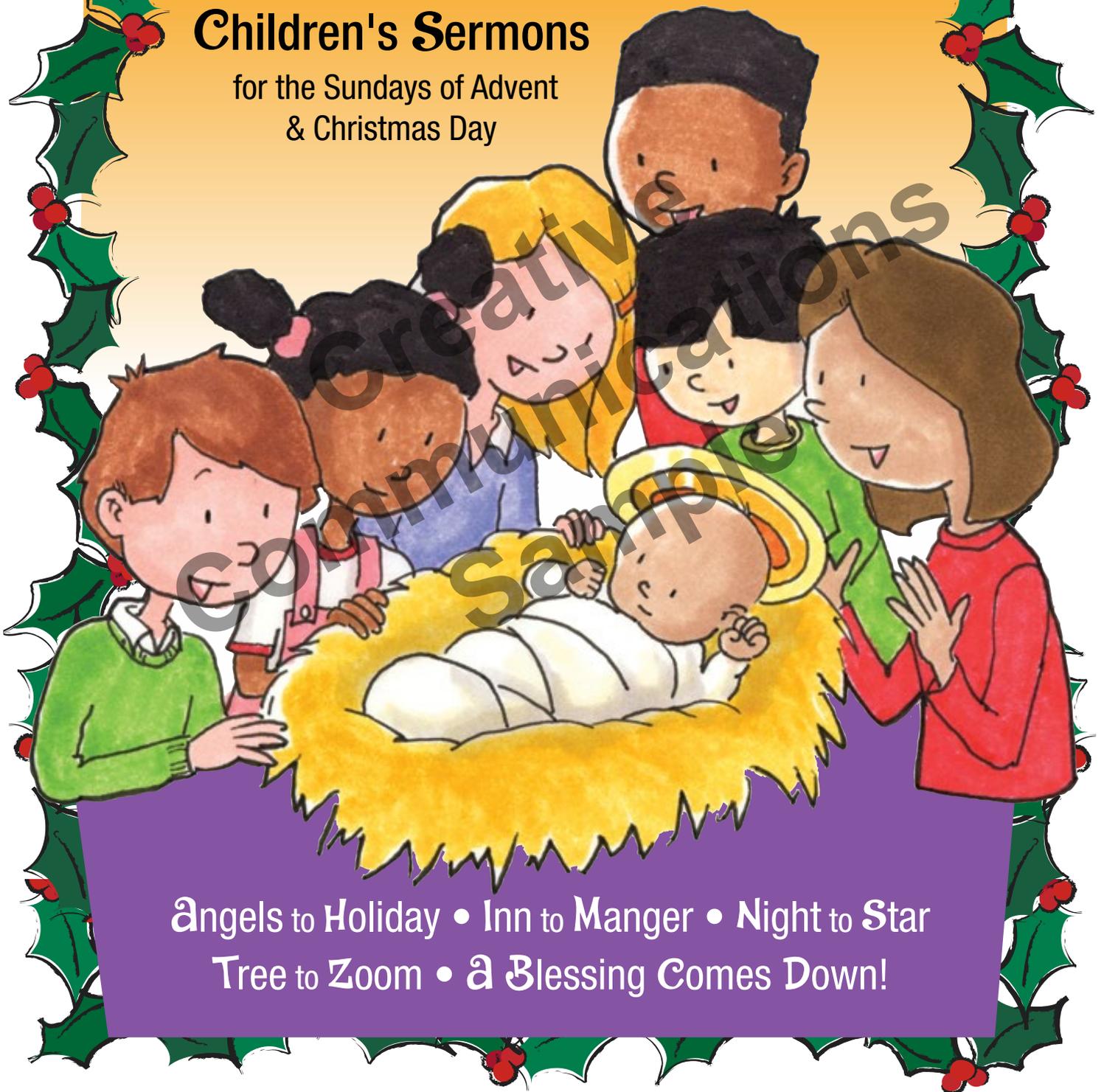


Advent A to Z

Children's Sermons

for the Sundays of Advent
& Christmas Day



Angels to Holiday • Inn to Manger • Night to Star
Tree to Zoom • A Blessing Comes Down!

