

*I was sick  
and you  
visited me.*

Matthew 25:36, ESV



# **Sunday, November 22, 2020**

## **Christ the King**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,  
In whose image we are made,  
Who claims us and calls us beloved. Amen.

Holy One,  
We confess that we are not awake for you.  
We are not faithful to using your gifts.  
We forget the least of our siblings.  
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.  
We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.  
Open our hearts to your coming,  
Open our eyes to see you in our neighbour,  
Open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given for you,  
And for his sake God forgives us all our sins.  
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority,  
I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,  
In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

### **GATHERING SONG**

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the

world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Ezekiel.

*Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.*

<sup>11</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup>I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

<sup>23</sup>I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

*The reading may be concluded:*

The word of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 100

<sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all you lands!

<sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence | with a song.

<sup>3</sup>**Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom | we belong;  
we are God's people and the sheep | of God's pasture.**

<sup>4</sup>Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise;  
give thanks and bless God's | holy name.

<sup>5</sup>**Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is | everlasting,  
whose faithfulness endures from | age to age.**

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Ephesians.

*In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.*

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*The reading may be concluded:*

The word of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46**

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!Alrwdlq5YZa1hUWT5oWiP-k6ZtJW>

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages. Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Heal the sinful divisions we erect between us and release us from systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of all in need, search out all who cry to you in distress. Scatter the heavy clouds of depression, chronic illness, unemployment, and loneliness with your radiant light. We pray especially for Klaus, Jack, Peter, Anne, Mervyn, Ken, Mary, Beryl, Katana, Neil, Maria, Ralph, Rose Marie, Nya, Karen, Ron, Brian, and Kolby. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, that we may see your presence in those in need around us. We especially remember before you today Wayne and Alison. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all

creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:  
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.  
You formed the earth from chaos;  
you encircled the globe with air;  
you created fire for warmth and light;  
you nourish the lands with water.  
You molded us in your image,  
and with mercy higher than the mountains,  
with grace deeper than the seas,  
you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.  
That also we, estranged and dying,  
might be adopted to live in your Spirit,  
you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Son,  
the first-born of your new creation.  
We remember his life lived for others,  
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.  
We await his coming,  
when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,  
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate,  
send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,  
whose breath revives us for life,  
whose fire rouses us to love.  
Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.  
Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,  
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Holy and benevolent God,  
receive our praise and petitions,  
as Jesus received the cry of the needy,  
and fill us with your blessing,  
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love,  
we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb:  
through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

**Amen.**



## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favour and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*\* PLEASE REMEMBER \*\***

**TO BOOK IN ADVANCE FOR "LIMITED" SUNDAY WORSHIP**

By calling the office (519-271-8527) Monday to Thursday 8:00 am to 1:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

**For the recorded version of Pastor Jeff's Sermon of today**

**Visit our website at**

**[www.zionstratford.com](http://www.zionstratford.com)**



Today's bulletin is sponsored in loving memory of

*Ruth Illman, +November 23, 2016*

&

*Paul Illman, +October 31, 2013*

By their Family

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest."*

Matthew 11:28

# STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING

Below is a handout we received from Stratford House of Blessing outlining their needs at the present time.

Please note that due to COVID-19 their need is greatest in the areas of both: financial support and food.

Any support you can give is GREATLY appreciated!!

*Thank you for your generosity!!!*



## Stratford House of Blessing's Most Needed Items

*However, please note that due to COVID-19 our need is greatest in the areas of both: financial support and food.*

### Stratford House of Blessing

423 Erie St. Stratford, ON N5A 2N3

Phone: 519-273-3433 Email: [info@shob.org](mailto:info@shob.org)

Web: [shob.org](http://shob.org) Media: @StratfordHOB

Charitable #: 119200020RR0001

As we have been unable to do grocery store food drives, we rely on people like you, to donate.

Your financial donations are especially helpful because they allow us to see where the gaps are and make bulk purchases as well as pay expenses related to running a food bank: maintenance of building, refrigeration, delivery vehicles, and food banking equipment; and costs of transportation (fuel), heat, hydro, staffing, sanitation products and communications to the most vulnerable in our community. You can donate securely online at [shob.org/donation-form](http://shob.org/donation-form).

