

# *Selected Resources on* **ADVENT**



## **BK DA1 005 ADVENT WORSHIP & ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES**

Author: Margaret Anne Huffman

Advent Worship & Activities for Families includes: two complete sets of Advent worship services; easy to follow scripts including the words to songs; instructions on how to make your own Advent wreath; an introduction to the custom of the Advent wreath including the color of the candles and their meaning; and activities and recipes to bring families together throughout the season of Advent.

## **KT DA1 001 DECORATING THE CHRISTMAS TREE: AN EDUCATIONAL GLOBAL RESOURCE**

Author: Avis Schmul

The crafts in the book were developed to inspire a child's interest, curiosity and some understanding of the world in which we live. Each craft contains easy-to-follow illustrated instructions and full-sized reproducible patterns. Also included is a "Keep and Color" fact sheet containing cultural and educational information relating to each project.

## **BK DA1 009 FAMILY ADVENT, A: KEEPING THE SAVIOR IN THE SEASON**

A Family Advent provides family devotions and Scripture readings for each night of Advent, along with fun facts and activities just for kids. Together you'll go stargazing, reach out to your community, and even take a quiz to see what nativity character you're most like. These activities will help you to celebrate the true joy of the season, experiencing the magic of Christmas in a brand-new way.

## **BK DA1 003 MISSION: CHRISTMAS – YOUTH PROGRAMS & IDEAS FOR ADVENT**

Author: Brian Brooks

This book contains ideas for making the Advent and Christmas seasons fun and meaningful, including 5 Sunday programs. This book also includes 5 Advent and Christmas Bible studies, a Christmas play, worship and service-project ideas and a 5-page Bible dictionary. Mission: Christmas will help your youth better understand the traditions, beliefs, and practices of the season.

## **BK DA2 020 ADVENT CONVERSATIONS: LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

Author: Richard J. Hull II

The author has written brief conversational dialogues that relate the wisdom of the prophets found in the Advent lectionary readings to modern life. In each "conversation" two people reflect on the assigned reading and talk about life and faith, leading to the lighting of the candles.

## **BK DA2 019 ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE: FOR THE ADVENT WREATH & HANGING OF THE GREENS**

Author: Eulonda A. Dreher

Begin the Advent season with this meaningful program that weaves together informative readings, scripture, and familiar hymns with the lighting of the Advent wreath and the "hanging of the greens". It's a wonderfully creative way to have members of the congregation participate in decorating the sanctuary while at the same time learning about the symbols of the season.

## **BK DA2 028 ADVENT, CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY: LITURGIES AND PRAYERS FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP**

Author: Brian Wren

A new collection of theologically sound, carefully crafted and creative worship resources suitable for use in a variety of worship traditions. These helpful and inspiring resources include litanies, collects, calls to worship, thanksgivings and affirmations of faith.

## **BK DA2 015 CHRISTMAS TREASURES: A COLLECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCES**

This anthology provides an ample selection of seasonal worship, drama, and children's resources by popular authors from a variety of denominations.

**BK DA2 015 EVERLASTING LIGHT: A RESOURCE FOR ADVENT WORSHIP**

Author: Sandy Dixon

This collection offers worship resources for the three years of lectionary readings for Advent, including the Sunday after Christmas. Litanies of light, hanging of the greens and candle lighting services, prayers, communion meditations, and benedictions also included.

**BK DA2 018 GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY: THE BIRTH OF JESUS THE MESSIAH**

Author: William Barclay

Offers William Barclay's reflections on the event that changed human history: the birth of Christ. Designed for daily devotions and complemented by inspiring anecdotes, each passage encourages readers to hear anew the echoes of prophecy and the praise of angels, to understand the anxiety of an impending birth and to cultivate within their own lives the practice of worship.

**BK DA2 004 IN SEARCH OF CHRISTMAS: A COLLECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL RESOURCES**

Authors: Elizabeth Morris-Pierce, et al

This anthology of holiday material (Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas) provides you with a complete collection of resources for drama, worship, and young people. It includes a wide range of resources from across the denominational spectrum. Copying privileges are included for all segments.

**BK DA2 026 JUST IN TIME! ADVENT SERVICES**

Author: David G. Rogne

Advent Services includes biblically-based sermons, suggested scriptures, hymns, and prayers as well as litanies for lighting the Advent wreath. These services offer a compelling message of hope during this important church season, when people often visit a church for the first time.

**BK DA2 011 LIGHTING THE WAY TO CHRISTMAS: A RESOURCE FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

Author: Phyllis Vos Wezeman

Offers the congregation a thematic approach for communicating the stories of Advent & Christmas. To make the theme visible and to reinforce the message, a different image of light serves each week as the symbol associated with the Advent candles (Glimmer, Glisten, Gleam, Glow, Glory).

