

## **Kids Lectionary Learning**

First Sunday in Advent

Nov. 28, 2021

**Readings:** Jeremiah 33:14–16  
1 Thessalonians 3:9–13  
Luke 19:28–40 -or- Luke 21:25–36

Today is the first Sunday in Advent and the beginning of the new lectionary year.

Advent is a season of waiting and celebrating the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. Though the world and even ourselves are tempted to jump forward into the Christmas season, there is a blessing in standing back and waiting, as well as celebrating, our coming savior, Jesus Christ.

We celebrate and look over the next four weeks at how Jesus comes to us in creation, in His Word and Sacraments, and finally on that last day.

### ***Image 1- "Cartoon Advent Wreath"***

The advent wreath is a well-known Advent tradition and one that can help guide us as we travel through the weeks. But it can also be a teaching point. There are different meanings for each candle, but one well known order is for the first candle to symbolize peace. If your church lights an Advent wreath, perhaps use these pages and the lighting in the service to discuss with your children the season of Advent, or even about a more abstract concept like peace. Ex. Ask, "How does Jesus give us peace during Advent?"

### ***Image 2- Maze with disciples looking for colt/ donkey.***

This maze, coupled with the image of two disciples a bit confused as to where to find a colt, as well as the image of the colt/ donkey itself can give a starting point to discussing the Luke 19 passage on the "Triumphal Entry".

Possible discussion starters:

- Do you think the disciples might have been a bit confused or curious as to the instructions Jesus gave them?
- What does Jesus riding on a colt teach us about the type of King/ Messiah Jesus is? Is He a king who shows off His power, or is He a Messiah who came to serve?
- What about the owner of the colt, how did he maybe feel and what do you think of his response?

### ***Image 3- "Pete the Pencil holding a small olive branch"***

This image of Pete the Pencil is meant to be coloured by younger persons but can also be a discussion starter for either Jeremiah 33 or Luke 19.

Though Jeremiah doesn't mention an olive branch per se, he does talk about a branch for David that God will "spring up". What might that mean? Who is this "branch for David" (hint: it's Jesus)?

Also, the olive branch Pete holds could begin to point us toward the Mount of Olives from which Jesus rides. Discussion could go to Jesus' death on the cross in the week to come after He rides into Jerusalem on the colt. Discussion could also go to the Mount of Olives itself, or even olives, and the other places in the Bible they are mentioned (ex. Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus' teaching 10 commandments, olive oil for anointing, etc.)

### ***Image 4- Grid drawing of Advent Candle***

Feedback was positive regarding the grid drawing activity used here. This is an activity for kids to develop drawing skills and observation, but again, it could lead beautifully into discussion on Advent and what candles represent.

There is so much that can be discussed regarding the specific verses and themes present in our readings, but even deeper discussion on Advent and its blessings for us as we focus on Jesus, the Messiah who takes away the sin of the world.

*May God bless your learning, hearing, and growing in His Word on this First Sunday in Advent.*