Advent A to Z

angel, baby, candles, donkey, eggnog, family, gifts, holiday

A Children's Sermon for the First Week of Advent

Good morning, everyone! This week we start a new church year and a new church season: the season of Advent. Advent is that special time of preparation when we get our church, our homes and, most importantly, our hearts ready to welcome Jesus at his birth.

This year, I'd like to try something a little different. Instead of marking the days of Advent by counting the days numerically, let's mark these days and weeks until Christmas alphabetically, with the letters of the alphabet! Let's try to think of something for each letter of the alphabet—something from this special time of year—that can help us remember, each day and each week, to give thanks to God for sending us the gift of Jesus.

Where should we start? Well, I guess at the beginning of the alphabet. You all know how that starts. (*Encourage the children to say the letter A and each following letter in turn.*) The letter A is first! Advent starts with A! And another great Advent A word comes to my mind: Angel! In the time right before Jesus was born, God sent many angel messengers to announce (another great A word) that the promise, made to Adam and Eve at the very beginning, was being kept. A Savior will be born!

Born... born... I guess that brings us to B! God's promise would be brought to the world in a surprising way. A bouncing baby boy will be born, the angel said. God's own Son will come to us as a child. It sounds like we're moving on to the letter C!

A child is coming, God promised, to shine light on creation! I'll bet that's why we light candles throughout the Advent season! He comes to be our Counselor, the Crown of Creation!

How will we know when he arrives? The Bible tells us that he will be humble king, riding on a donkey! I have a donkey in my manger scene as a reminder of his humble birth.

That brings us to letter E. What Advent or Christmas things start with E? I know one: eggnog! That's a sweet treat I only have this time of year. In Psalm 119 we read, "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Even a sweet treat can remind us of the blessings we receive through Jesus.

Letter F: I'd have to say that family is the first thing that comes to mind. Christmas time is family time with family visits, family meals, family fun. In Advent, we remember that through Jesus we are all part of an even bigger family—God's fantastic family—a family that lasts forever and ever. We know that is true, because Jesus brings us the *gift* (a great G word) of life everlasting in *heaven* with *Him*.... And now, here we are at H!

That heavenly gift just keeps on going and going, boys and girls. But I think *we* should stop here for this week. We have a lot of alphabetical Advent things to think about, things that all help us open our hearts to welcome *Jesus*.... Oops! I'm getting a little ahead of myself!

Have a good week, everyone. Our Advent A to Z is just beginning!

