

Isa. 2:1–5

Ps. 122

Rom. 13:11–14

Matt. 24:36–44

Peace and Light

**Goal for
the Session**

Children will celebrate the First Sunday of Advent by identifying God’s vision of peace in Isaiah 2.

■ PREPARING FOR THE SESSION

Focus on Isaiah 2:1–5

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” Bruce C. Birch

This oracle is often called the “floating oracle of peace” because it also appears in Micah 4:1–3. It is apparently part of a general prophetic tradition that was available to both of these prophets as a promise of the eschatological fulfillment of God’s kingdom. Presumably this is especially important in times of difficulty when present circumstances seem unpromising; confidence that the future belongs to God gives hope in the present. In Advent we anticipate the birth of Jesus into a world in need of light (v. 5). Every generation needs assurance that the powers of the world—whether the Romans of Jesus’ time or the principalities and powers of our present age—do not determine the future.

WHERE is God in these words?

— From “Theological Perspective,” Noel Leo Erskine

We are promised by God that as God’s gift of peace becomes real among us, Jews and Gentiles alike will stream to the mountain of God to be instructed and directed by God. The people who are taught by God will seek peace and practice violence no more. Weapons of violence will be destroyed. To receive divine instruction is to share in a vision of a coming realm of peace in which God will judge among the nations, and nations will not learn war anymore. The way forward is to walk in the light of the Lord.

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,” Stacey Simpson Duke

In the end, what Isaiah offers is not only a vision of global transformation, but an invitation to live toward that day. “O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!” However hard it may be to believe that a new and longed-for reality will take hold some day, there is power in walking in God’s light now, one step at a time. We may feel cynical or hopeless about the prospects of Isaiah’s vision, but in his invitation lies enormous and practical power. The future belongs to God, but the first step toward that future belongs to those who have glimpsed God’s light and are willing to trust that enough light lies ahead.

NOW WHAT is God’s word calling us to do?

— From “Homiletical Perspective,” Paul Simpson Duke

We are in the presence of a mystery. God’s own justice and peace will occur among the nations “in days to come.” What days? How? Perhaps all we can say is that the vision describes what God is, in fact, at work in the world to do. It is what Jesus apparently meant by “the reign of God,” which is already present and at work among us, though not yet in fullness. We saw it in Jesus, who converted fear to love, lunacy to sanity, enemies to friends. He died surrounded by swords; a spear stabbed him; nails tore him. They entered infinite love, which “melted them into light.”

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2:1–5

Focus on Your Teaching

Every child knows the fear of darkness at some time, and the consolation of light, even a light as small as a night light in the hall. They also desire peace, a time with no fighting. While God's peace is much more than the absence of fighting, that much of God's *shalom* is highly coveted by children of all ages. As children enter this Season of Advent, they can do so with the assurance from Isaiah that God desires this peace and light for them.

God of light, as I prepare to meet with the children, may my fears that surface in the darkness be washed away with light so that your peace is spread before me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ purple or blue cloth
- ☐ four purple or blue candles and matches or battery-operated candles
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ offering basket
- ☐ *Singing the Feast*, bit.ly/SingingTheFeast
- ☐ Resource Sheet 1
- ☐ Color Pack 1, 2, 39

For Responding

- ☐ option 1: drinking straws; wide gift ribbon; tape; *Singing the Feast*, bit.ly/SingingTheFeast
- ☐ option 2: Color Pack 39; *Singing the Feast*, bit.ly/SingingTheFeast
- ☐ option 3: copies of Resource Sheet 2, markers, purple or blue construction paper, staplers
- ☐ option 4: Color Pack 39; *Singing the Feast*, bit.ly/SingingTheFeast

■ LEADING THE SESSION

GATHERING

Before the session, determine whether you will need purple or blue cloth and candles, depending on what is used in congregational worship. Listen to and practice singing “Four Candles” (Color Pack 39, [Singing the Feast](#)). For option 1 in Responding, cut 20" strips of wide gift ribbon, four for each child. For option 3 in Responding, cut 1" strips of purple or blue construction paper.