### FRESH FOOD

- Root vegetables like carrots, onions and potatoes
- Squashes
- Fresh fruit
- Fresh vegetables
- Frozen vegetables and fruit
- Frozen Meals
- Fresh and frozen meat directly from the grocery store
- Lunch meats
- Cheese and yogurt
- Fruit juice

#### Remember:

- We will gladly accept extras from your garden
- We partner with local farmers, butchers and grocery stores
- Connect with us:  
email: [operations@shob.org](mailto:operations@shob.org)  
call: 519-273-3433 x 205

### NON-PERISHABLES

- Healthy school snacks
- Peanut Butter
- Canned vegetables and fruit
- Canned fish - tuna and salmon-
- Canned meat - ham, chicken, turkey
- Canned soups, stews and chili
- Pasta and Sauce
- Baked beans
- Hot and cold cereal
- Side dishes (KD, Sidekicks, stuffing, instant potatoes)
- Rice
- Gluten Free and Vegetarian foods
- Toilet paper
- Tampons and Pads

**Most needed for populations who are homeless and/or who lack adequate cooking, refrigeration, and storage:**

- Meals in a can like stew, chili, baked beans and pasta
- Canned meats with pull-back lids
- Peanut Butter
- Healthy snacks and snack bars
- Fruit cups and applesauce
- Healthy beverages
- Nuts and sunflower seeds
- New can openers
- New plastic utensils

### PROGRAM SUPPLIES

**All of these programs only accept NEW products.**

#### Christmas Toy Program:

- Toys (0-16 age)
- Gift Cards suitable to teens
- Puzzles
- Board Games
- Craft Kits
- Pajamas (sized infant to adult)
- Stocking stuffers
- Books and colouring books
- Stuffed Animals

#### Baby Welcome to the World Baskets:

- Baby hygiene products
- Clothing 0-24 months (onesies, sleepers, outfits, socks)
- Baby toys, rattles, teethingers
- Baby blankets, receiving blankets, towels, wash cloths, and bibs

#### Off to School Smiling Program:

- Backpacks
- Calculators (regular and scientific)
- Math Kits
- School Supplies: crayons, markers, scissors, glue sticks, rulers and erasers

***We thank you for your support in providing emergency help to people in their immediate time of need.***

***We couldn't do it without you!***

## **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY FOR ADVENT**

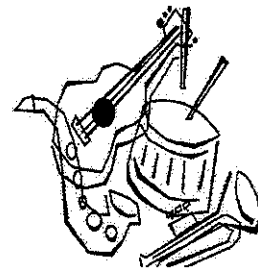
As the Season of Advent is fast approaching, and in the absence of Sunday School, we thought it might be fun to attach the instructions for children to make their own Advent Calendar.

We hope that you and your children enjoy doing this craft together.

### **VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME !!** **DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? CAN YOU SING?**



*Due to COVID numbers increasing of late, it is clear that singing, one of the most basic activities we have used for centuries to celebrate our faith, may still not be allowed for many months to come. The very early stages of returning to gathering at Zion began in September with appropriate social distancing. Music will still be a part of this new beginning as we are fortunate to have our regular accompanists, Sandra Mogensen and Marco Burak and I certainly hope to contribute as often as needed.*



**In this new Amber phase, which commenced in September, we are allowed to include solo singers and instrumentalists in our services. I am putting out the call to anyone who may be willing to contribute their talents in these areas to bring some joy and healing to our regular 10:00 a.m. service. If you are nervous, please don't be, as I will work with you until you are comfortable.**

*I will also occasionally be bringing in other local musicians who may not be members of our congregation. Please leave your contact information with Jane in the church office if you feel that you could participate in our services in this way. I look forward to hearing from you,*

Minister of Music — Paul Shilton

## **ETERNITY FOR TODAY**

Any one who has requested a subscription to "Eternity For Today", and has not yet paid, is asked to please place your payment of \$13.50 in a separate envelope with your name on the outside and marked "Eternity For Today".

