



LIFE THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN
Devotions for Real Life

Advent Paper Chain 2023

Here is a decoration and an activity all “rolled” into one. It’s all the pieces you need to make a decorative paper chain for the days leading up to Christmas. The key is to read and add one piece to the decoration chain each day. As your chain gets longer you will know that you are getting closer to Christmas. Each link will be a reminder of what the season is all about and of some of the beautiful illustrations of our faith which are all around us. Happy Advent! - *Pastor David Tannahill, Life This Side of Heaven*

Carefully cut along the dotted lines, set the strips aside, and attach a new link each day from December 1 to 25



Friday, December 1

Advent is the season leading up to Christmas. Advent means “coming.” This Sunday you will see an Advent Wreath at the front of the church. You may even have one at home. Each week we will light another candle. Christmas is coming. It reminds us that Jesus came for us to be our Savior! On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day we will light the white, center candle which is often called the “Christ Candle.”

TAPE OR GLUE TO OTHER END



Wednesday, December 6

Gifts are often what a lot of people think about when they think of Christmas. People are busy shopping and you may even have something in mind you hope to get this year. God has given you an amazing gift. He didn’t put it under the tree. Instead, it was placed in a manger. God gave you His Son. He has given you forgiveness of sins and eternal life. As St. Paul says, “Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!” (2 Corinthians 9:15 NIV).

TAPE OR GLUE TO OTHER END



Monday, December 11

Did you know that the practice of bringing a Christmas tree into the house has often been credited to Martin Luther? The color of green reminds us of the new life that Jesus came to bring us. Think about how a Christmas tree points up to heaven. We often put presents under the tree. James reminds us, “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights” (James 1:17 NIV). Jesus, our Savior, is the best Christmas gift of all.

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Saturday, December 16

“Red Boots for Christmas” is a favorite animated Christmas special produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries. It’s a great tale about a grumpy shoe maker, named Hans, who discovers the joy of what Christmas is all about. You can watch it on our website along with a number of animated holiday classics! www.LifeThisSideOfHeaven.org/red-boots-for-christmas

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Thursday, December 21

Did you know that in some churches it is a tradition to take the Christmas Tree down after Christmas and make a cross out of the trunk and the limbs to put up at Easter? What does Easter have to do with Christmas? Here’s the reason Jesus was born. “The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28 NIV). Jesus came to give His life on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. He rose again to give us eternal life.

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