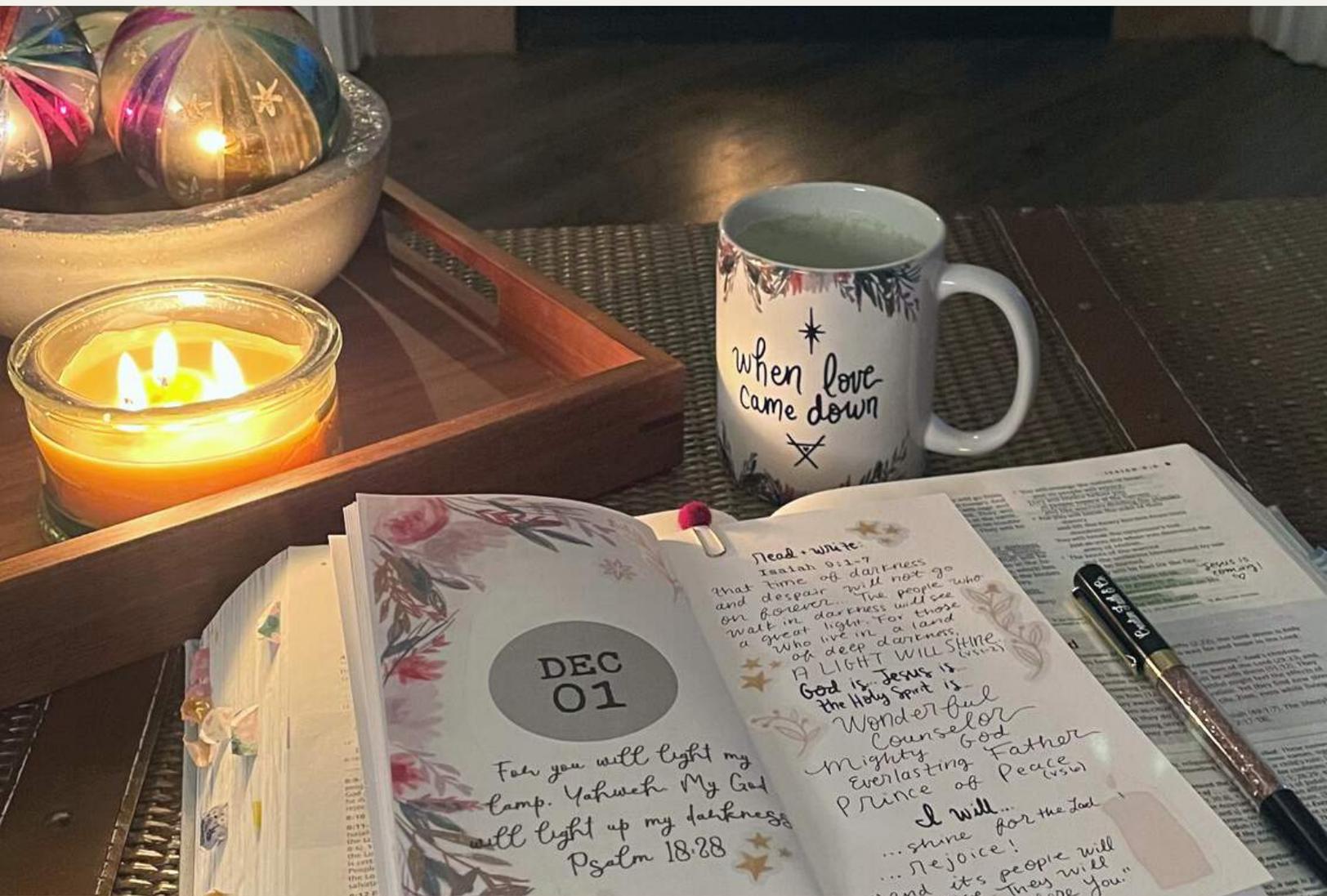


# CREATIVE FAITH & CO *magazine*



What is Advent and Resources for How to Celebrate

PAGE 4

How to create a capsule craft supply stash to conquer overwhelm

PAGE 11

How to make Christmas washi tape collage shapes

PAGE 14

# Hella from Hillary!



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Christmas is my very favorite time of the year, and I am excited to welcome you to the very first edition of the Creative Faith & Co. magazine. I pray you love this free digital magazine. It is full of articles, ideas and inspiration for this season.

