



The Making of Advent Wreaths for Home Use

The making of these wreaths is simple and makes a great intergenerational activity, with folks making one wreath per household. Allot 30-45 minutes for this. Make a night of it by joining it with a fellowship meal and a special Advent service.

Assemble beforehand:

- Greenery pruned from evergreens in congregants' yards (boxwood, holly, magnolia, juniper, fir, yew). Have everyone bring what they can to share with all. Pile all the greens together.
- Aluminum pie tins or other containers. You can recycle the pie tins from Thanksgiving, or have people bring other containers they may wish to use instead. The containers need to be big enough for about a 4" x 4" piece of floral foam.
- Floral foam cut into generous squares big enough for all five candles.
- Advent candles—either three or four blue or purple candles. Some use one pink candle. These four are placed around a white candle, the Christ candle, in the center.
- Plenty of scissors and/or pruning shears.

Set up work tables. If you use pie tins, you may want to secure the floral foam to them beforehand using a glue gun and have these set out.

During the event:

Have folks stick the candles into the floral foam in the pie tins with the white Christ candle in the center of the other four in a ring around it.

Take greenery pruned from congregants' evergreens which have been piled together in the middle of the space, and start stuffing it into the floral foam as you will to make a nice round or wreath shape. Cut the greenery as needed. You can add other decorations to this as you will (i.e. ribbons, bows, small artificial flowers, wrapped candies, small Christmas ornaments, etc.).

Hand out Advent calendars and/or devotionals so that households can light the advent candles in anticipation at home.