



## Advent Invitation

Christmas seems to have come early this year. People always say that when the Christmas adverts start the day after Bonfire Night. But perhaps people are looking forward to Christmas with particular intensity this year, albeit with a lot of uncertainty. So, thank goodness the church calendar has caught up. This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent, the weeks of preparation for the coming of Jesus. In Advent we consider how great is our need for the saviour and pray that he would come.

As we do this, we can grow in our understanding and our faith by using Daily Bible readings. There are lots of great books that help us do this - the bookstall at Barnston Hall has some of them. Or, if you have a smart phone, you can find good Bible reading schemes on a free app called YouVersion. I will be using one called **Advent - The gift devotional**, starting on Nov 30th. Can I encourage you to join me? It will take us through the Bible, pointing out how the coming of Jesus is anticipated and celebrated. An advantage of using YouVersion is that we can share thoughts and comments with others who are doing the same reading. It's a way we can "teach and admonish one another", as our motto verse for this year puts it.

I hope that as we dust off the decorations or plan the presents, we will take a journey together that will make Christmas this year, despite the ways it may be very different, a time of growing joy in Jesus Christ.

### YouVersion

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#### Get Ready for Christmas with Advent Reading Plans from YouVersion

It's easy to get so caught up in the busyness of the holiday season that we lose track of what it's actually about. [YouVersion.com](http://YouVersion.com) and the Bible App offer several topical and devotional Reading Plans specifically designed to help us remember the true meaning of Christmas. Many of us in the YouVersion community participate in Advent, the period beginning four Sundays before Christmas, using this time to purposefully refocus our hearts toward celebrating the miracle of God coming to earth in human form. Please consider joining us with one of the following plans:



English



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