

## Church at Home Pack – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Join us for our live streamed online service at 10:30am on Sunday at [www.ccwsm.org.uk](http://www.ccwsm.org.uk)

(Please bear with us as we work out how we continue with our services during this time. There may be a mix of live streamed and online services – we will keep you informed.)

If you like, join in with the discussion on Facebook with our church family (@ccwsm)!

**In some sections we make several suggestions of ideas. Some may be more appropriate to you or the different people in your family or life group than others. We're not expecting you to do all of them (although you are very welcome to!) Choose the ones which best suit you.**

### GATHER TOGETHER

#### ***A prayer to start –***

Lord, it is so hard to wait.  
We get bored.  
We get distracted.  
We get tired.  
Be with us Lord.

Wait with us, Lord Jesus.  
Lord, it is so hard to be ready.  
There are always things to do,  
things to think about,  
things to worry about.  
Be with us Lord.

Help us, Lord Jesus,  
to be ready to welcome our King.  
Be with us Lord  
**Amen.**

#### **Action reminder –**

From the top of my head  
*(Touch head)*  
to the tips of my toes;  
*(Touch toes)*  
from the lobes of my ears  
*(Touch ear lobes)*  
to the end of my nose;  
*(Touch nose)*  
from my back, to my front  
*(Turn round)*  
to my wiggly fingers,  
*(stretch out arms and wiggle fingers)*  
God loves me!  
*(jump up and down)*



## READ TOGETHER

### 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9



#### International Children's Bible (ICB)

<sup>3</sup> Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I always thank my God for you because of the grace that God has given you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup> In Jesus you have been blessed in every way, in all your speaking and in all your knowledge. <sup>6</sup> The truth about Christ has been proved in you. <sup>7</sup> So you have every gift from God while you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to come again. <sup>8</sup> Jesus will keep you strong until the end. He will keep you strong, so that there will be no wrong in you on the day our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful. He is the One who has called you to share life with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### New International Version (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup> For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— <sup>6</sup> God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. <sup>7</sup> Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. <sup>8</sup> He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

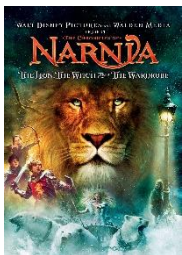
## WATCH TOGETHER



Toddler and dog waiting for dad to come home:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RxfTilamqaM>

*(Now that's excitement!)*



Have a film night and watch 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' *(please note that it is a PG and contains some scenes which may be disturbing for young children)*

## TALK TOGETHER

- What do you find hardest about waiting for something?
- Do you ever think about the fact that we are waiting for Jesus to return?
- What is the hardest thing about waiting for him to come back?

## STUDY TOGETHER

Waiting is often part of our faith journey with God and there are many examples in the Bible of people who had to wait to see the answer to God's promises. A few are listed below. (You may think of other people/situations you'd like to discuss.) Read the passages, one section at a time, and discuss these questions:

- What were they waiting for?
- How long did they have to wait?
- What can we learn from their stories of waiting for God to act?

### ***Abram/Abraham and Sarai/Sarah***

- Genesis 12:1-5
- Genesis 17:1-8, 15-17
- Genesis 21:1-7

### ***David***

- 1 Samuel 16:1, 10-13
- 1 Samuel 19:1-2
- 1 Samuel 24:1-7
- 2 Samuel 5:1-5

### ***The exiled people of Israel***

- Jeremiah 29:4-14
- Ezra 1:1-4

### ***The people of God/the world***

- Isaiah 7:14
- Isaiah 9:6-7

*(Note that Isaiah was written in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries BC and there are 400 years between the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament)*

- Matthew 1:18-23
- Luke 2:4-14

### ***Us***

- Revelation 21:1-5

## PLAY TOGETHER

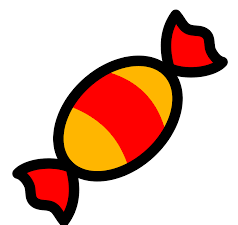
Everyone needs an identical sweet (*if you are playing this with very young children make sure you choose a sweet that they won't be able to choke on*). The idea is to make it last as long as possible.

When you say "Go", everyone puts the sweet in their mouth. After 30 seconds everyone sticks their tongue out with the sweet on it. Do this every 30 seconds. Can you be patient and not eat the sweet quickly all in one go?

The winner is the last person with some sweet left, when everyone else's has gone.

### ***For very young children:***

Playing games where they need to wait their turn will help their understanding of waiting for something fun!



