

Christmas Tree Angels – November 29, 2020

This is the time of year that the Christian church calls ADVENT. The church talks about the season of Advent, that begins today and lasts until Christmas Eve.

During this time, we prepare for the birth of Jesus. We aren't able to gather in the church sanctuary this year. If we could, we would be lighting an Advent candle today and on each of the next three Sundays.

The candles remind us of aspects of our faith – We light a candle of hope, a candle of peace, a candle of joy, and a candle of love. On Christmas Eve we light a white candle – the Christ candle.

This is a time of year when many of us have traditions to help us celebrate Advent and Christmas.

In our house, one of those traditions is putting up the Christmas tree. We put our tree up this week. The tradition of putting up the tree also includes decorating the tree. On our tree, we have a variety of decorations that have come to us over the years.

Christmas trees are often decorated with lights, and stars, and coloured balls.

And sometimes trees will have angel decorations. Here are two angels we sometimes put on our tree.

They are a little different from each other.

This one has a golden halo, wings, is all white and rather fancy.

This one has a silver halo, no wings, a pink gown and rather floppy hair.

I am glad that angels don't all look alike -that some have wings and some have floppy hair.

In the Bible, angels bring messages from God – messages that begin “Do not be afraid”: messages like “A child is born,” and “Joy to the world.”

During our lives, we hear messages from God from all sorts of people; messages like “You are loved,” “You have a nice smile,” “Can I help you?” “You're a good friend.”

So, maybe if you decorate a tree, or if you see a decorated tree this season, you can look at the decorations and think about the angels in your life, and the messages from God – the messages that tell us that each of us is loved by God.

Welcome to the season of Advent. AMEN