



5th December 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Prepare the way



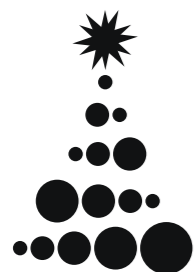
SHARE
Share your highs and lows of the day, or respond to the following questions:

1

How are you preparing for Christmas? What will you do over the coming weeks to prepare – at home and at church?

2

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. How might we prepare the way for Jesus to come into our homes and communities?



Devotions



READ Daily Bible Readings

S	Luke 3:1-6	Prepare the way of the Lord
M	Malachi 3:1-4	He will be like a refiner's fire
T	Philippians 1:3-11	Thanksgiving and prayer
W	Isaiah 62:1-5,10-12	Prepare the way for the people
T	Zechariah 2:10-13	The Lord will come to live among us
F	1 Peter 1:13-25	Prepare your minds for action
S	Luke 1:68-79	Zechariah's song
S	Luke 3:7-18	One more powerful is coming



TALK Talk about the Bible verse. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

Rituals and Traditions



PRAY
Lord, prepare your way in us. Set us straight where we are crooked and make us smooth where we are rough. Amen.



BLESS
May God prepare your heart this Advent.



Advent

Advent is a time for preparing, a time of waiting and watching. We celebrate Advent with the colour **BLUE** as this communicates the message of hope. Our Christian faith rests on the hope that one day Jesus will come again.

Creative Response

Create a 'Jesse tree' to celebrate Jesus' heritage (Isaiah 11:1 and Matthew 1:1-16). Prepare symbols using card and string. Include the names of Jesus' ancestors and the related Bible references. Hang them on a small potted branch or on your Christmas tree during the remainder of Advent. Read your Bible verses as you hang them up.

STAR – Abraham – Gen 15:4-6

CROWN – David – 2 Sam 2:1-7

ALTAR – Isaac – Gen 22:9-12

TEMPLE – Solomon – 2 Chron 3:1-7

JUG – Rebecca – Gen 24:12-20

TOWER – Uzziah – 2 Chron 26:1-10

STAIRWAY – Jacob – Gen 28:10-17

NUMBER 7 – Rachel – Gen 29:15-20

SUN – Hezekiah – 2 Kings 20:1-11

COAT – Joseph – Gen 37:1-4

SCROLL – Josiah – 2 Kings 22:8-20

COINS – Judah – Gen 37:25-28

PRISONER – Jehoiachin – 2 Kings 24: 8-15

ROPE – Rahab – Joshua 2

ANGEL – Joseph – Matt 1: 18-25

WHEAT – Ruth – Ruth 2:1-12

SONG – Mary – Luke 1:39-56

SHEEP – Jesse – 1 Sam 16: 1-13

MANGER – Jesus – Luke 2:4-7



verse for the week

Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him.

LUKE 3:4

Service



Look through this list of ideas for sharing during Advent. Choose one or more to put into practice this week.

- Look through your clothes for 'pre-loved' items that are still in good condition. Bundle them for delivery to a local thrift or charity store.
- Bake biscuits as a family. Keep half and give the rest away.
- Locate Israel and Bethlehem on a globe or world map. Pray for peace in the country and region of Jesus' birth.
- Write an encouraging note to a friend you haven't heard from in a while.

mealtime prayer

Lord Jesus, bless our home with hope this Advent. As we enjoy your gifts, make us ready for your coming again. Amen.