Invite children to set up the worship table with a purple or blue cloth and four purple or blue candles arranged in a circle. Place a Bible and the offering basket.

When everything is ready, gather at the worship table. Announce that a new church year has begun and this is the Season of Advent. Ask a volunteer to light one candle. Ask the group to respond with “Come, Lord Jesus!” whenever you signal by raising your hand, and to do what you do as they say it.

Leader: Advent is for looking back to Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

All: Come, Lord Jesus! (Shield eyes with one hand as though looking into the distance, then look back over one shoulder.)

Leader: Advent is looking ahead to Jesus' return to rule one day.

All: Come, Lord Jesus! (Shield eyes with one hand and point forward with the other hand.)

Leader: Advent is looking into our hearts for Jesus' presence now.

All: Come, Lord Jesus! (Cross arms over chest and bow head.)

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, teach us your word of peace. Amen.

All: Amen. (Raise both hands above head.)

Read stanza one of “Four Candles” (Color Pack 39).

Extinguish the candle.

To introduce the theme of light for this session, ask:

- ✧ Has the electricity ever gone out at your house so you didn't have any lights at night?
- ✧ What did you do?
- ✧ What did you use for light?

Invite the group to listen for a special kind of light in today's Bible story.

EXPLORING

Invite a child to retrieve the Bible from the worship table and open it to Isaiah in the Old Testament. Encourage the use of the table of contents. Today's story is about a prophet named Isaiah, who was God's prophet to Judah and Jerusalem. Show Color Pack 1. Have a child find Jerusalem. Explain that in the time of Isaiah, Judah was around Jerusalem and below it. Tell the story on Resource Sheet 1 (God's Light). Ask:

- ✧ Why were the people in Judah and Jerusalem worried?
- ✧ What did Isaiah tell them that might help them not to worry?
- ✧ What word pictures did you get in your mind as you heard Isaiah's message?

If necessary, read Isaiah's message again from Resource Sheet 1 (God's Light).

- ✧ How do you think people can walk in God's light?

Show Color Pack 2. Explain that the man is Isaiah. The speech bubble above his head is too small to write Isaiah's whole message. Ask:

- ✧ How would you shorten it to make a summary of the message that could be written here?

Allow time for several responses before writing what they say in the speech bubble. Read the summary. Ask:

- ✧ Why is this a good message for Advent when we are waiting for the birth of Jesus?
- ✧ Why is this a good message for the world today?

RESPONDING

Select at least two options so children have a choice. Include one that is more challenging for children who can work on their own.

1. **Advent Streamers** Children will make streamers to celebrate Advent and wave as they sing "Four Candles." Give each child a drinking straw and four 20" pieces of gift wrap ribbon. Note that there is one ribbon for each Sunday of Advent. Show them how to lay the ribbons side by side and tape one end of each ribbon to the straw. Demonstrate how to spread out the ribbons and wave them. Listen to the first stanza of "Four Candles" ([*Singing the Feast*](#)). Together plan movements to go with the music and words. Plan one movement that focuses on peace or light.



FEASTING on the WORD

CURRICULUM

Peace and Light

EASY
PREP

2. **Advent Dance** Children will create a dance to give thanks for the peace of God's light and love. Read in unison the words to the first stanza of "Four Candles" on Color Pack 39 or read each line for the group to echo. Then listen to the song ([Singing the Feast](#)). Invite children to wonder why candles are an important part of the celebration of Advent. Together create simple dance movements for "Four Candles." Stress that their motions should explain or depict the words. As you plan, emphasize ways to show hope, peace, or light. Finally, as a group, perform the dance together.
3. **Advent Garland** Children will make garlands as a reminder to give thanks for God's love and light during Advent. Distribute copies of Resource Sheet 2 (Advent Garland Pattern), scissors, and pens. Ask the children to think of people who show God's love to them or help them learn about being Jesus' follower. Have them write the names of these people on the candle. Be ready to help with spelling. Have them cut out the candle with its base. Set the candles aside as each child makes a paper chain with strips of purple or blue construction paper. The number of links should correspond to the days in Advent. Staple the candle to the top link. Explain that they can remove one link each day and pray for one of the persons on the candle. When they get to the last link, it will be Christmas Day.
4. **Advent Song** "Four Candles" (Color Pack 39, [Singing the Feast](#)) will be sung each week during Advent. This option will help the children sing it confidently. Play the song and have children clap softly to the rhythm. Some children may recognize the tune as "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella." Read the words together, using Color Pack 39. Ask them which words remind them of Isaiah's message to the people of Judah and Jerusalem. Explain that "Messiah" is the one God promised to send as a good shepherd-king, the one Jeremiah told about. Sing the song together.

