Wednesday at 2 & 7 pm. Join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of our Savior!

Advent Devotionals are now available in the black basket organizer near the door in the back of the sanctuary. Please take one.



Interested in becoming a member?

Pastor Grimenstein will be starting an Adult Confirmation Class on **Thurs., January 11th at 6:00** for those interested in learning more about the Lutheran faith who are considering church membership. The class is also open to current members interested in a "refresher" on the basics of the faith. The class will meet **every Thursday from 6:00-6:45** for six weeks and will cover topics ranging from Baptism to the Ten Commandments.

Please email Zion secretary Susie Bishop secretary@zlcb.org to let her know you're interested in joining the class.

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

1

What is Advent?

Advent marks the beginning of the Church Year. Advent is made up of the four Sundays that come right before Christmas. In other words, the deeper into Advent you go, the closer you get to Christmas Day. For Christians, the First Sunday in Advent is kind of like the “New Year’s Day” of the Church Year calendar.



Why do we celebrate Advent?

The word Advent means “coming.” During Advent, we prepare for the coming of the One who was born that first Christmas in a stable. We prepare for the One who saved us from sin, death and the power of the devil: our Lord Jesus Christ! What a wonderful and exciting time of preparation!



Parents:

At home, in order to help your children better prepare for the birth of Jesus, try using an Advent devotional booklet provided by the church for family devotions.