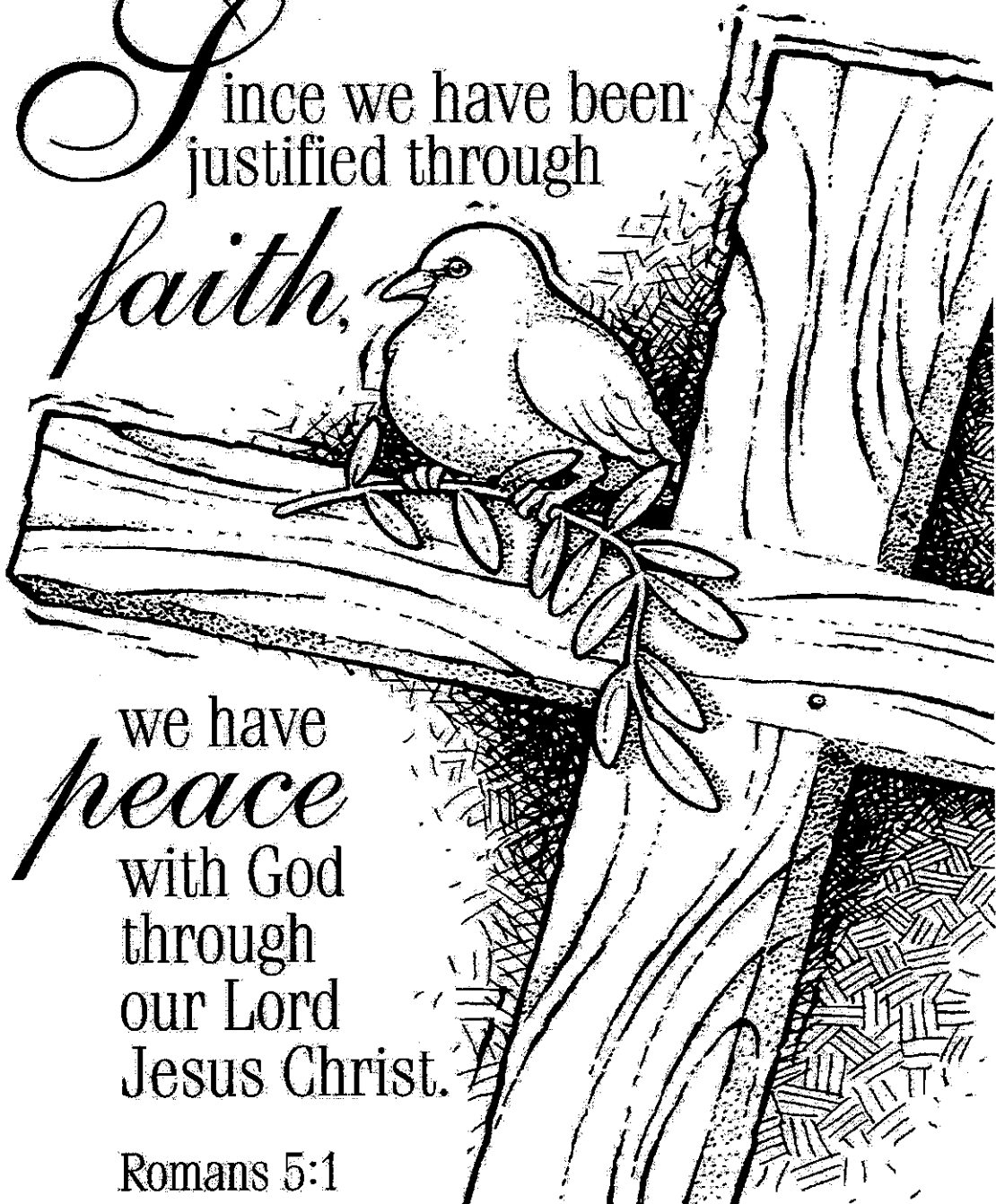
This envelope can then be either mailed, placed in the offering plate upon entering the Church or in our mailbox.

Thank you!