Four Candles

Light one candle, Messiah
is coming;
wait and watch, for his
Advent is near.
He will meet us on God's
holy mountain;
how shall we prepare for
his coming?
One. One candle to light
the darkness.
One. One candle to light
his way.

CLOSING

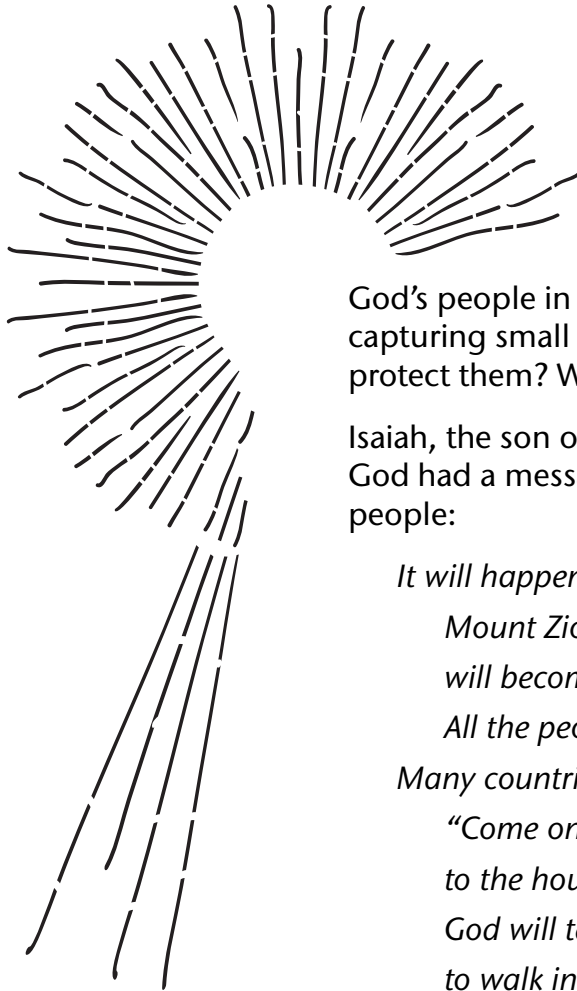
Gather at the worship table.

Light the candle lit in Gathering as the group sings or listens to the first stanza of "Four Candles" (Color Pack 39, [Singing the Feast](#)).

Ask the children to name a way they will walk in God's light this week.

Tell the children that you look forward to seeing them next week. To each child, say:
(Name), *remember that God's love can be found in peace and hope. Amen.*

God's Light
based on Isaiah 2:1-5



God's people in Judah were worried. The Assyrian army was capturing small nations near them. Would they be next? Would God protect them? Would there be war or peace?

Isaiah, the son of Amoz, was God's prophet in Judah and Jerusalem. God had a message for the people there. This is what Isaiah told the people:

It will happen that

*Mount Zion, where God's house is,
will become the highest of all mountains.
All the people will go to it.*

*Many countries and peoples will head that way and say,
"Come on, let's go up the mountain
to the house of God, Jacob's God.
God will teach us the way
to walk in God's paths."*

*Teaching will come from Mount Zion;
God's word will be heard in Jerusalem.
God will be the judge when nations disagree.
God will settle their arguments.*