**BK DA2 013 ON TIPTOES IN EXPECTATION: PRAYERS FOR ADVENT, CHRISTMAS & EPIPHANY**

Author: Donna Schaper

The season of Advent/Christmas/Epiphany presents pastors and worship leaders with the continual challenge of locating fresh, insightful worship resources. On Tiptoes in Expectation is a small but valuable treasure chest of prayers, litanies, and meditations for Sunday morning worship and other seasonal gatherings.

**BK DA2 024 PREACHING AND WORSHIPING IN ADVENT, CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY**

This one-volume lectionary resource provides brief preaching commentaries and prayers for worship for the Sunday so Advent through Epiphany for all three cycles of the lectionary (Years A, B, and C.)

**BK DA2 023 SEASON OF LIGHT AND HOPE: PRAYERS & LITURGIES FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

Author: Blair Gilmer Meeks

A treasury of scripture-based prayers, liturgies, and other worship aids to enrich worship from the First Sunday of Advent through the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord (usually the second Sunday in January.)

**BK DA2 022 SIMPLY WAIT: CULTIVATING STILLNESS IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

The author invites you to be still this Advent. She offers four words for your reflection: Anticipation, Hope, Patience, Obedience. Daily meditation on scripture, prayer, and space for journaling will lead to your own encounter with Advent's message- whether individually or in a small group. A guide for groups is included.

**BK DA2 017**    **THEY CAME TOGETHER IN BETHLEHEM: MESSAGES FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS**

Author: Thomas A. Pilgrim

For all of us, life comes together in Bethlehem because of what happened there on a cold, dark night when a star lit up the sky and God's love warmed the hearts of a few people who came together in Bethlehem. This book provides a complete worship resource including sermons, advent candle readings, pastoral prayers, children's sermon and dramatic monologues.

**CU DA2 001**    **WHILE WE WAIT: LIVING THE QUESTIONS OF ADVENT**

Author: Mary Lou Redding

Addresses the traditional weekly themes of Advent by examining the questions asked by persons mentioned in the Gospel stories about Jesus' birth. Also includes directions and exercises for five weekly group meetings.

**BK DA2 016**    **WORSHIP INNOVATIONS: HANGING THE GREENS FOR CHRISTMAS**

Author: Janet Burton

Beginning with a step-by-step guide for initiating a "Hanging of the Greens" celebration, this resource offers nine creative, easy-to-produce programs in which all ages of the church family can participate in the process of decorating worship areas for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Five plans for lighting the Advent wreath are also included.

**BK DA3 004**    **CHRISTMAS STAR, THE: EASY CHRISTMAS DRAMAS, SPEECHES & RECITATIONS**

The Christmas Star offers seven dramas, each requiring few props and little rehearsal. Lines and acting parts are included for young children. Poems, prayers, speeches and an Advent Worship service are included for any children's program or worship Experience during the Advent/Christmas season.

**BK DA3 012**    **DESTINATION BETHLEHEM: DRAMAS & PAGEANTS FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS**

This anthology provides a great selection of dramatic material for memorable Advent and Christmas worship. With a variety of approaches, there's ample material to choose from to fit your needs, whatever your congregation's size or worship style.

**PP DA3 001**    **I'VE GOT MAIL: A CHRISTMAS PLAY FOR CHILDREN**

Authors: Laura & Robert Keeley

Reminds children and adults alike that because Jesus, our Immanuel, was born on Christmas Day, God is with us- always! This play is easy and fun to perform, requires little preparation and involves minimal costumes and props. Bible passages and suggested songs are included throughout the play.

**CU DA3 001**    **MARY HAD A BABY: ADVENT STUDY BASED ON AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUALS**

Author: Cheryl A. Kirk-Duggan

A four-week Advent study based on four African American spirituals. Each session provides the historical background of the spiritual being studied, a devotional for use during the session, and activities designed to prepare group members for the coming season of Christmas.

**KT DA3 002**    **OPEN HEARTS IN BETHLEHEM: A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL DRAMA**

Author: Kenneth E. Bailey

An exciting Christmas drama informed by the author's career as a renowned biblical scholar presents a culturally sensitive and historically accurate understanding of the birth story of Jesus that will help "rescue truth from familiarity" and enrich the story for all. Includes 13 scripts, 6 original pieces of music, program notes and an audio CD.

**BK DA3 023**    **WHEN THE LIGHTS CAME ON: 4 COMPLETE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

Author: Phyllis Vos Wezeman

Each script centers on the theme that Christmas is a celebration of God's message of love and hope for the world. Each program contains: helpful information about the program, Advent preparation suggestions, bulletin/program outline and a complete script.