Activities for the First Sunday of Advent

angel, baby, candles, donkey, eggnog, family, gifts, holiday



Unscramble these names for Mary's Baby

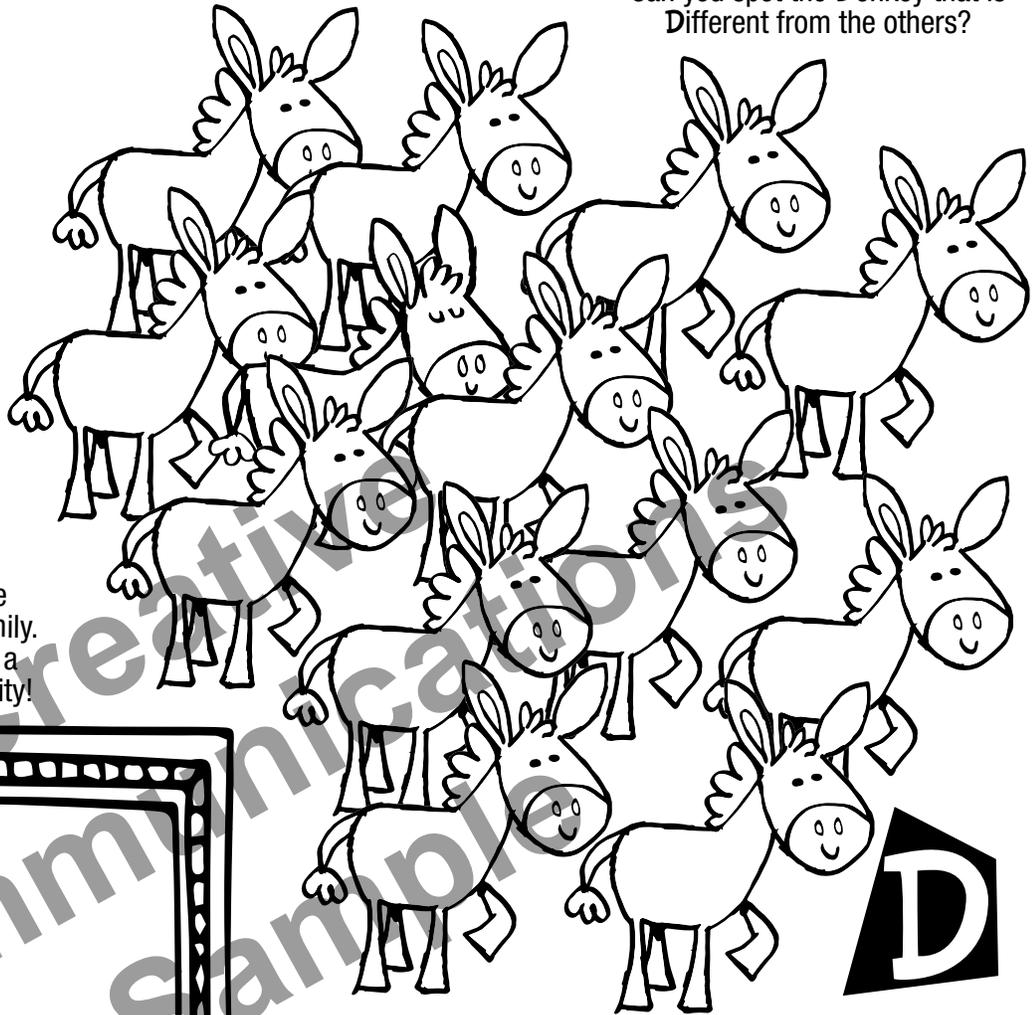
THCSRI _____

RVISAO _____

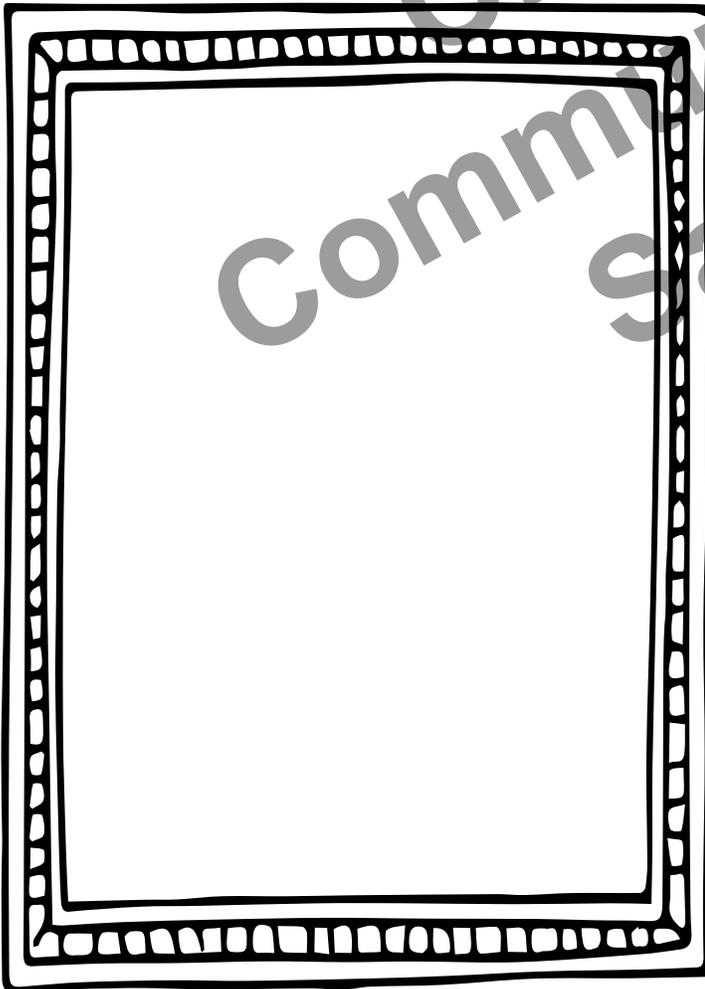
MAENMILU _____

EJSSU _____

Can you spot the Donkey that is Different from the others?



Through Jesus, we are part of God's Family. Fill this Frame with a Favorite Family activity!



Fill in the Gs and Hs in the Holiday Hymns below.

___ark! The ___erald
an___els sin___!

___o! Tell it
on the mountain!

O, ___oly
night!



Coloring Sheet for the First Sunday of Advent

angel, baby, candles, donkey, eggnog, family, gifts, holiday

The candles of the Advent
wreath help us count the
Four weeks until Christmas,
the celebration of Christ's
birth! Color a new flame
each week of Advent.



Advent A to Z

inn, imagine, Jesus, joy, King, lights, Mary

A Children's Sermon for the Second Week of Advent

Hello, girls and boys! Is everyone incredibly joyful to keep learning this morning?

It is the second week of Advent, and that means that we are nearly halfway through our waiting and expect-ating! How many of you spent some time this past week thinking about Advent in an A to Z way? Each week we can make an alphabetical list of the things that we see or do this time of year, things that help us think about the reason for our Advent excitement: the coming of the promised Savior.

Last week, we stopped at the letter H as we talked about the heavenly home that the Savior has opened for us all. Can you even imagine what that will be like? I imagine it is impressive! Imagine the sights! Imagine the room! I like to imagine that it goes on into infinity! Now imagine how big god's love must be. God sent his Son from that impressive, infinite place into a insignificant town where there wasn't even enough room in the inn. *Imagine* is a good I word, don't you think?

