

Creative Idea 01

Like A Candle AOVNG Song #91

You can use this song as a whole piece or a verse each week through Advent. Light the candles on the Advent Wreath and sing the verse(s) and chorus. Build on this week after week to culminate in a prayerful song of the whole community.

Advent Candle Ceremony

First Sunday of Advent (or First Week of Advent)

HOPE

Voice 1: Today is the first (Sunday of Advent or week of Advent), in which we remember the hope we have in Jesus.

Voice 2: The prophets of Israel spoke of the coming of Jesus, of how a saviour would be born, a king in the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

Voice 3: As the followers of Jesus, we await his return. We light this candle to remember that as he came to us humbly in the manger at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people.

Voice 4: We light this candle to remind us to be alert and to watch for his return.

Light the First Candle

Leader: Let us Pray. Loving God, we thank you for the hope you gave us. Help us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. Help us to live holy and just lives. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Play the first verse and the Chorus of the song, Light a Candle

Second Sunday of Advent (or Second Week of Advent)

PEACE

Voice 1: The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. It is sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle to remind us of the place in which preparations were made to receive the cradle of the Christ child.

Voice 2: Peace is a gift that we must be prepared for. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to God in faith.

Voice 3: The prophet Isaiah calls Christ "the prince of peace." Through John the Baptist and all the other prophets, God asks us to prepare our hearts so that he may come and be with us.

Voice 4: Our hope is in God, and in his son Jesus Christ. Our peace is found in him. We light this candle today to remind us that he brings peace to all who trust in him.

Light the Second Candle

Leader: Let us Pray. Loving God, thank you for the peace you give us through Jesus. Help us prepare our hearts to receive him. Guide us in all that we say and do. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen

Play the second verse and Chorus of the song, Light a Candle

Third Sunday of Advent (or Third Week of Advent)

JOY

Voice 1: The third candle of Advent is the Candle of Joy. It reminds us of the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child would be born to her – a child who would save and deliver God's people.

Voice 2: God wants us all to experience joy. The angel announced to the shepherds that Jesus had been born and told them: "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all people – for to you is born today, in the City of David, a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

Voice 3: We light this candle to remember that Christ brings the promise of a new life – a life in which the blind receive sight, the lame walk, and the prisoners are set free.

Voice 4: We light this candle and remember that Christ brings true and everlasting joy.

Light the Third Candle

Leader: Let us Pray. Loving God, we thank you for the joy you bring us. Help us prepare our hearts for this gift. Help us to hear and act with love. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Play the third verse and Chorus of the song, Light a Candle

Fourth Sunday of Advent (or Fourth Week of Advent)

LOVE

Voice 1: The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. Its light is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us.

Voice 2: Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The bible says, "God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Voice 3: Love is patient; love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offence, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends.

Voice 4: We light this candle today to remind us of how God's perfect love is found in Jesus.

Light the Fourth Candle

Leader: Let us Pray. Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love – shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ. Help us to prepare our hearts to receive him. Help us to hear your word and to act in love. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Play all verses and Chorus of the song, Light a Candle