*They will make their swords and armor
into plows and farming tools.*

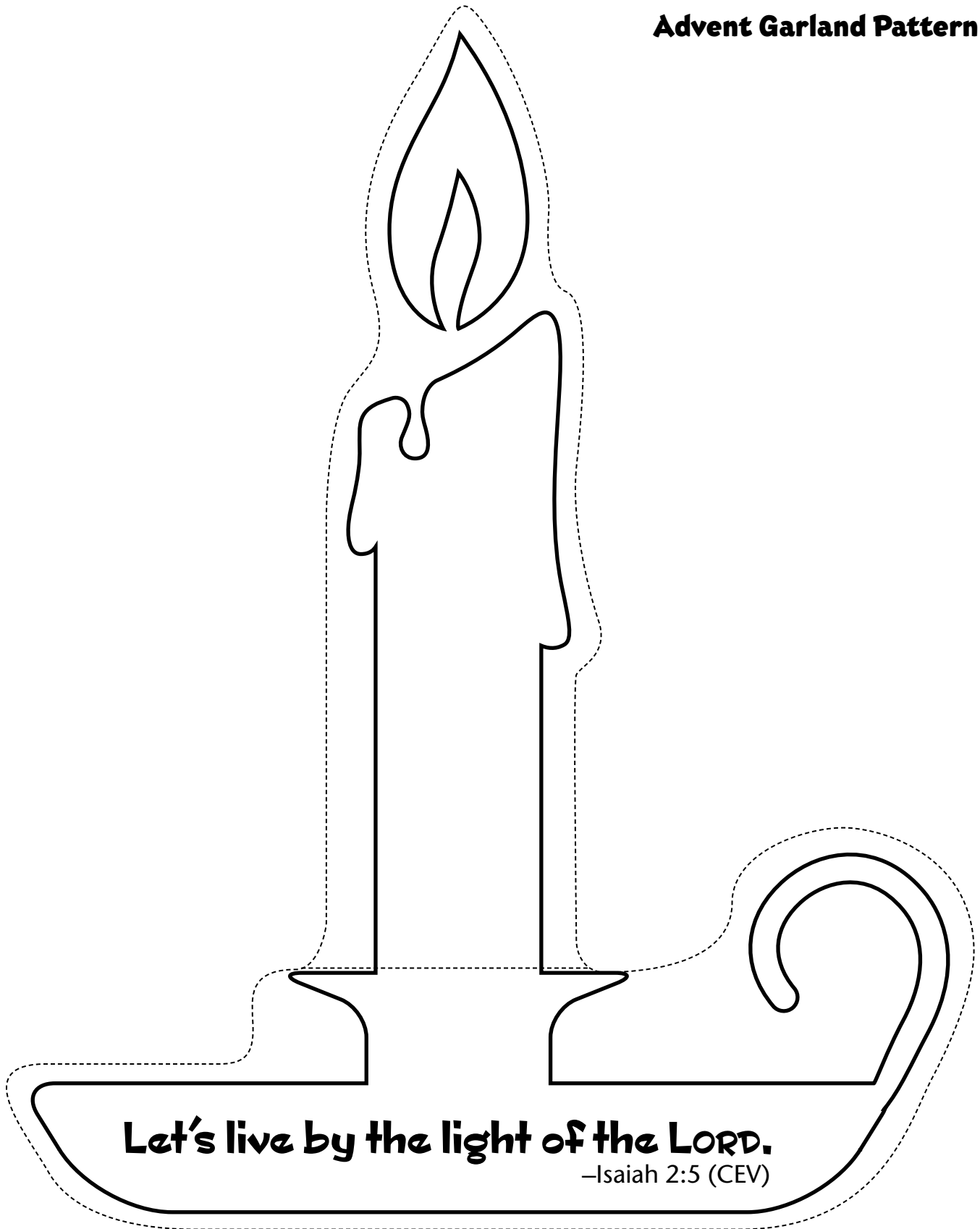
No nation will fight another nation.

No one will ever learn how to make war again.

Come, let us walk in God's light.

Isaiah couldn't tell the people when this would happen, but Isaiah told them it was God's promise to them.

Advent Garland Pattern



Isa. 2:1–5

Ps. 122

Rom. 13:11–14

Matt. 24:36–44

Come to the Mountain

Goal for the Session

Adults will imagine the hopeful and peaceful future prophesied by Isaiah and express confidence that God is leading them into that day.