But we don't have to *imagine* that love; we know that it is real. The heavenly promise comes true through—and here's an even better word for the letter J—JESUS! Knowing that Jesus is the answer to God's loving promise fills us with joy everlasting. That joy spills out in all we say and do, especially in the joyful songs we sing this time of year.

What about the letter K? Kris Kringle starts with K. Kris Kringle is another name for Santa, that jolly gift giver who visits good boys and girls with special treats. How can Kris Kringle, Santa Claus, help us to think of the greatest gift giver ever? I think I just answered my own question. Like Kris Kringle, Jesus is known by many different names. We call him Savior, we call him Lord. We call him Mighty God. And we call him King of kings. Our loving King Jesus doesn't give us gifts because we are good. He comes to give us gifts like grace, forgiveness, love and even his own life because we are *NOT* good. Our King gave his (L word) *life* so that we can walk in his (L word) *light* forevermore. Now each of us can shine his perfect light out into the world.

The first word that popped into my head when I got to the letter M was *manger*! God delivered all of these magnificent gifts to us by wrapping them up and laying them in a manger box: the first and greatest Christmas present. Mother Mary was there, of course. She was the first to know that God's gift was coming, and she was the first to send a thank-you message. We can pray Mary's magnificent prayer any time we want as we thank God for the gift of his Son, Jesus.

This week, imagine you are with Mary and Joseph, looking at the light of King Jesus that streams from the manger. Think of ways you can share and shine that joyful light to others.

Activities for the Second Sunday of Advent

inn, imagine, Jesus, joy, King, lights, Mary



Fill in the missing Lyrics to the Joyful song.

_____ to the _____

the Lord has _____.

Let earth _____ its _____.

