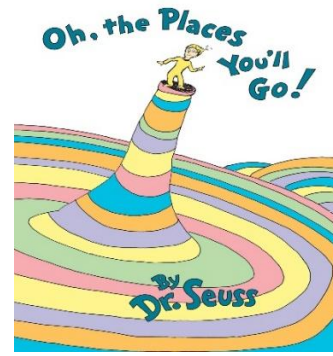


Theme; Preparing to celebrate the Jesus' birth.

Scripture: Mark 1:1-8 Key Passage:

"Prepare the way for the Lord!"

Object; The Dr. Seuss book "Oh the Places You will Go"



I have heard that if you live to be seventy years old, you will spend three years of your life just waiting. Often we are waiting in line at the grocery store, waiting in the doctor's office, waiting for lunch to be ready, waiting for recess time at school. Just **WAITING!**

In his book, "Oh, the Places You'll Go," Dr. Seuss talks about a place called "The Waiting Place." He describes it as a useless place where people are just waiting.

Waiting for a train to go, or a bus to come, or a plane to go, or the mail to come, or the rain to go or the phone to ring, or the snow to snow, or **waiting** around for a Yes or No, or **waiting** for their hair to grow. Everyone is just **WAITING**.

I don't particularly like waiting, do you? I don't like it, but I don't know of any way to avoid it. We all have to spend some time in this "waiting place" that Dr. Seuss talks about, but I don't think it has to be a useless place. While we are waiting, life goes on, and we must make good use of our time. What can we do? Well, we could read a good book or call a friend. We could make a list of things we need to do today or, we could even study for our weekly spelling test. Well, maybe that's going a bit too far, but there are many things we can do besides just **waiting**.

Next week is the first Sunday of **Advent**. **Advent** means "**to come on an ADVENTure.**" Do you know what's coming?Of course. Jesus Birthday is coming. This is an exciting time, but it may also be a difficult time of waiting -- especially for children. Waiting for the day when you can open the gifts that you see under the tree.

What can we do to make this time of waiting for Christmas more than just a useless time in the waiting place? Well, we can think about the true meaning of Christmas. We can think about Jesus and his love. We can think about giving instead of receiving. We can enjoy all of the beautiful music and the decorations of the season. When we do those things, we will find joy in the waiting place.

We are waiting for Christmas,
but we are also waiting for something else.
We are waiting for Jesus' return.
He told us that He would come again and
He told us to watch and be ready for Him.

Welcome to God's Garden!!

Join us each Sunday at 9:30 as we celebrate with our children.

What should we do while we are waiting for Jesus Birthday?

We should worship and praise Him,

love and serve Him,

sing songs and read stories about Him,

and share His love with others.

When we are doing those things, we will be ready for His return,

and we will **find joy** in the waiting place.

Heavenly Father, as we spend time in this waiting place, we look forward with great joy to the celebration of Jesus' birth and to the day when he comes again. Amen.

Can a little child like me

Thank the Father fittingly?

Yes Oh Yes. Be good and true.

Patient, kind in all you do.

Love the Lord and do your part.

Learn to say with all your heart.

Father we thank thee. Father we thank thee.

Father in heaven.....we thank thee.



Jesus Loves Me. This I know!!!!

LET'S SING.....Jesus loves me. This I know.

For the BIBLE tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong.

**They are weak but He is
strong!**

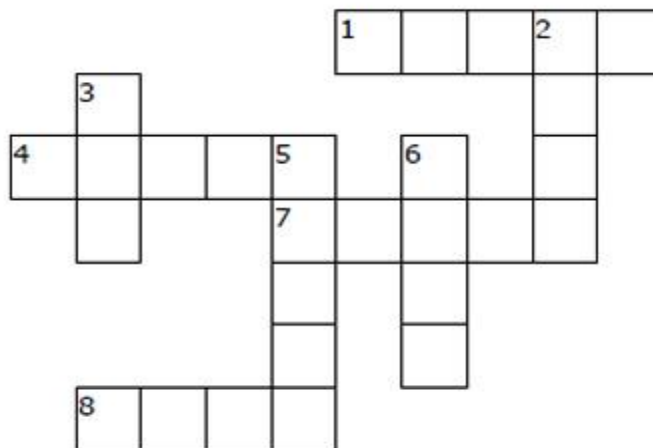
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes! Jesus loves me! Yes Jesus loves me!

The BIBLE tells me so !!!

The Waiting Place

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Mark 13:35-37



ACROSS

1. The time of day when it is dark
4. To keep an eye on; to guard
7. The person who has something such as property
8. A particular moment in the day, such as eight o'clock

DOWN

2. A period of sixty minutes
3. A period of 24 hours
5. The place where a person or family lives
6. To have information about something; to be aware of something

TIME	DAY	OWNER	HOUSE
WATCH	KNOW	NIGHT	HOUR

Things to do while you wait in the "Waiting Place".

Stars

Donate Toys

Bake Cupcakes

Make a Nativity Scene

Make a Cherrio Garland

Make a Hot Chocolate Bar

Make Salt Dough Ornaments

Decorate Gingerbread a house

Get and decorate your Christmas tree

Borrow Christmas books from the Library

Have a Christmas movie night with popcorn

Make and Decorate Christmas Cookies for your friends.

Share:

Peace

Joy

///\\//\\\\//\\//\\ Love //\\\\\\//\\//\\//\\

CRAFTS



Advent Wreath:

Things you will need for the **Craft 1**; Black, each sheet folded in half, yellow, for the flames, orange, for the center of the flames and green construction paper, for the hand prints, Purple, pink and white tissue paper. Glue, scissors, waxed paper. (or white paper, crayons and oil) Fold in half then cut out 4 black rectangles out the center. (for frames about 1" wide)

Option 1: have the children glue it on a piece of waxed paper. Trim around the candle cutting off the extra waxed paper. Tear bits of pink and purple and white tissue paper and glue on the back of the waxed paper. (3 candles are pink, one purple, one white.)

