



As you will note in the photo on the first page, the primary image for our Advent & Christmas series is **the luminary**. Our sanctuary has been dark since March but the luminaries lining the aisle of our CUC sanctuary in the photo above serve as a reminder that this is the season when we proclaim that the light enters into the dimly-lit places of our lives and hearts and illumines us with a liberating and comforting message and reminder to “be not afraid.”

Read more information about each of the components of our “I Believe Even When...” series below; we hope you will join us on this journey of belief, hope, love, joy and peace!

Advent Wreath Creation

As a way of marking the Advent season, we invite you to set up your own Advent wreath at home close to where you celebrate worship each week and, during our Advent services, participate in the lighting of your home advent wreath candles. During worship, you will be invited to light the candle of the week during the service. There are some cool DIY posts on Pinterest showing how to make a wreath at home. Search for “DIY Advent wreath” to find ideas to spark your crafting creativity! While we are all used to our pine wreath with three blue and one pink candle that adorns our sanctuary each Advent, your home advent wreath can be made with items you have around home. Four candles (wax or electric) situated in a circle will work.

Once your Advent Wreath worship center is created, we would love to see it! Please take a photo of your advent wreath, send it to the church office (office@christunited.church), and watch for your photo to be shared in an upcoming worship service and/or via the church’s Facebook page.



The lights of the candles on the Advent Wreath break through the darkness, reminding us of the Light of Christ that we anticipate during this holy season. The four candles used, traditionally three purple or blue and one pink, mark the Sundays of Advent. On the third Sunday, the pink candle is lit to announce *Gaudete* Sunday, a Sunday of rejoicing for Christ is coming near. With the lighting of that candle, the light has won out over the darkness (three candles lit vs. the one that remains unlit). A fifth white candle in the center representing Christ can also be used. It is lit on Christmas Eve as a remembrance of Christ coming into the world. We are called to welcome the light of Christ into our lives.