



CBM

## ADVENT CANDLE READINGS

### WEEK 1

# A Global Witness of Christ's Light



**Hope**

Peace

Joy

Love

Christ



#### SCRIPTURE:

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

#### READING:

Today we light the first candle of Advent — the candle of **Hope**.

The prophet Isaiah spoke of a light coming into a dark world — a child who would be called *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*.

This hope is for all nations. Around the world, people are longing for hope — hope for peace, for provision, for justice, and for life.

As Canadian Baptists, we partner with sisters and brothers around the world through CBM to share the hope of Christ in word and deed. Whether through agricultural projects in Kenya, refugee support in Lebanon, training pastors in Thailand, or caring for kids at risk in Bolivia, hope is being planted and nurtured.

As we light the candle of hope we give thanks that you, Jesus, are the hope of the world.



#### CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER:

*God of Hope,*

*Shine your light into the darkness  
of our world.*

*Remind us that hope is not wishful  
thinking but a living reality found  
in Jesus Christ.*

*Help us to be people of hope — here  
in (insert your local area), Canada,  
and around the globe.*

*Amen.*



## ADVENT CANDLE READINGS

### WEEK 2

# Peace in the Midst of Conflict



Hope

**Peace**

Joy

Love

Christ

#### SCRIPTURE:

Luke 2:13-14; Isaiah 2:2-4

#### READING:

We light the second candle of Advent — the candle of **Peace**.

The angels declared “Peace on earth” at the birth of Jesus — but we know our world is still longing for that peace.

In places like South Sudan, Congo, or the Middle East, CBM partners walk alongside communities living in the shadow of violence. Through trauma care, education, and peacemaking, they are living out Christ’s peace in powerful ways.

Peace is more than the absence of war — it is the presence of justice, healing, and reconciliation.

As we light the candle of peace, we give thanks that you, Jesus, are the Prince of Peace for our world.

#### CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER:

*Prince of Peace,*

*We long for your kingdom where  
swords are turned to ploughshares,*

*Where enemies are reconciled,*

*Where your peace reigns.*

*Help us to be peacemakers —  
in our homes, churches, and  
in the world.*

*Amen.*

## ADVENT CANDLE READINGS

### WEEK 3

# Joy in the Margins



Hope

Peace

**Joy**

Love

Christ



#### SCRIPTURE:

Luke 1:46-55

#### READING:

This week we light the candle of **Joy**.

Mary sings with joy in the face of uncertainty, proclaiming that God lifts up the humble and fills the hungry with good things.

Around the world, joy springs up in unexpected places.

We see it in families who receive clean water for the first time, in children attending school, and in churches planting seeds of renewal in their communities.

CBM partners walk with the marginalized — and in these relationships, the joy of the good news of Jesus shines brightly.

As we light the candle of joy, we give thanks that you, Jesus, bring joy to our world.



#### CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER:

*God of Joy,*

*Surprise us with your grace.*

*Remind us that joy is found not in comfort but in your presence and your promises.*

*May our lives be a testimony to your joy in the world.*

*Amen.*



## ADVENT CANDLE READINGS

### WEEK 4

# Love that Crosses Borders



Hope

Peace

Joy

**Love**

Christ



#### SCRIPTURE:

John 1:1-5, 14

#### READING:

The fourth candle of Advent is the candle of **Love**.

In Jesus, the Word became flesh and made his home among us—among the poor, the outcast, and the forgotten.

God's love crossed the greatest distance to reach us. And through CBM's global partnerships, that same love crosses languages, cultures, and borders—through churches responding to hunger, crisis, and injustice.

This love is not sentimental—it is sacrificial, generous, and transformational.

As we light the candle of love, we give thanks that you, Jesus, love the whole world.



#### CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER:

*God of Love,*

*Thank you for coming close  
to us in Jesus.*

*Fill our hearts with your love  
that embraces the world.*

*May our churches be known not  
just for what we believe, but for  
how we love.*

*Amen.*



## ADVENT CANDLE READINGS

### CHRISTMAS EVE

# Light for the World



Hope

Peace

Joy

Love

Christ



#### SCRIPTURE:

John 1:9-12

#### READING:

Today we light the **Christ candle**—the centre of the Advent wreath and the heart of our faith.

Jesus, the true Light, has come into the world—and the darkness cannot overcome it.

As followers of Christ in Canada, we are part of a global body—one family of God that stretches across continents and cultures. This Christmas, we rejoice that Christ has come—not only to us, but to all people.

The light shines in refugee camps and rural villages, in bustling cities and quiet sanctuaries, in your home and in mine.

As we light the Christ candle, we give thanks that you, Jesus, are the Light of the world.



#### CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER:

*Jesus Christ,*

*Light of the world,*

*Shine in our lives and shine  
through our lives.*

*This Christmas, may we receive  
you anew—and reflect your  
light to the world.*

*Amen.*