## MAKE TOGETHER

### *Advent Wreaths*

To make a small wreath at home using **Birthdays Candles and Salt Dough** (You could use **Playdough** too):



1. Mix 2 Cups of Plain Flour with one cup of table salt and add water, kneading until it is the consistency of playdough.
2. Mould the salt dough into a doughnut shape around a tealight candle and poke four birthday candles into the doughnut.
3. Add decoration by pressing in a pattern with a fork or cocktail stick.
4. Remove the candles and dry the dough in a cool over, or in a microwave in 10 second bursts.
5. When cool, you can paint the dough or add glitter, then put the candles back in.
6. Light the candles as we will do each Sunday of Advent in Church – the middle one is for Christmas Day!

\*Please be careful around lighted candles, keep them out of reach of small children and don't leave them unattended.

### **As an alternative** – if you have **Battery Candles**:



Decorate a paper plate or a circle of card from your recycling with paper and pens (you can draw around you hand to make leaf shapes or use real greenery/leaves from the garden. Arrange your battery candles around the edge and place one in the centre. 'Light' the candles as we will do each Sunday of Advent in Church, keeping the middle one for Christmas Day!

Using the Salt Dough Recipe above and a birthday candle you could make an **Advent Journey Spiral**:

1. Once you have made the dough roll it out into a sausage shape and slightly flatten it on top.
2. Make the sausage shape into a spiral.
3. Take your candle and starting at the middle, make 25 dents (deep enough to let the candle stand up safely and securely)
4. Dry out the dough in the same way as for the Advent Wreath.
5. Every day during Advent move the candle one place along the spiral and light it, ending at the centre on Christmas Day!

\*Again, please be careful around lighted candles, keep them out of reach of small children and don't leave them unattended.

***Each time you light a candle – Pause, think, pray – you could even read part of the Christmas Story from one of the Gospels or a Bible Story Book.***



## SING TOGETHER

Soon and very soon: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS11SG\\_Yxmo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS11SG_Yxmo)

Stand together – Lifetree Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8TOHWO8yQAI>

I can only imagine – Mercy Me: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N\\_Irrq\\_opng](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_Irrq_opng)

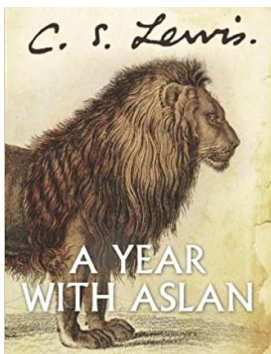
He will hold me fast – Selah: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OOphIqGkjM>

One day (when we all get to heaven) – Matt Redman: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGAdaGbmFfs>

## REFLECT TOGETHER

### *A Sense of Wonder*

*(a reflection from the book 'A Year with Aslan' C.S. Lewis)*



*“They say Aslan is on the move – perhaps has already landed.” And now a very curious thing happened. None of the children knew who Aslan was any more than you do; but the moment the Beaver had spoken these words everyone felt quite different. Perhaps it has sometimes happened to you in a dream that someone says something which you don’t understand but in the dream it feels as if it had some enormous meaning – either a terrifying one which turns the whole dream into a nightmare or else a lovely meaning too lovely to put into words, which makes the dream so beautiful that you remember it all your life and are wishing you could get into that dream again. It was like that now. At the name of Aslan*

*each one of the children felt something jump in its inside. Edmund felt a sensation of mysterious horror. Peter felt suddenly brave and adventurous. Susan felt as if some delicious smell or some delightful strain of music had just floated by her. And Lucy got the feeling you have when you wake up in the morning and realize that it is the beginning of the holidays or the beginning of summer.*

*(The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe)*

- When was the last time you felt the sense of anticipation and wonder that the four children feel upon hearing Aslan’s name?
- When you think about Jesus and his coming again – how do you feel? Does something inside you jump in excitement or fear at the thought?
- You may have been a Christian for a long time or not very long at all. How can you keep a sense of awe and wonder at all that Jesus is?

## PRAY TOGETHER

As the world waits, may we wait with patience.

As the world waits, may we wait with courage.

As we wait, may we hold in our hearts

the hope of the coming Lord,

the love of the waiting God,

the joy of the advent season.

**Amen.**

## DO TOGETHER



This week whenever you're waiting in a queue for something use the time to pray for the people around you.



Watch this 2 minute video on what Advent is all about! Think of things that you can do this Advent to prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus as a baby at Christmas.

<https://youtu.be/eC0FGQLBp7w>

If you have access to a printer you could print and fold this **Flexagon Advent Calendar!**

<https://reflectionary.org/2020/11/09/flexagon-advent-calendar/>

There are 24 readings from the Gospels, each telling a part of the Christmas story. Read one a day during December as you prepare to celebrate the arrival of Jesus as a baby on Christmas Day!

(If you don't have access to a printer there are some copies on the table in the entrance foyer of church for you to collect.)



Email: [family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk](mailto:family.ministry@ccwsm.org.uk)

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