



Dear Pastor/Church Leader,

As we come upon the Advent season – the time leading up to Christmas – we wish to offer resources that can bless both you and your church community. We have developed an Advent Reader with daily readings and activities around the theme of “My Messiah,” exploring the names of Jesus.

If you wish to continue this theme in your sermons, you can also turn this into a sermon series. We know that as pastors you may have preached during Advent many times and may be interested in a framework for a series to help create your own sermons. If you wish to use this theme, we have provided a sermon series outline here. However, you do NOT have to preach on these topics in order to use the Advent Reader. The reader stands on its own and we hope you will share it with your whole congregation, whatever your preaching themes this season.

*May God bless you as you prepare to lead  
God’s people in this meaningful time.*



## Week One of Advent – December 3

**Sermon Title:** “My Messiah” is Immanuel

**Passage:** Isaiah 7:14 (could also integrate Matthew 1:22-23)

### **Ideas and Concepts:**

- Introduce the idea of the Messiah being the one that people longed for – a coming Saviour
- This Messiah would be “God with us”
- Discuss what it means for God to be with us and the significance of the incarnation (John 1)
- What does it mean for us today to remember our Messiah is STILL “God with us?”
- What comfort and hope does this bring to our world – and to you?

## Week Two of Advent – December 10

**Sermon Title:** “My Messiah” is a Man of Sorrows

**Passage:** Isaiah 53: 1-6

### **Ideas and Concepts:**

- Exploring the idea of Jesus as a “suffering servant”
- Can use other passages that point to Jesus suffering in Scripture and ways He suffered for us
- What does it mean for us to remember our Messiah is a Man of Sorrows? What comfort does it bring you in your suffering to remember that Jesus understands our suffering?
- How do we share in the suffering of others, as Jesus did?



## Week Three of Advent – December 17

**Sermon Title:** “My Messiah” is Prince of Peace

**Passages:** Isaiah 9:6, Luke 2: 14, John 14: 27

### **Ideas and Concepts:**

- Jesus came not as a military ruler but as a Prince of Peace
- Jesus said “blessed are the peacemakers”
- What does peace look like for us in our world?
- How do we live the way of Jesus, who is Prince of Peace, in our time, especially in this season of war?
- Where do you need to seek the way of peace in your life – with your own family, friends and community? Are there people with whom you must seek peace? How can Jesus help you?

## Week Four of Advent – December 24

**Sermon Title:** “My Messiah came for me.”

**Scripture:** The Christmas Story

### **Ideas and Concepts:**

- Summarize series: We were told in the prophets that Jesus would be Immanuel, Man of Sorrows, Prince of Peace
- How do we see this reality in the way that He was born?
- What does the story of Christmas tell us about our amazing Messiah?
- If you haven’t yet, will you make Jesus your Messiah this Christmas season? Can you say that Jesus is indeed “My Messiah?”

# Song Ideas

In addition to Christmas carols,  
here are some song ideas for this series:

Jesus Messiah (Modern)

Jesus, Name Above All Names (Chorus)

Jesus, What a Beautiful Name (Chorus)

Man of Sorrows (Hymn)

Man of Sorrows (Modern)

The Name of the Lord is a Strong Tower (Chorus)

O Come O Come Emmanuel

What a Beautiful Name (modern)



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