

**ADVENT WREATH DEVOTIONS for
THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT
HOPE**

FIRST READER: This is the first Sunday in Advent. Today we light one purple candle. This is the candle of hope. Advent is a time of waiting and hoping. We wait for the day when we celebrate again the birth of Jesus. We hope that everyone will come to know God and to worship God.

Light the first candle. Sing or read together the hymn, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus," hymn #66 in the 1982 Hymnal.

SECOND READER: When we look at the first candle we remember God's promise. God promised to send a Savior to the people. When we listen to our Scripture reading, we learn what the prophet Isaiah wrote about God. God fulfills the promises made to care for people. God is loving and just. God brings peace. This gives us hope. We look forward to the time when everything is fair, when the world is at peace, and all people are treated justly.

FIRST READER: Read **Isaiah 2:1-5**

DISCUSSION: This Scripture offers us the hope of God's kingdom where there is peace and has the wonderful sentence, "...let us walk in the light of the Lord!" Who are the people in our world who need hope? What are the hopes we have for our world today? How do we help others know that God gives hope?

Holy God, thank you for your son, Jesus. Thank you for the words of the Prophet Isaiah that remind us that you are the source of our hope. Help us to remember to walk in the light of the Lord. AMEN