■ PREPARING FOR THE SESSION

Focus on Isaiah 2:1–5

WHAT is important to know?

— From “Exegetical Perspective,” Bruce C. Birch

This oracle is often called the “floating oracle of peace” because it also appears in Micah 4:1–3. It is apparently part of a general prophetic tradition that was available to both of these prophets as a promise of the eschatological fulfillment of God’s kingdom. Presumably this is especially important in times of difficulty when present circumstances seem unpromising; confidence that the future belongs to God gives hope in the present. In Advent we anticipate the birth of Jesus into a world in need of light (v. 5). Every generation needs assurance that the powers of the world—whether the Romans of Jesus’ time or the principalities and powers of our present age—do not determine the future.

WHERE is God in these words?

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We are promised by God that as God’s gift of peace becomes real among us, Jews and Gentiles alike will stream to the mountain of God to be instructed and directed by God. The people who are taught by God will seek peace and practice violence no more. Weapons of violence will be destroyed. To receive divine instruction is to share in a vision of a coming realm of peace in which God will judge among the nations, and nations will not learn war anymore. The way forward is to walk in the light of the Lord.

SO WHAT does this mean for our lives?

— From “Pastoral Perspective,” Stacey Simpson Duke

In the end, what Isaiah offers is not only a vision of global transformation, but an invitation to live toward that day. “O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!” However hard it may be to believe that a new and longed-for reality will take hold some day, there is power in walking in God’s light now, one step at a time. We may feel cynical or hopeless about the prospects of Isaiah’s vision, but in his invitation lies enormous and practical power. The future belongs to God, but the first step toward that future belongs to those who have glimpsed God’s light and are willing to trust that enough light lies ahead.

NOW WHAT is God’s word calling us to do?

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We are in the presence of a mystery. God’s own justice and peace will occur among the nations “in days to come.” What days? How? Perhaps all we can say is that the vision describes what God is, in fact, at work in the world to do. It is what Jesus apparently meant by “the reign of God,” which is already present and at work among us, though not yet in fullness. We saw it in Jesus, who converted fear to love, lunacy to sanity, enemies to friends. He died surrounded by swords; a spear stabbed him; nails tore him. They entered infinite love, which “melted them into light.”

FOCUS SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 2:1–5

Focus on Your Teaching

While adults may feel that a sense of goodwill should be permeating their lives this time of year, worries and news of the day may be eroding their sense of well-being. “Peace on Earth” can seem to be a pipe dream or unattainable goal. As they dig into Isaiah’s prophecy, adults may wonder how to trust that God is in control or to hope that God’s peace will prevail. Together, look for ways that God is active in your lives and leading you into that perfect reign. How might you bolster one another’s confidence in the Lord’s goodwill?

Eternal God, when I feel overwhelmed by problems of the day, quiet my fears and guide me in your paths of hope. Amen.

YOU WILL NEED

- ☐ blue or purple cloth or placemat
- ☐ Advent wreath with candles or four votive candles
- ☐ lighter or matches
- ☐ whiteboard or newsprint
- ☐ markers
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ copies of Resource Sheet 1
- ☐ hymnals or songbooks
- ☐ copies of Resource Sheet 1 for the next session

For Responding

- ☐ option 1: copies of Resource Sheet 2, colored pens or pencils
- ☐ option 2: hymnal or songbook, newsprint, markers
- ☐ option 3: copies of Resource Sheet 1, Bibles, sticky notes, fine-tipped markers

■ LEADING THE SESSION

GATHERING

Before the session, place a blue or purple cloth or placemat in the center of your space, using the color your church uses in worship during Advent. Place the Advent wreath or votive candles on it. If open flames are not allowed in your church, use battery-powered candles.

Welcome the group to the season of Advent. Explain the meaning of the blue or purple cloth, referring to the sidebar. Dim the lights, if possible. Light one candle. Invite participants to take a few deep breaths and release any worries they have brought with them today, and then to gaze at the candlelight for a quiet moment of reflection on God’s gift of hope, given through Christ Jesus. Conclude this time by praying aloud:

Come to us today, Lord Jesus. Amen.