Option 2; Glue the black frame on a piece of white paper. Colour three purple candles and one pink and one white. Using a little bit of cooking oil and a brush, paint the back of the paper.

Continue: Give children 4 small rectangle strips of purple paper for the three candles and one pink, one white.... Using Green construction paper, (folded in four) Trace four or five handprints and glue to the bottom of the candles. Hang in the window. Add a flame on each Sunday before Christmas.

Help the children to write these words on their candles. The pink one is JOY. HOPE, FAITH,LOVE is purple and write JESUS (or CHRIST) on the white candle. The White one is lit on Christmas Eve

Above All.....Have Fun learning about Christmas!

Craft 2 You will need: a paper plate, two shades of green construction paper, red circles for the berries. For the candles you will need a small pink paper, a small white and 3 small purple papers about ½ inch wide and 3 inches long. Add a yellow flame -one for each week before Christmas.

Week one= purple with HOPE written on it.

Week 2 add another Purple with FAITH written on it.

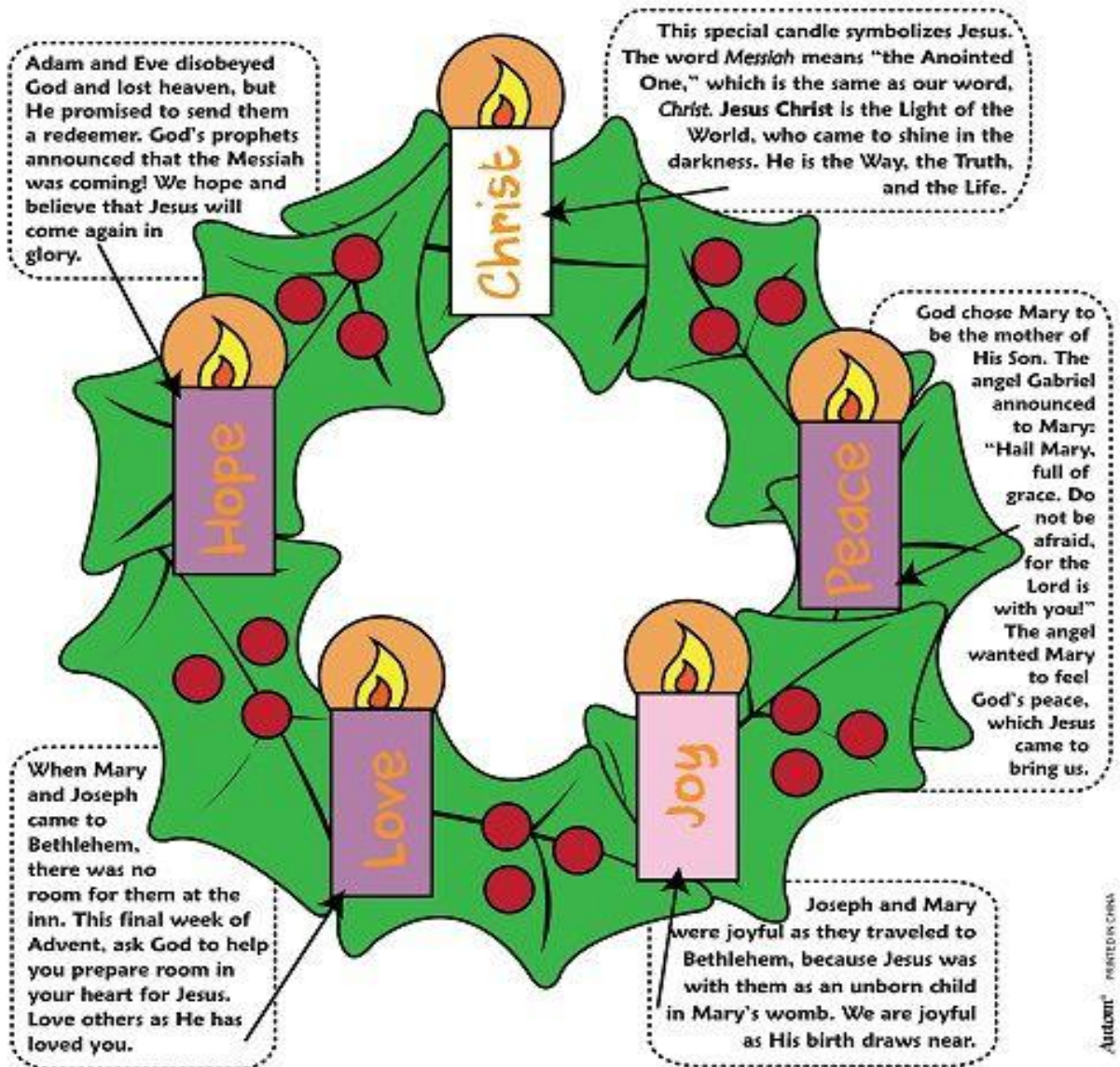
Week 3 add another purple with LOVE written no it.

Week 4 add the PINK candle for PEACE and week 5 with a white candle JESUS written on it.

THE MEANING OF ADVENT

MY NAME IS Hayden

THE COLOR OF ADVENT IS PURPLE. THERE ARE THREE PURPLE ADVENT CANDLES, AND ONE ROSE-COLORED. THE CHRIST CANDLE IS PURE WHITE!



Fill in the candle names using the text above as your guide.

CHRIST • HOPE • JOY • PEACE • LOVE