

What's the Big Idea?

Advent is marked by the four weeks leading up to Christmas. The word Advent means "to come." During this special time of our church year, we watch, prepare and hope for the arrival of Jesus who came to bring light to the darkness.



This week's Advent theme is *Promise*. God makes good on the promises God makes!

How blautiful upon the MOUNTAINS are the feet of the messenger who announces PLACE, who brings good NEWS, who announces SALVATION, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Advent song

Each week of Advent, we'll sing a verse from hymn #240, Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah.

This week's verse is Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish the darkness. He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise. Listen for it!

Live It Together

I need some space! Let me catch my breath! Have you ever heard someone say one of these phrases before?

Hebrew is the original language of the Old Testament where we find the book of Isaiah. In it the word for **salvation** is yasha. Yasha means breath and space. When someone is troubled by something hard and heavy, yasha is the feeling of ease or being set free from their trouble. Like a refreshing breath of air.

How might a promise of good news feel like yasha?

Talk About It

Enjoy time of curiosity and conversation with a trusted grown up:

- 1. What kinds of promises do we make to each other as a family? As a community? As a church?
- 2. What does it mean to make a promise? How do you feel if a promise is broken? How do you feel if a promise is kept?
- 3. Another way to describe God making good on the promises God makes is to say that God is faithful. We can depend on God. What are everyday things you can depend on?
- 4. In today's story, the people were waiting to hear if the news was good or bad. The news was good! God was coming to bring comfort to the people. Share about a time you received good news after waiting a long time to hear it. How did it feel?

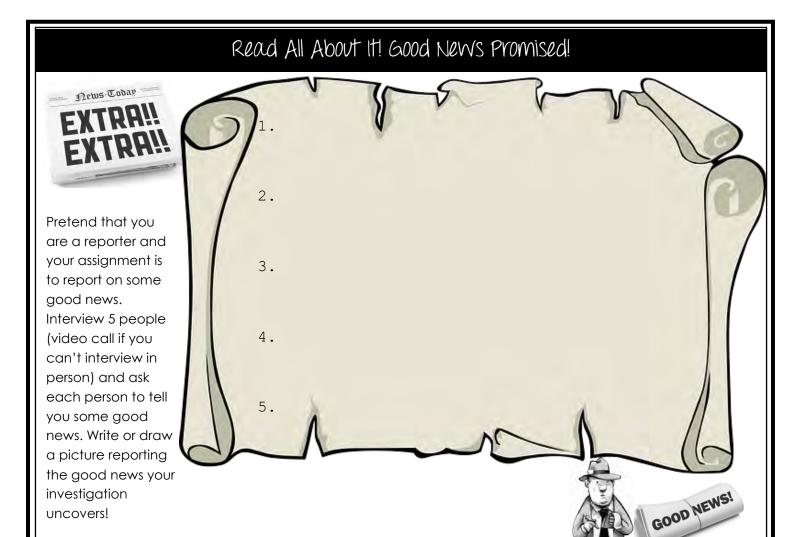
Pray: Dear God, thank you for being faithful to your promises. Help us to receive the good news of our Messiah, Jesus, coming with excitement, wonder, and gratitude. Amen.

Memorize It

Have a grown up help you send a video of yourself saying this week's memory verse to Sarah to have a sticker added by your name on the Memory Verse Star Chart! Sarah sends a prize when 10 stars reached!

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation...lsaiah 52:7

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God the Promise Keeper