**BK DA4 011**    **BRIGHTEST STAR OF ALL, THE: CHRISTMAS STORIES FOR THE FAMILY**

Author: Carrie Papa

Over the years, Christians have built on the scriptural account of Jesus' birth to create dozens of charming Christmas stories: "The Light in the Well," "The Camel's Hump," "The Gift of the Spider," and more. This book uses the beauty and power of these simple stories to help bring to readers of all ages a new understanding and thoughtful appreciation of the Nativity.

## **BK DA4 007 CHRISTMAS FROM THE BACK SIDE**

Author: J. Ellsworth Kalas

J. Ellsworth Kalas now opens up new possibilities of insight into the biblical Christmas story of Jesus' birth by entering the Gospel scriptures through the "back side" - through a unique starting point, a creative retelling, a new "lens", or the eyes of a minor or unsympathetic character. Includes a study guide.

## **BK DA4 009 MOUSE TALES: THINGS HOPED FOR**

Authors: Ruth Boling

In these endearing stories set in the fictional church, The Church of the Least of These, the church mice live, work, and play together. The stories, which take place during the Christmas season, show the community learning how to care for one another, welcome outsiders, disagree in love, forgive their friends, and love as Christ loves.

## **BK DAX 008 BLUEPRINTS FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS: SKETCHES, SCENES & SCRIPTS**

Author: Arley K. Fadness

Using the timeless scene of the Bethlehem stable as a visual backdrop, Blueprints provides dynamic resources for creating a memorable and inspiring worship experience. There are detailed instructions for replicating the nativity setting, including blueprints showing exact specifications, enabling parish craftsmen to use their gifts for a unique public witness.

## **BK DAX 015 DESTINATION CHRISTMAS! ADVENT PROGRAMS & PRACTICES FOR YOUTH**

Authors: Laura & Billy Echols-Richter

Destination Christmas has two main sections: programs and practices. Each program has a practice of faith that goes along with it. While the programs provide an opportunity to learn primarily by listening, discussion, and study, the practices of faith provide an opportunity to learn by creative expression and personal experience.

## **BK DAX 011 FIRST CHRISTMAS, THE: WHAT THE GOSPELS REALLY TEACH ABOUT JESUS' BIRTH**

Authors: John Dominic Crossan & Marcus Borg

Two of today's top Jesus scholars join forces to show how history has biased our reading of the nativity story as it appears in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. They explore the beginning of the life of Christ, peeling away the sentimentalism that has built up over the last 2000 years to reveal the truth of what the gospels actually say. The Christmas story is far richer and more challenging than people imagine.

## **BK DAX 018 IDEAS A-Z: CHRISTMAS**

Author: Phyllis Vos Wezeman

This book develops a unique format for delivering insights, information, and activities. Topics offer a balanced variety of methods and approaches for experiencing the Biblical story. For every letter of the alphabet, there is a different theme and several ways of exploring the theme, like drama, games, music, puppetry or storytelling.

## **BK DAX 009 KERYGMA: THE LIGHT WILL SHINE: A STUDY FOR ADVENT**

This study is designed to provide fresh perspectives on the journey through Advent to Christmas and beyond, and to highlight the underlying message of the traditional scripture texts and themes for the season, making the meaning and the message of those texts come alive. It will equip one to see beyond the "hustle and bustle" of commercial Christmas to the good news of great joy that forms the very foundation of our faith.

## **BK DAX 005 LIVING WITH HOPE: A SCIENTIST LOOKS AT ADVENT, CHRISTMAS & EPIPHANY**

Author: John Polkinghorne

In these refreshingly unconventional meditations, the author connects the perspectives of science and religion in honest and thoughtful reflections for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Giving new meaning to the penitence of Advent and the hope of the Christian faith, he considers God's ultimate purposes along with scientific knowledge of the fate of the universe.

## **BK DAX 001 WERE THEY WISE MEN OF KINGS? THE BOOK OF CHRISTMAS QUESTIONS**

Author: Joseph J. Walsh

Christmas is a time of celebration, rich with ritual and tradition. The author explains what's behind Christmas traditions and answers the season's most commonly asked questions.

**CU DAX 001    WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS? AN ADVENT STUDY FOR ADULTS**

Author: James W. Moore

It's a question that gets asked often as the holiday season approaches. And if we're honest, much of the time when we think about how we would answer that question, we have material things on our mind. The author invites you, in this 4-week study, to explore the questions on a deeper level. Does your heart long for the gifts the Christ Child brings?

**BK DAX 007    WORSHIP FEAST ADVENT & CHRISTMAS: COMPLETE WORSHIP OUTLINES**

Authors: Jenny Youngman & Josh Tinley

A collection of super-creative, experiential, multisensory worship experiences for your youth group. Services include art projects, prayer stations, meditations, lectio divina, and more. In addition, a CD of five original Advent and Christmas-themed worship songs is included.