Since we have been  
justified through  
*faith,*

we have  
*peace*  
with God  
through  
our Lord  
Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1





PRINTABLE  
 NAMES OF CHRIST  
**Advent Calendar**

Names of Christ Advent	
1  Jesus <small>LUKE 24:20</small>	2  Wonderful Counselor <small>ISAIAH 9:1</small>
3  The Mighty God <small>ISAIAH 9:6</small>	4  The Everlasting Father <small>ISAIAH 9:7</small>
5  The Prince of Peace <small>ISAIAH 9:6</small>	6  The Father of Every Mercy <small>ISAIAH 54:10</small>
14  Light of the World	Holy One <small>MARK 1:6</small>
16  The Word <small>JOHN 1:1</small>	Day Spring <small>ISAIAH 60:1</small>
18  King <small>ISAIAH 9:6</small>	Servant <small>ISAIAH 49:1</small>
20  King of the Valley	Root of Jesse <small>ISAIAH 11:1</small>
22  Saviour <small>LUKE 1:47</small>	Friend <small>ISAIAH 41:10</small>
24  Ancient of Days <small>ISAIAH 63:16</small>	23  Shalom <small>ISAIAH 54:10</small>
	25  God with Us <small>ISAIAH 7:14</small>



# PRINTABLE NAMES OF CHRIST Advent Calendar

## Supplies

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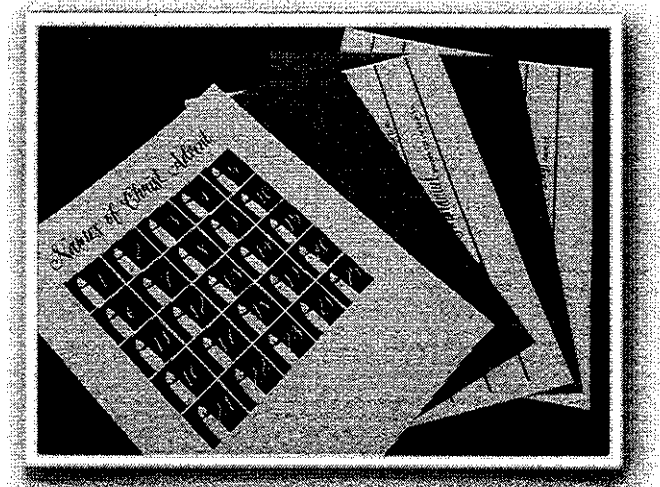
- Paper or cardstock (two colors is preferable, but only white works too!)
- Scissors
- Stapler (or Tape)

## Instructions

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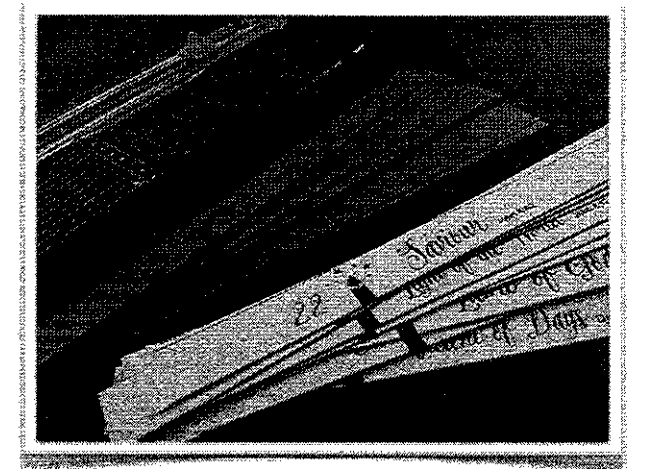
### Phase 1: Print

Step 1: Print Names of Christ Advent files on colored paper or cardstock. (Print the even and odd number pages on different colored paper or cardstock to create an alternating pattern when assembled.)



### Phase 2: Cut

Using a paper cutter or scissors, cut along the lines separating each Name of Christ link.





## Phase 3: Staple

Starting with #25, secure the link by overlapping the ends and staple to secure.

