SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF AIKEN
ADVENT SEASON

November 29 – December 24, 2026

Advent means the "coming" of Jesus Christ. It celebrates His birth in Bethlehem and anticipates His promised return as King and Judge. During the four weeks of Advent, we prepare our hearts through reflection, prayer, and celebration, focusing each week on a special theme.

HOPE (Qavah/Yakhal)—are also translated as "wait." To hope in God means to wait with patient expectation, trusting that he will fulfill his promises

Date	Focus Scripture	Reading and Reflections
11/29	Isaiah 8:17	Isaiah 8:13-18 – Trust, Wait & Look
11/30	Psalms 39:7	Psalms 39:6-8;12-15 – Dependence
12/1	Psalms 130:7	Psalms 130:1-8 – Expecting
12/2	Isaiah 40:31	Isaiah 40:28-31 – Binding together
12/3	1 Peter 1:3	1 Peter 1:2-4 – Assurance
12/4	Romans 8:20-21	Romans 8:20-25 – Guaranteed
12/5	Romans 8:24-25	Romans 8:24-27 – Anticipation

PEACE (SHALOM)- Advent peace comes through the way of Jesus, who heals division and brings reconciliation, restoration, and hope through love and forgiveness.

Date	Focus Scripture	Reading and Reflections
12/6	Isaiah 26:3	Isaiah 26:3-4 – Trust God always, find peace
12/7	Isaiah 9:6	Isaiah 9:1-6 – Light shine; a child is born
12/8	Zechariah 9:9	Zechariah 9:9-13 – Humble King brings universal peace
12/9	John 16:13	John 16:13-33 – Jesus overcomes sorrow with joy
12/10	Colossian 1:19-20	Colossian 1:19-20 – Christ reconciles all things peacefully
12/11	Ephesian 2:14-15	Ephesians 2:14-18 – Christ unites all through peace

12/12	Ephesian 4:1-3	Ephesians 4:1-16 – Keep the unity in the bond of peace

JOY – (CHARA) - Advent joy is more than happiness; it is the deep peace and confidence we find in God's unchanging love and promises. We experience this joy as God walks with us through both the joys and challenges of life.

Date	Focus Scripture	Reading and Reflections
12/13	Psalms 105:43	Psalms 105:42-45 – Rejoice, for we are chosen!
12/14	Isaiah 51:3	Isaiah 51:1-6 – J=Jesus First – Wherever Jesus is there is JOY
12/15	Luke 2:20	Luke 2:8-20 – O=Others – Best way to find joy is to give it to others
12/16	John 15:10-11	John 15:9-17 – Y=Yourself – Follow Christ & be filled with His JOY
12/17	Matthew 5:11-12	Matthew 5:11-12 – Return all strife with JOY & reap God's reward
12/18	2 Corinthians 6:10	2 Corinthians 6:3-10 – JOY happens when we remember how good God is
12/19	Romans 15:13	Romans 15:7-13 – JOY attracts JOY, Unity attracts Love. Jesus is LOVE

LOVE – AGAPE - Jesus calls us to a selfless, intentional love rooted in caring for others. During Advent, we reflect on God's promised future and demonstrate Christ's love by giving of ourselves to serve both friends and enemies.

Date	Focus Scripture	Reading and Reflections
12/20	Mark 12:30	Mark 12:27-36 – The Greatest Command
12/21	John 13:34	John 13:31-38 – Service & Commitment
12/22	Luke 6:35	Luke 27-36 – Unconditional Love
12/23	1 John 4:8	1 John 4:7-12 – Loving without partiality
12/24	1 Corinthians 13:4	1 Corinthians 13:4-13 – LOVE is above every spiritual gift

CHRISTMAS DAY – Reflect on John 3:16 – The core message of Christianity.

Advent Candle Colors -Blue: (1st Sunday) Hope and anticipation and Purple (2nd, 4th Sundays): Preparation, repentance, and Christ's royalty. Pink/Rose (3rd Sunday): Joy and celebration. White (Christ Candle): Lit on Christmas Eve or Day, representing Christ as the Light of the World.