December can be a difficult and busy month, with financial stress, family tension, and event after event on the calendar.

December is also a special time of year as we pause and reflect and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Stay tuned for more FREE digital magazines from Creative Faith & Co. Do you have any article ideas? Be sure to send me an email. I would love to hear them: [hillary@creativefaithco.com](mailto:hillary@creativefaithco.com)

Wishing you a very merry Creative Faith Christmas!

*Much love,  
Hillary*

# Table of Contents

## page 4

### WHAT IS ADVENT?

How to celebrate and observe Advent, plus some resources to help!

## page 9

### THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR?

Reflections about how to have joy in the midst of a challenging season

## page 11

### HOW TO CREATE A CAPSULE CRAFT SUPPLY STASH

Conquer overwhelm and easily use your favorite supplies this season



## page 14

### HOW TO MAKE WASHI TAPE SHAPES

Use this fun idea to decorate pages

## page 17

### FAVORITE HEALTHY RECIPE: MATCHA LATTE

Create this yummy drink to sip on while you cozy up by the fire & read your Bible

## page 19

### 7 CHRISTMAS JOURNALING PROMPTS

Take a moment to pause & reflect



# What is Advent & How to Celebrate

Advent derives from the Latin word "adventus" which means arrival or coming. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but also preparing for His return!

There are typically four themes, one for each week leading up to Advent: hope, love, joy, peace

There is not an "official" order for these, so you might see them in different order in different Advent plans.

Often, people set up an Advent wreath or Advent log with candles for each of the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas. The last candle is lit on Christmas Day: the Christ candle.

Advent begins the fourth Sunday before Christmas. It is a part of the church calendar. It is essentially the "new year" of the church. The candles are lit each Sunday evening leading up to Christmas.



*"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it... The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world... So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness."  
John 1:5, 9 & 14*

# Bible verses to read & reflect for Advent

## Week 1: Hope

- Isaiah 40:31
- Matthew 12:21
- Hebrews 3:6
- Romans 5:1-5

## Week 2: Love

- 1 Peter 2:24
- Romans 6:23
- John 10:17
- Psalm 86:15

## Week 3: Joy

- Psalm 5:11
- romans 15:13
- Matthew 2:10
- Luke 1:41

## Week 4: Peace

- Romans 5:1
- Isaiah 52:7
- Luke 2:14
- Isaiah 9:6





# 3 Resources to help you learn more about Advent

1. Download 4 weeks of Advent free printables on the Creative Faith blog. These printables have verses for reflection, plus images that you can use in your Bible and prayer journaling. All for free!

[CLICK HERE](#)



2. Download the Advent log printable in the Creative Faith Etsy shop. This printable comes with everything you need about how to make an Advent log or wreath with your family. It also has information about the symbolism behind each of the items used.

[CLICK HERE](#)



3. Purchase the Unwrapping the gifts of Advent Scripture writing journal on Amazon. This simple Scripture writing journal

[CLICK HERE](#)