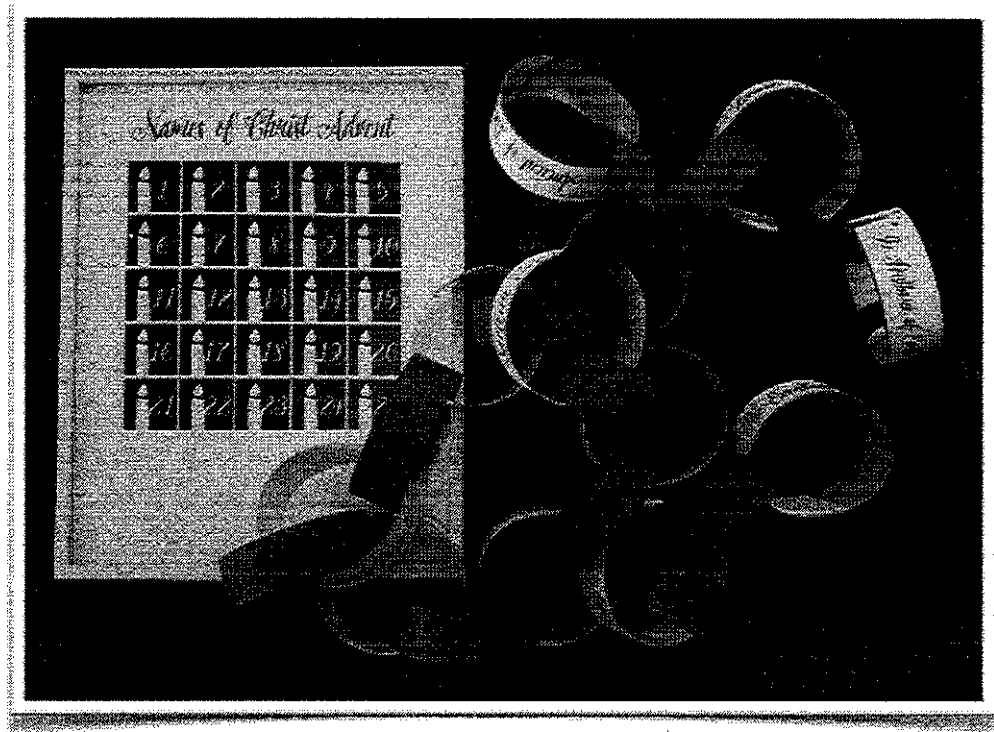
Next, loop #24 through the finished #25 link and secure.

Proceed with each link, going in consecutive order to create the finished chain.

