



“The simplest way I have to distinguish between Advent and Christmas is that advent uses the word “come” as a longing petition, expressed in anticipation, whereas Christmas is a commemorative reflection on how the Lord has come in Christ’s birth and thus the trigger for a new redemptive order has begun.”

– Lester Ruth, Duke Divinity School

**Isaiah 6:1–7**

**Isaiah 7:13–14** *Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” (NIV)*

**Isaiah 9:2** *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. (NIV)*

**Isaiah 9:6–7** *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this. (NIV)*

- **Wonderful Counselor:** Jesus Himself is His own Counselor.
- **Mighty God:** As this title belongs to God, it belongs to Jesus.
- **Everlasting Father:** The King who provides for His people and protects them forever.
- **Prince of Peace:** “Unlike the princes in the pagan pantheon who were always the source of trouble and upheaval, this child will be the source of ‘peace,’ a biblical concept that includes much more than mere absence of conflict; it speaks of wholeness and integration with no issues left unresolved.” – D.A. Carson

**Jeremiah 23:5** *“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land...” (NIV)*

**Jeremiah 33:15** *In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. (NIV)*

**Zechariah 3:8** *Listen, High Priest Joshua, you and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. (NIV)*

**Zechariah 6:12** *Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘Here is the man whose name is the Branch, and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the LORD...’ (NIV)*

**Isaiah 11:2–5** *The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD— <sup>3</sup>and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. (NIV)*

**Isaiah 11:10** *In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious. (NIV)*

**Isaiah 52:13–53:12**

“Atonement is not achieved through a mere religious sleight of hand; it is matter of death.”

– D.A. Carson

**Revelation 4:2–11**

**Revelation 5:5–14**



## **DOGGY BAG**

**Something to take home and chew on!**

Read through today’s passages this coming week and ask God to reveal the Person of Jesus in your life!

### **Take a step in faith this week:**

- **Let us know you are here today.** Fill out a Connection Card every Sunday through either the Christ Church app or the Connection Card tab in the top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform ([LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG](https://LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG)).
- **Go to our weekly online bulletin** and get involved with mission and ministry this week. Use the Christ Church app, or the Resources tab\* in top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform, to access the current edition each week.
- Read through your [Fulfilling the Promise booklet](#) and stay informed about this initiative. Watch our [Night of Generosity program from November 14](#) to learn about creative ways to see Christ work through your generosity. **Both can be accessed online at [CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/PROMISE](https://CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/PROMISE)**. Reach out to Tim and Laura at [FTP@christchurchva.org](mailto:FTP@christchurchva.org) if you want to know more or help.
- Join us for **Wednesday Night Dinner** (5:30pm) & **Discipleship** (6:30pm) after Thanksgiving week. Join a class or group; contact Pam Charbonneau to learn more about discipleship options at [pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org](mailto:pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org).
- **Consider fasting (from food or something else)** with others from Christ Church on **Wednesdays until 5pm**, and consider breaking your fast at our Wednesday Night Dinner. As you fast, pray that Christ will increase our faith and build His Church. (Consult your medical professional if you are not familiar with fasting.)
- Join your pastors and church family as we **Read Through the New Testament in 2024**, using the YouVersion Bible App to read together and encourage one another along the way. Learn more and sign up: [bit.ly/readthebible2024](https://bit.ly/readthebible2024)
- As part of our current and incoming annual Bible reading plan, join us live online at [LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG](https://LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG) each weekday at noon for **Midday Prayer** (soon to be known as **Online Daily Bible Study**), where our pastors discuss our daily readings.
- **Sign up to serve!** Contact Bev at [badams@christchurchva.org](mailto:badams@christchurchva.org) for suggestions.

\*Quick link to Connection Resources: [CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/CONNECT-WITH-US](https://CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/CONNECT-WITH-US)