

Advent Puzzle Project
11/29/2020 – The First Sunday of Advent

Advent is a season of waiting and preparation. As we move through the calendar year, the church has divided the year into “festival” time and “ordinary time.” In festival time we remember the life of Jesus. In ordinary time we consider what Jesus taught about how to live our lives with each other.

In Advent, we are remembering the time before Jesus came to earth, when the world was waiting for the Savior that had been promised to Adam and Eve. Despite the sadness and brokenness and frustration of living in this imperfect world, Advent is a time of hope that good things are coming, that God has not forgotten us, that we are loved and will be loved infinitely and for all time.

This hope is not a “maybe yes/maybe no” kind of hope. This is the hope of faith. The hope of believing deep in our bodies, minds, and spirits that God is trustworthy. This is the hope of knowing that it will work out for our good, even if we have no idea how that it will come to be. It is a little bit like when you put together a puzzle: you might not know exactly how the pieces fit together, but you have faith that all those random-looking pieces will turn into something lovely and interesting.

This year for Advent we invite you to puzzle through with us. Each week we will add another piece to the puzzle until we find, on Christmas, the announcement of the hope that we consider this week.

Decorate the puzzle piece on the next page with your image of that kind of hope. Use colors or construction paper, feathers or small rocks or sticks. Make it your piece of hope. For best results, cut out the piece on the outside of the outline to finish your piece of the puzzle.

When you have finished, take a picture of your decorated puzzle piece and sent it to us at southdurhamconnections@gmail.com. We will put them up on our website each week so that those who visit the website will see all the different ways that our community envisions hope.

You will get a reply email when your picture is posted with the website address and how you can see your picture and that of others who are participating in the community Advent Puzzle Project.

Now... on to building the hope part of our puzzle:

HOPE

