



Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Advent means “Coming”. In the church, blue and purple are “getting ready” colors.

During the four weeks of Advent, we are getting ready for Jesus to be born. Christmas is coming. We light a new candle on our Advent wreath each Sunday.

Our Leadership leaf this week is VISION. VISION is thinking about the future with wisdom.

During the season of Advent, we remember the prophets in the Old Testament who share a VISION from God- a VISION of Hope and Peace and Joy and Love.

In the Bible, Prophets like Jeremiah and Micah and Amos and Isaiah write that God will bring peace and justice on earth. They write that a great king will be born who will save the people of Israel and the whole world.

The Book of Jeremiah, Chapter 29, says:

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

And in Chapter 33, Jeremiah says:

‘The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

In those days and at that time

I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line;
he will do what is just and right in the land.

In those days Judah will be saved
and Jerusalem will live in safety.

This is the name by which it will be called:
The Lord Our Righteous Savior.’

Prophecies like these gave people a hopeful VISION of the future. When God’s people were hungry or thirsty or oppressed (that means pushed down), they still had hope that their Savior would come.

So during Advent we remember their expectation that the Savior Messiah was coming. They had hope that Jesus would change their world.

And we also remember our own hope and vision that the birth of Jesus will change our world too.

Advent Maze

Light the advent wreath by guiding the candle through the maze.

