

Advent 2022 - Journey to Joy

Advent and Christmas Resources for Worship and Discipleship

Created by the Uniting Church in Australia Qld Synod.



1. Journey to Joy Map and Ornaments – Simple countdown calendar for Advent & Christmas with daily challenges and Nativity Character Ornaments to colour. This is best printed on an A4 card single-sided. Print and include with either the Countdown to Christmas or Advent and Christmas reflections for any and all families in your community.

2. Journey to Joy: Countdown to Christmas – Designed for families from our playgroups, childcare centres, and other community groups. Five weeks of materials with discussion questions on the weekly themes, simple reflections on Characters of the nativity, challenges and links to additional resources, including videos, songs and activities. This is best printed on A4 paper, double-sided. Print and include with the Map and Ornaments for these families in your community.

3. Journey to Joy: Advent and Christmas Reflections – Designed for Families, singles, couples, and groups within congregations. Five weeks of materials with discussion questions on the weekly themes, Reflections on Characters of the nativity, challenges and links to additional resources, including videos and songs, to help young and old to engage and go further in their discipleship journey this advent. This is best printed on A4 paper, double-sided. Print and include with the Map and Ornaments for all members of your congregation.

4. Journey to Joy Worship Planning Resource – These resources have been created by a collaborative team from across the Qld Synod of the Uniting Church to help congregations, communities, and families celebrate Advent together intergenerationally. It contains bible readings, themes and suggestions for prayers, videos, and activities to do in worship to assist with weekly worship preparation for the four Sundays of Advent and Christmas Day or Christmas Eve. There is also an Advent Candle Litany and suggestions for a Blue Christmas/ Solace/ Thanksgiving and Remembering Service. These resources are connected thematically with the *Journey to Joy Countdown to Christmas* and *Advent and Christmas Reflections* to enable ongoing engagement for congregation members, families, and people in your community over this Advent and Christmas season.

5. Journey to Joy Advent Litany PowerPoint (folder) – 5 PowerPoint presentations, one for each Sunday, containing the text and responses for the weekly Advent Candle Litany. Please amend the text references to sand and cardboard if not completing the artwork during this time.

6. Journey to Joy Postcards – 5 postcards, one for each Sunday, to use for personal art and reflection during worship. These are best printed on A4 cards and cut to size. Make enough for one per person in worship. These could also be printed and included in advent packs for all families in your community.

7. Journey to Joy Posters – 5 posters, one for each Sunday, to use for communal art and prayers for others with the Advent Litany during worship. The Posters are best printed, or hand traced/drawn onto the largest-sized card possible (poster card works well). Further instructions and examples are in the *Journey to Joy Worship Planning resource*.

8. Journey to Joy Nativity Characters (folder) – Large files of the Characters from the Advent and Christmas reflections that can be used any way you like. It could be printed large onto a corflute to set up a nativity set out the front of the church or small onto a card for DIY nativity sets at home or in the church.

9. Journey to Joy Poem and Painting (for worship) – A PowerPoint slide containing Estelle's Journey to Joy Poem and Painting. Further instructions are in the Journey to Joy Worship Planning resource.

10. Joy Christmas Card – A Joy card template to print and use for homemade Christmas Cards.

11. Additional Resources for weekly reflections (folder) – a document for each week with links to the additional resources referenced in the Worship Planning Resource and Advent and Christmas Reflections.

Stories from Uniting Church Partners

- **Uniting Care Queensland**
- **Wesley Mission Queensland**
- **Uniting World**

If you have questions about how to use these materials, please get in touch with the Mission Accompanying Team via mission@ucaqld.com.au