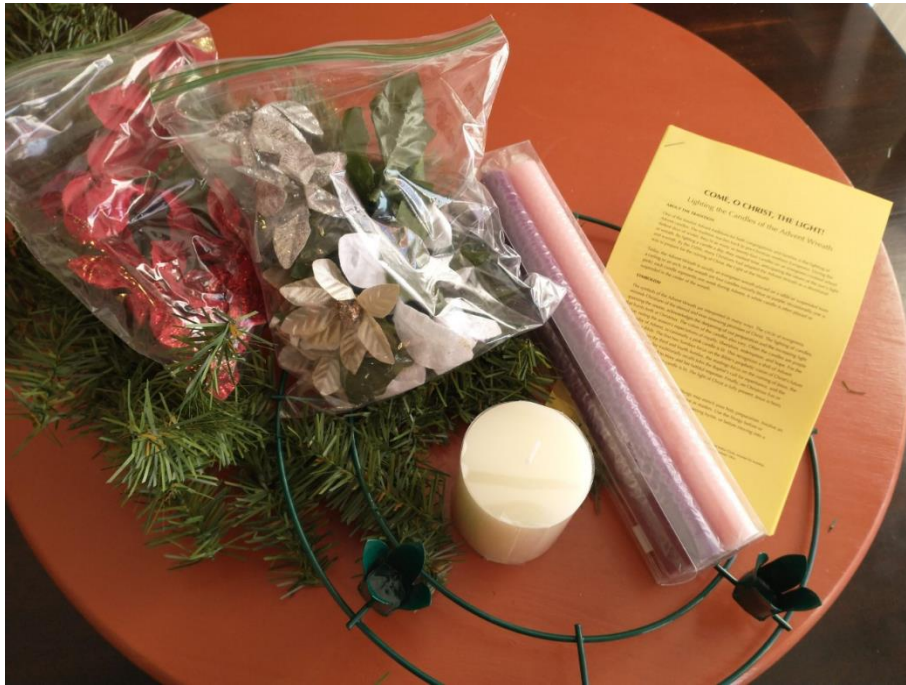


ADVENT WREATH KIT

Kit contains:

- one candle set – three purple candles and one pink candle
- one white Christ candle
- one green wire wreath form with 4 candle holders attached to wire frame
- one 3-foot garland of artificial greenery
- two bags of artificial flower pics
- one segment of wire with two segments of green twist ties
- Lighting the Candle Ceremony



Assembling the wreath:

1. Lay out the wire wreath form and the segment of wire and green twist ties, and shape the 3-foot garland of artificial greenery into a circle as best you can.



2. Starting at a point between two candle holders on the wire frame, firmly attach one end of the garland to the wire frame with one piece of the green twist tie and then pull the rest of the garland carefully around the wire frame to complete the circle. **DO NOT COVER OVER THE CANDLE HOLDER.** You will probably have to fit the garland around the candle holders, but there is enough garland to reach completely around the wire frame. You might need to secure the garland in place as you go, but with the second piece of green twist tie, secure the other end of the garland where you began.



3. If you need to secure the garland in other areas on the wire frame, use a small segment of the silver wire that was included in your kit. You don't have to use much more than the length of a regular twist tie (like the kind you get on a bread package). If you have wire cutters, you can easily cut the wire. If you do not have a wire cutter, use the ingenious way of bending the wire back and forth at the point you want to "cut" it, and it will eventually break apart. (It might take up to 10 twists, but it is fun! Do watch children doing this as the end can be sharp.)

4. Being careful, gently fold out the “branches” of the garland so that it looks full and like a pine bough. Make sure the folded out boughs do not cover the candle holders.



5. Lay the flower pieces around the secured greenery garland. Experiment with placement until you find the look you like. Then secure the pics in place with either small bits of the wire, or if you have a glue gun and know how to use it, you can put the pics in amidst the greenery and then add a dab of hot glue to secure it in place. (Again, with children, please watch them with the hot glue gun!!) If you have other decorations at home that you want to use, you can add them. Just be careful that nothing sticks up near where the candle(s) will be aflame!



6. Place the four candles—three purple and one pink-- in the candle holders. You can pinch the metal candle holders inward to hold the candles firmly in place. If the candles wobble still, wrap the bottom end of the candle with a small piece of aluminum foil, using about 1-inch wide piece and wrapping it so that the candle will be firmly in place. Try to make it as secure in the holder as possible to prevent tipping, and also try to make the foil as inconspicuous as possible.



7. Enjoy your wreath! Place it where it will not be tipped over and where it will be visible throughout the weeks of Advent.



The actual origins of the Advent wreath are uncertain. There is evidence of pre-Christian Germanic peoples using wreaths with lit candles during the cold and dark December days as a sign of hope in the future warm and extended-sunlight days of Spring. In Scandinavia during Winter, lighted candles were placed around a wheel, and prayers were offered to the god of light to turn “the wheel of the earth” back toward the sun to lengthen the days and restore warmth.