RECEIVE • WORLD • JOY • KING • COME



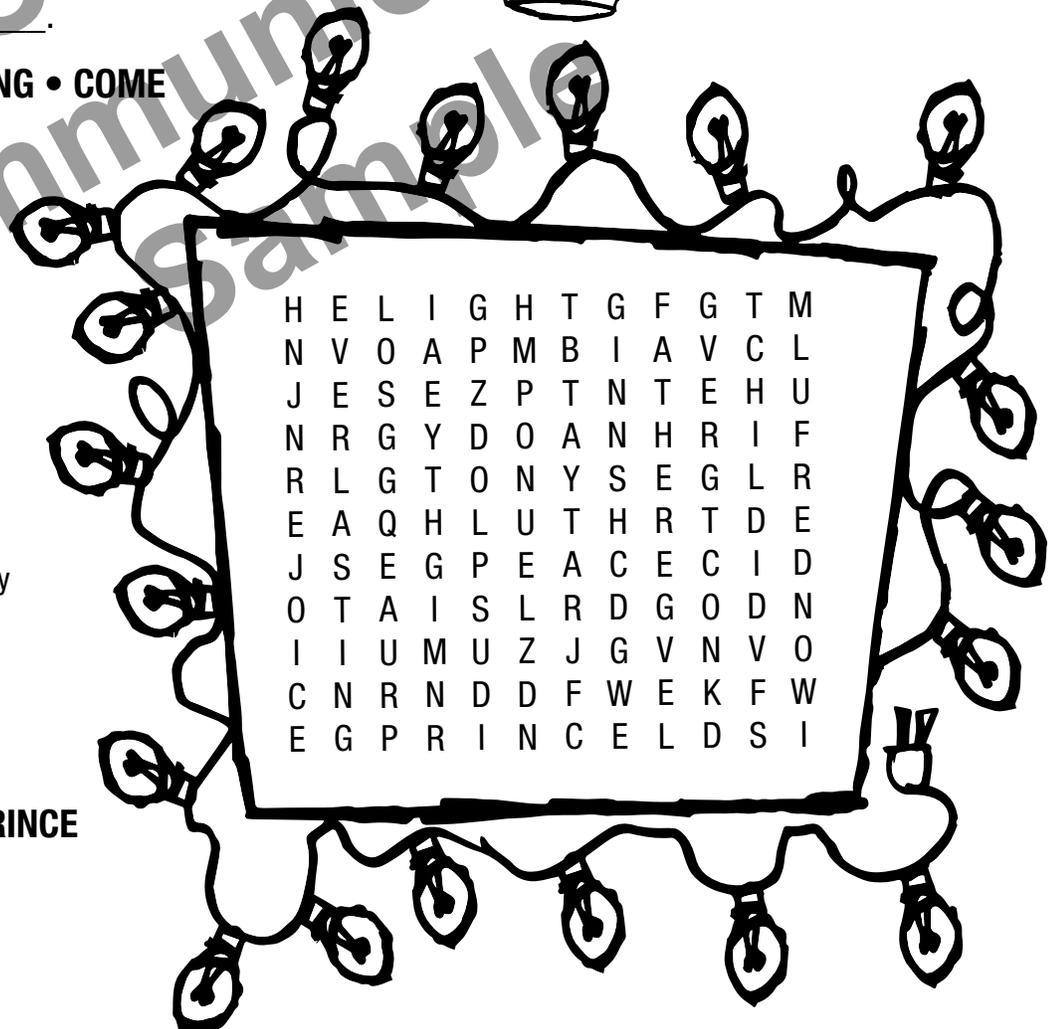
Jesus is our one of a Kind
King of kings!
Find the kingly crown that does not have a match.



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. Isaiah 9:2

Look for these Light and Lovely words from Isaiah chapter 9.

**WONDERFUL
CHILD • LIGHT • GOD
EVERLASTING • FATHER • PRINCE
PEACE • REJOICE**



Coloring Sheet for Christmas

A Blessing Comes Down

Color this Christmas scene.
Share amazing alphabetical news that
A Blessing Comes Down
Eternal From God.
Here Is Jesus!