If it is not safe to leave the candle lighted, extinguish it and light it again for Closing. Turn up the lights.

Begin a conversation by asking if, during their lifetimes, adults expect the world to: 1) grow more peaceful, 2) grow less peaceful, or 3) stay about the same. Ask for a show of hands to indicate each of the three possible responses. Ask a few volunteers to offer reasons for their responses.

Say that today’s Bible reading is a word of hope for those who are weary of conflict.

Some churches use the color blue in worship during Advent as a symbol of hope. Some churches use purple as a symbol of royalty, to honor the coming of our king, Jesus.

EXPLORING

Ask adults to turn in their Bibles to Isaiah. Review that Isaiah of Jerusalem prophesied God's word in Judah (Israel's Southern Kingdom) about 750 years before Jesus was born. At that time, the reach of the Assyrian Empire was spreading and threatening both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms.

Read aloud Isaiah 2:1. Discuss:

- ✠ How do you understand the explanation that this prophecy is “the word” that Isaiah “saw”? In what sense do you think the prophet “saw” this word about Judah and Jerusalem? (See below for more information.)

“God shares the word with God’s people, and they not only listen to the word, but also ‘behold the word.’ Quite often in the Old Testament we are told that God’s word is enacted. God’s word does not return empty but accomplishes its intent. God’s word happens as the word becomes deed. The word, as promise, is always looking toward fulfillment.” (Noel Leo Erskine, *Feasting on the Word, Year A, Volume 1*; Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009, 2.)

Form two groups to read aloud verses 2–5, alternating verses between groups. Invite adults to imagine they are looking at photos of the community Isaiah describes.

- ✠ What does this place look like? What are the people doing? (Ask “what else?” several times to broaden the conversation.)
- ✠ What additional information do you wish Isaiah had included in this vision?

Distribute copies of Resource Sheet 1 (Focus on Isaiah 2:1–5) and ask volunteers to read aloud the “What?” and “Where?” excerpts. As you discuss the following questions, invite adults who have study Bibles to offer information from the notes for these verses:

- ✠ To where will the nations stream “in days to come” (v. 2)? What details does Isaiah give about this place?
- ✠ Why will “the peoples” (v. 3) be going there?
- ✠ Why does Isaiah say Mount Zion—which actually is a hill—will be “the highest of the mountains” (v. 2)?
- ✠ In this place, how will conflicts be resolved?
- ✠ Why do you think God gave this vision to Isaiah?
- ✠ How do you imagine people in Isaiah’s day reacted to this prophecy?

Read aloud the “So What?” excerpt from Resource Sheet 1. Discuss:

- ✠ What does it mean to “walk in the light of the Lord” (v. 5) in your life today?
- ✠ What might you say or do to encourage others to have confidence that God is leading the way into the future world of peace that Isaiah prophesied?

EASY
PREP

Ask worship leaders in your church if it is possible to include this litany during a worship service in Advent. If it isn't, ask about publishing it in your church newsletter or on its Web site.

RESPONDING

Choose one or more of these activities depending on the length of your session:

