

# Advent

***"Toda la Tierra Espera"  
(All Earth is Waiting)***



**Connectional Ministries**

California-Pacific Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Advent “Toda la Tierra Espera” (All Earth is Waiting)

## **Introduction from Discipleship Ministries, Advent 2025 Worship Series**

*“Advent is the beginning of a new year of waiting, but it is an active and watchful waiting. It is tapping into the world's longing for redemption, salvation, and transformation. The beautiful and singable hymn, Toda la Tierra, 210 in the United Methodist Hymnal, is a reminder of what is at stake. ‘All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty’ in the first verse allows us to look back to the story of the Incarnation and to look forward to the coming of the kingdom of heaven, when the will of God will be done on earth as in heaven. All of earth is waiting for this fulfillment. In worship, we can see the signs of the nearness of Emmanuel, God with us.”*

Grace and peace to you, Cal-Pac friends! This year, we highlight the resource that Discipleship Ministries of the UMC has prepared for Advent 2025. It is called “Toda la Tierra Espera” (All Earth is Waiting). Worship resources for each week can be found at their website:

[www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/toda-la-tierra-espera](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/toda-la-tierra-espera)

As we prepare to celebrate our traditional Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, may we also be mindful to bring the light of Christ in places of injustice and oppression through our conference identified steps of Resistance, Accompaniment, Advocacy, and Relationship. In this hope, we have prepared a weekly **Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy** and a daily **Advent Calendar** with the themes of *Hopeful Resistance, Peaceful Accompaniment, Joyful Advocacy, and Loving Relationship*.

May you and your church community have a blessed Advent and Christmas season and may the light of Christ continue to shine brightly in you and through you always!

In prayer and hope,

Your Connectional Ministries Team

# Advent *“Toda la Tierra Espera”* *(All Earth is Waiting)*

## *Week 1* *Hopeful Resistance*

We stand at the beginning of a new season. With this new season comes hope, for we await the birth of our Savior.

**We wait with hope.**

As we wait, we hear the cries of the world, a world that seeks justice and compassion.

**We hear the cries and long to help.**

As we light this candle, may we be filled with hope, the hope that brings resistance, renewal, and revival.

As the first candle is lit, the congregation is invited to sing the first verse of “Toda la Tierra Espera.”

1. All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,  
and the open furrows, the sowing of the Lord.  
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;  
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

## *Week 2* *Peaceful Accompaniment*

We gather in the presence of the One who walks with us.

**We are grateful for God’s peaceful presence amongst us.**

There are many in the world who are lonely, who walk alone.

**May we peacefully walk with them, to tell the story of Emmanuel, “God with us.”**

As we light this candle, may we be filled with peace, the peace that brings companionship along the way.

As the first and second candles are lit, the congregation is invited to sing the second verse of “Toda la Tierra Espera.”

2. Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,  
“A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,”  
for his name is “God with us,” our brother shall be,  
with him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.

# Advent *“Toda la Tierra Espera”* *(All Earth is Waiting)*

## *Week 3* *Joyful Advocacy*

We come with joy knowing it is Christ who calls us here.

**Like Mary, we too proclaim, “My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”**

In this time, may our worship empower us for the work ahead.

**There are doorways to open for all people, and paths to clear so that all may have the abundant life God offers.**

As we light this candle, may we be filled with joy, the joy that leads us to do the good work of God.

As the first, second, and third candles are lit, the congregation is invited to sing the third verse of “Toda la Tierra Espera.”

3. Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;

open new highways, new highways for the Lord.

He is now coming closer, so come all and see,

and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.

## *Week 4* *Loving Relationship*

We are here because God loves us.

**We are here to receive God’s love and share it with others.**

We are here to remember that Christ, the Promised One, is with us now.

**May we share the love of God with those around us, knowing that God invites us into relationship.**

As we light this candle, may we be filled with love, the love of God that overflows into the world.

As the first, second, third, and fourth candles are lit, the congregation is invited to sing the fourth verse of “Toda la Tierra Espera.”

4. In lowly stable the Promised One appeared;

yet, feel his presence throughout the earth today,

for he lives in all Christians and is with us now;

again, with his coming he brings us liberty.

# Advent *“Toda la Tierra Espera”* *(All Earth is Waiting)*

## *Christmas Eve* *Cherish*

This is the moment we have been waiting for:

**To welcome and celebrate the newborn Christ.**

On that night so long ago, Christ was cherished by those who welcomed him into the world.