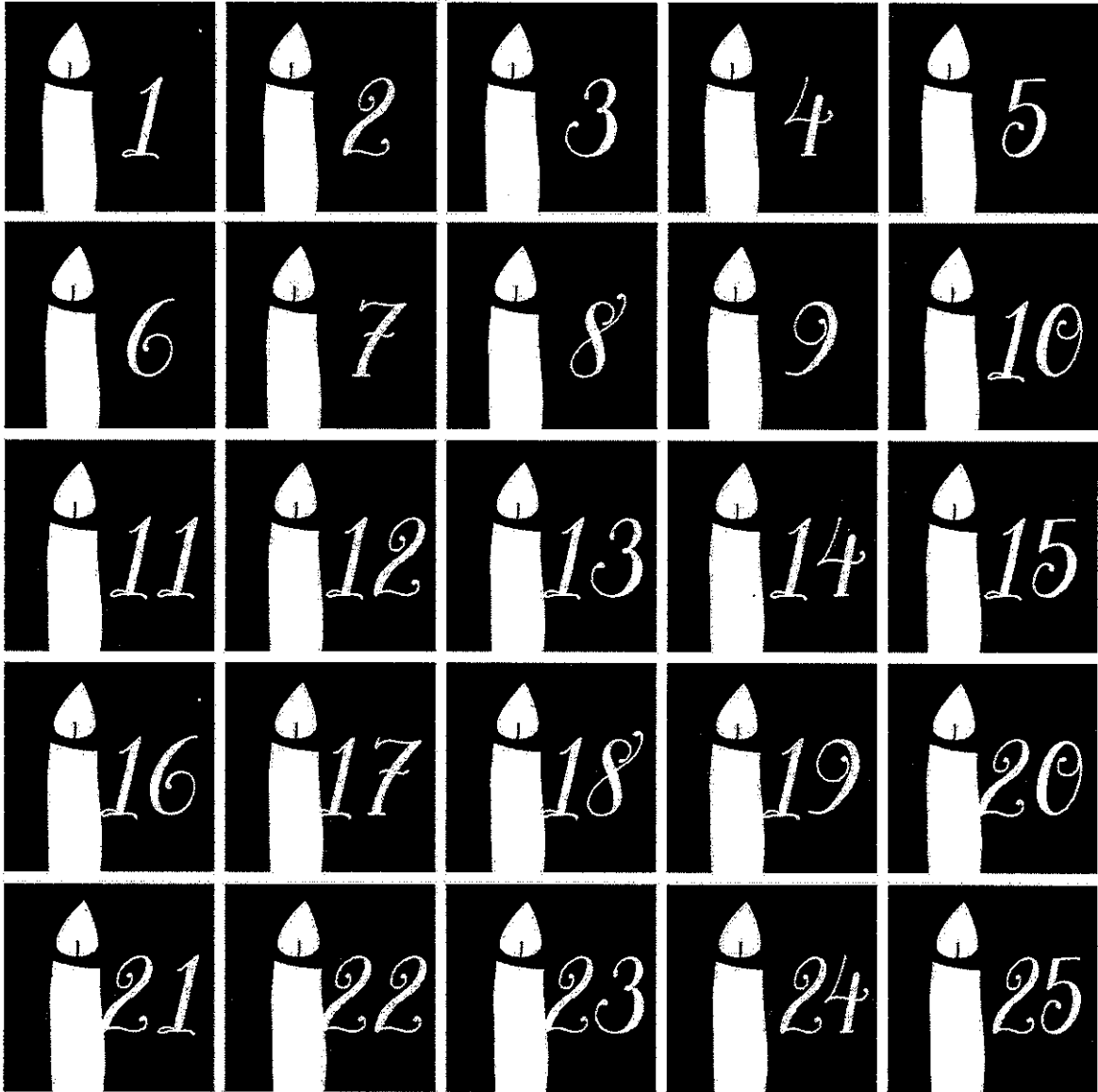


## Phase 4: Display

- Try framing your Names of Christ Advent Calendar, and using Christmas stickers or a dry erase marker to mark off each day.
- Attach your paper chain directly to your Names of Christ Advent Calendar and hang the chain as a decorative garland.
- Hang your Names of Christ Advent Calendar on your tree and wrap the paper chain around the branches.



# Names of Christ Advent



**Names of Christ Paper Chain:** Print even numbers and odd number pages on different colored card stock to create an alternating color pattern.

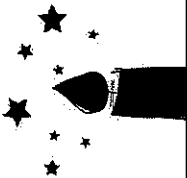
1



*Jesus*

Luke 2:1-21

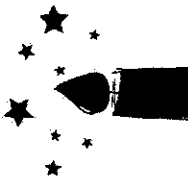
3



*The Mighty God*

Isaiah 9:6

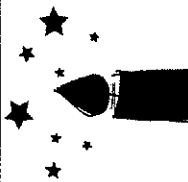
5



*The Prince of Peace*

Isaiah 9:6

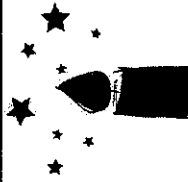
7



*Unspeachable Gift*

2 Corinthians 9:15

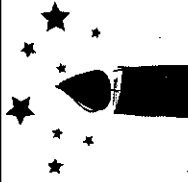
9



*Good Shepherd*

John 10:11

11



*Messiah*

Mark 8:29

**Names of Christ Paper Chain:** Print even numbers and odd number pages on different colored card stock to create an alternating color pattern.

2

Wonderful Counselor  
Isaiah 9:6

4

The Everlasting Father  
Isaiah 9:6

6

The Firstborn of Every Creature  
Colossians 1:15

8

Lamb of God  
John 1:29

10

Bright and Morning Star  
Revelation 22:16

12

Immanuel  
Matthew 1:23 and Isaiah 7:14

**Names of Christ Paper Chain:** Print even numbers and odd number pages on different colored card stock to create an alternating color pattern.

13



*Holy One*

Mark 1:24

15



*Day Spring*

Luke 1:78

17



*Servant*

Matthew 12:18

19



*Rose of Sharon*

Song of Solomon 2:1

21



*Friend*

Matthew 11:19

23



*Shiloh*

Genesis 49:10

25



*God with Us*

Luke 2:1-20

**Names of Christ Paper Chain:** Print even numbers and odd number pages on different colored card stock to create an alternating color pattern.

14

*Light of the World*

John 8:12

16

*The Word*

Revelation 19:13 and John 1:1

18

*King*

Zechariah 9:9

20

*Lily of the Valley*

Song of Solomon 2:1

22

*Saviour*

John 4:42

24

*Ancient of Days*

Daniel 7:9