- 1. Advent Prayer Calendar** Adults will express confidence that God is leading them by making time for personal devotions during Advent. Distribute copies of Resource Sheet 2 (Advent Prayer Calendar) and colored pencils or pens. Read aloud the directions. Ask each person to think of a prayer request he or she would like to make to the group and write it on a square on his or her calendar. Rotate the pages among group members so that each person can record his or her request on each of the calendars. As a group, identify other prayer requests that adults might note on their calendars, such as for leaders of Christmas worship, Sunday school program participants, or people affected by natural disasters. Encourage group members to offer ideas about how to make time for personal prayer and reflection in the busy weeks leading up to Christmas.
- 2. O Come, O Come** As adults explore Advent hymns and songs, they will compose a litany to express hope and confidence in God's "now" and "not yet" reign of peace. Distribute the hymnal or songbook your church uses. Work together to locate hymns and songs for the season of Advent. Invite adults to look for phrases that describe God's reign of peace or express hope in God's leading. Choose five or six of these phrases to use in a worship litany. Decide on a common refrain to say after each one, such as: "Come, Lord Jesus, and make it so." Write the litany on newsprint to use during Closing.
- 3. Advent Hope Sticky Notes** Adults will express confidence that God is leading them into God's realm as they create sticky notes with words of Advent hope. Distribute copies of Resource Sheet 1 (Focus on Isaiah 2:1–5) and ask adults to read the "Now What?" excerpt to themselves. Ask: What about God's reign is most mysterious to you? Ask adults to turn again to Isaiah 2:2–4. Point out that the imagery here would have been meaningful for God's people of that time. Discuss what pictures or words might be used today to convey this message of hope in God's reign through the coming of Jesus Christ. Set out sticky notes and fine-tipped markers. Work individually or in small groups to write messages of Advent hope on sticky notes. Encourage each group member to take several notes to post at home, at work, in a care facility, or on a neighbor's door.

CLOSING

Gather around the Advent wreath or votive candles. Invite participants to offer a word or phrase that summarizes how they understand Isaiah's prophecy of peace and hope.

Sing or read in unison one or two stanzas of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" or another Advent hymn from your church hymnal or songbook. If the group composed a litany in Responding option 2, pray it now. Otherwise, pray aloud:

Come, Lord Jesus, and fill us with hope. Amen.

Distribute copies of Resource Sheet 1 for the next session, or e-mail it to the participants during the week. Encourage participants to read the focus scripture and Resource Sheet 1 before the next session.

Focus on Isaiah 2:1–5

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This oracle is often called the “floating oracle of peace” because it also appears in Micah 4:1–3. It is apparently part of a general prophetic tradition that was available to both of these prophets as a promise of the eschatological fulfillment of God’s kingdom. Presumably this is especially important in times of difficulty when present circumstances seem unpromising; confidence that the future belongs to God gives hope in the present. In Advent we anticipate the birth of Jesus into a world in need of light (v. 5). Every generation needs assurance that the powers of the world—whether the Romans of Jesus’ time or the principalities and powers of our present age—do not determine the future.

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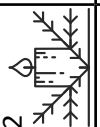
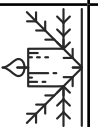


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Advent Prayer Calendar

Directions: During Advent, take some time each week to separate yourself from distractions and sit quietly. Light a candle. Read and reflect on the psalm appointed for worship each week. Pray for people you know, for people you don't know, and for yourself. Jot down prayer requests you want to remember on this calendar.

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| First Sunday of Advent This week's theme: Hope For reflection: Psalm 122  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| Second Sunday of Advent This week's theme: Peace For reflection: Psalm 72  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| Third Sunday of Advent This week's theme: Joy For reflection: Psalm 146  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| Fourth Sunday of Advent This week's theme: Love For reflection: Psalm 80  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |

Joining the Feast

Year A, Winter
First Sunday of Advent—
Transfiguration Sunday



What you will find in *Joining the Feast!*

The Church Year Calendar

Describes the important church festivals and special days for the coming season. It provides theological reflections on their importance for the church's life and our own lives.

The Shape of the Season

Presents an overview of the focus scriptures for the weeks in the coming season. It discusses the biblical and theological significance of each of the passages.

Joining Worship and Learning: Making the Connections and Time with Children

In this section of *Joining the Feast*, you will find charts that list connections between activities in the age-level materials and worship. A story to use in the children's time during worship follows the chart for each week. Notice that some songs are used by several age levels but not in the same session. If you are interested in including a prayer, poetry, or artwork from an age level, speak with the leader in advance. May your congregational worship be enlivened by these suggestions to join worship and learning.

Joining Mission and Learning

Help the participants in *Feasting on the Word Curriculum* resources connect with existing service opportunities in your congregation. Review this list, and offer suggestions to the leaders. Give this chart to the chair of the mission or outreach committee so that the work of the committee can be strengthened through the church school.

