

"Paint & Cocoa"

Ever heard of a "Paint & Wine" Night? These nights usually include the beverage of choice and a painting that participants attempt to recreate. Inspired by "Paint & Wine" and this Advent Season, we would like to propose a festive, family-friendly alternative: A "Paint & Cocoa Night," or Morning or Afternoon. And, of course, instead of cocoa, you can have apple cider or tea or your hot/cold beverage of choice.

As we often already have our trees up to celebrate Christmas but are still in Advent, our idea for the art to be recreated here incorporates Advent into, or rather, onto our Christmas trees!

Utilizing wooden ornaments, paint brushes, and paint (all can be purchased at your local craft store, i.e., Hobby Lobby), we invite you to find a symbol or image for each week of Advent and to paint them. Reflect on them as you go. Then, add your ornament(s) to your tree on the corresponding week.

Symbol Ideas

- Week One: Hope Candle or Ribbon
- Week Two: Peace Dove, Olive Branch, or the Holy Trinity
- Week Three: Joy Bell or Trumpet
- Week Four: Love Heart or Wreath

You may also paint a mix of these symbols on an ornament, if you wish, to depict the whole season of Advent.

For this reflective activity, we are providing a concept for the whole season of Advent. Paint it how you see it and embellish it however you would like, add your own personal touches.

On the front or back, you might add a simple one line prayer for the week or season, song lyrics, a Scripture verse, a quote by a favorite saint, or the weekly theme(s).



Symbol/image to recreate



Our version



Materials Needed:

- Wooden ornaments
- Paint brushes (and toothpicks for detail work)
- Acrylic paint (white, green, red, yellow, black, and other colors you might like)
- Paper towels
- Cup (with water)
- Paper or Styrofoam plate(s)
- Newspaper or something to cover your workspace

AND PAINT!

"So Love, Joy, Peace, and Hope – these virtues that guide us through this season of waiting, of anticipation, through life and... toward eternal life"