**On this night, may we cherish each other as we welcome Christ into our lives.**

As we light the Christ candle, may we be filled with God’s hope, peace, joy, and love so that we can proclaim to all, “You are loved! You are cherished! Christ is with you!”

As the four Advent candles and the Christ candle are lit, the congregation is invited to sing, “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly.” (United Methodist Hymnal #229)

*1. Infant holy, infant lowly,  
for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing,  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing,  
noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.*

*2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping  
vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story,  
tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you.*

# Advent

*“Toda la Tierra Espera”  
(All Earth is Waiting)*

# 2025

Sunday Abiding	Monday Mind	Tuesday Body	Wednesday Relationships	Thursday Work & Money	Friday Gospel & Hospitality	Saturday Rest
<p><b>HOPE</b> 30</p> <p><b>HOPEFUL RESISTANCE</b></p> <p>Standing firm against evil, injustice, or despair while holding on to hope in God</p>	<p><b>HOPE</b> 1</p> <p>Read Micah 6:8, and reflect on how Jesus resisted injustice with hope and humility before God.</p>	<p><b>HOPE</b> 2</p> <p>Take a walk in your neighborhood and pray for light to shine in darkness and despair.</p>	<p><b>HOPE</b> 3</p> <p>Call or reach out to someone who is facing injustice or someone who is resisting for others.</p>	<p><b>HOPE</b> 4</p> <p>Donate to a ministry or organization that is resisting an injustice that breaks your heart.</p>	<p><b>HOPE</b> 5</p> <p>Share with someone the hope that comes from Jesus’ birth to overcome all evil and injustice.</p>	<p><b>HOPE</b> 6</p> <p>Get 8 hours of sleep and trust God to act.</p>
<p><b>PEACE</b> 7</p> <p><b>PEACEFUL ACCOMPANIMENT</b></p> <p>Walking alongside others w/ compassion, especially through struggle or suffering</p>	<p><b>PEACE</b> 8</p> <p>Read Romans 12:15-18, and reflect on how Jesus walked w/ others in empathy rather than distance.</p>	<p><b>PEACE</b> 9</p> <p>Take a walk or exercise with someone who is struggling or suffering.</p>	<p><b>PEACE</b> 10</p> <p>Call or reach out to someone who might be struggling and learn about their story and hopes.</p>	<p><b>PEACE</b> 11</p> <p>Give a gift card to the person who you reached out to yesterday or to someone in need.</p>	<p><b>PEACE</b> 12</p> <p>Bring a meal to someone who could use a reminder that God is with them even now.</p>	<p><b>PEACE</b> 13</p> <p>Breathe slowly and invite God’s presence to cover and rest upon you and others.</p>
<p><b>JOY</b> 14</p> <p><b>JOYFUL ADVOCACY</b></p> <p>Standing up for others isn't just duty, but a celebration of God's love for all in the world</p>	<p><b>JOY</b> 15</p> <p>Read Isaiah 61:1-3, and reflect on how Jesus brought gladness, healing, freedom, &amp; renewal.</p>	<p><b>JOY</b> 16</p> <p>Dance with joy, picturing the emotions of those who will experience renewal one day.</p>	<p><b>JOY</b> 17</p> <p>Share a meal with someone who might be struggling, and learn how you might advocate for them.</p>	<p><b>JOY</b> 18</p> <p>Give to a ministry or organization that is already advocating for people who are oppressed.</p>	<p><b>JOY</b> 19</p> <p>Share cookies or something sweet to encourage someone to remember God sees &amp; loves them.</p>	<p><b>JOY</b> 20</p> <p>Spend time in creation and know God’s presence and pleasure over your life.</p>
<p><b>LOVE</b> 21</p> <p><b>LOVING RELATIONSHIP</b></p> <p>The deep, faithful, compassionate bonds between people that reflect God's love</p>	<p><b>LOVE</b> 22</p> <p>Read 1 Cor. 13:4-7, and reflect on how Jesus has loved you. How can you love the same way this week?</p>	<p><b>LOVE</b> 23</p> <p>Stretch for 15 min. and ask God to expand your heart for people who are different than you.</p>	<p><b>LOVE</b> 24</p> <p>Call or reach out to someone you haven’t seen in a while and share your love for them.</p>	<p><b>LOVE</b> 25</p> <p><i>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</i> Embrace God’s love for you and for all.</p>	<p><b>LOVE</b> 26</p> <p>Be yourself and invite someone to simply join you for a meal as they are.</p>	<p><b>LOVE</b> 27</p> <p>Reflect on ways to embrace and share the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christ in 2026.</p>