Litanies and Prayers

A selection of poetic prayers and responsive readings that helps worship leaders connect the church's educational and worship experiences to find fullness and blessing in the praise and service of God.

Children's Bulletins

A fun activity page is provided weekly to give children a sense of belonging and help them feel welcome in the worship experience. These special children's bulletins connect their worship experience to the education themes.

Joining the Feast

We invite you to “Join the Feast”!

Our exciting *Feasting on the Word Curriculum* offers great opportunities for the local church. Pastors, educators, and participants can experience the wonder of God’s nourishing word to us. For church schools, for study groups, and in preparation for teaching and preaching, the resources here will deepen and strengthen our faith. We have an amazing “feast” set before us! We desire and can find further understanding in our faith—of who God is and what God has done!

Joining the Feast helps pastors, educators, and worship leaders plan for education and worship. We want to assist in reflecting on how to incorporate scriptural and seasonal emphases across different parts of the church’s life.

Joining the Feast can be shared in education and worship committees. It enables important biblical themes to be integrated into the church’s study and worship experiences. A chart of suggestions for ways educational emphases can be used in worship is a feature of what follows here. Church school teachers can discuss these materials with each other to enhance education for all age levels in the church. Pastors who plan their lectionary preaching will find taking an overall look at this church season to be useful for their preparations. In all this we want to join teaching and preaching. We want the church’s educational and worship experiences to find fullness and blessing in the praise and service of God!

An important goal for pastors and educators in the church is to connect or join the church’s educational experience with the church’s worship experience. People of all ages who participate in church school study can find their Christian faith enhanced when the Scriptures read and proclaimed in worship reinforce and expand what they have been considering in their educational time. Education and worship can be mutually supportive in helping God’s word in Scripture come alive in the Sunday morning experience. Consideration of the same lectionary reading in preaching can deepen the insights gained in church school.

Pastors who want to build on what has been done in education welcome this *Feasting on the Word Curriculum* as a way to prepare congregational members for directions into which the sermon can lead. Those who participate in the education time will find the insights gained there enhanced by preaching which considers the same passage and brings God’s word to bear in fresh and nourishing ways. So as we “Join the Feast,” joining the church’s educational and worship dimensions can bring to life the richness of God’s word in Scripture.

Donald K. McKim



God's Light

based on Isaiah 2:1-5

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It will happen that

Mount Zion, where God's house is,
will become the highest of all mountains.

All the people will go to it.

Many countries and peoples will head that way and say,
"Come on, let's go up the mountain
to the house of God, Jacob's God.
God will teach us the way
to walk in God's paths."

Teaching will come from Mount Zion;

God's word will be heard in Jerusalem.

God will be the judge when nations disagree.

God will settle their arguments.

They will make their swords and armor
into plows and farming tools.

No nation will fight another nation.

No one will ever learn how to make war again.

Come, let us walk in God's light.

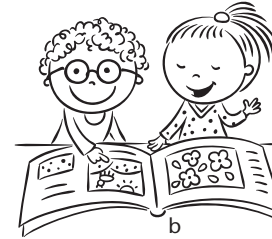
Isaiah couldn't tell the people when this would happen,
but Isaiah told them it was God's promise to them.

Which one in each set is different from the others? Which row of pictures does not match God's promise?

1



a



b



c

2



a



b

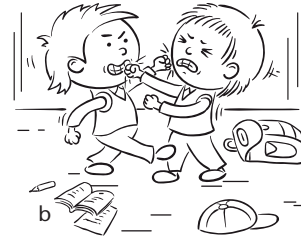


c

3



a



b

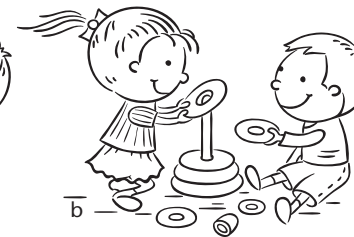


c

4



a



b

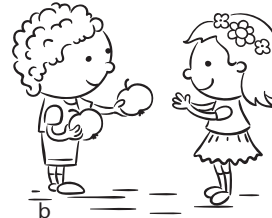


c

5



a



b



c