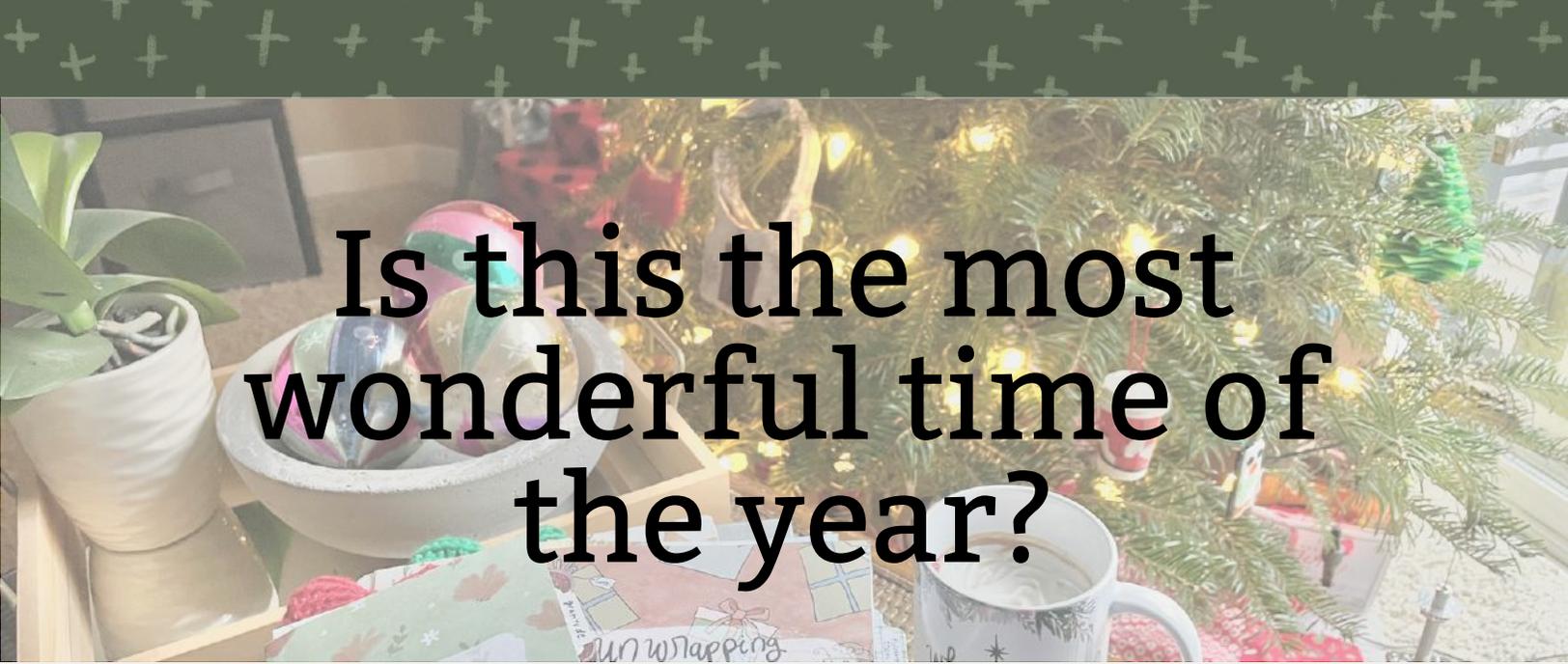
*"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your Heavenly Father.*

MATTHEW 5:14-16

Don't miss out on lots of Creative Faith & Co Christmas printables in the Etsy shop ready to download, print, and use in your projects!



CLICK HERE TO SHOP



# Is this the most wonderful time of the year?

I will never forget the moment when I hit "publish" on that poll in my Instagram stories. I simply asked: "Is this the most wonderful time of the year?" The responses shocked me. I could not believe how many people said it was not the most wonderful time of the year for them.

For the believer who knows and loves the Lord, I want to challenge you, and say that yes, it really is the most wonderful time of the year. Every day and season should be the most wonderful time of the year. Why? Read the verses below.

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." Romans 8:28

"For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation." Psalm 100:5

*"This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24*

I challenge you that yes, it is the most wonderful time of the year because the Lord is good, and He uses everything for our good. So even if you are facing challenging circumstances and a difficult season, remember those truths and promises from God's Word today.

“

If we could  
condense all the  
truths of  
Christmas into  
only three  
words, these  
would be the  
words:  
God with us.

JOHN MACARTHUR

”

# How to make a capsule crafty supply stash

Do you feel overwhelmed by your crafty supply stash? Do you have stickers, washi tape, and journals coming out your ears so you have no clue where to begin when you want to sit down and get creative?

Then, I have the solution for you!

You have probably heard of a capsule wardrobe before. Instead of having your whole closet to pick from, you narrow it down to a few select pieces that work well together interchangeably. I like to do this same thing with my craft supplies.



First, take a few minutes to look around your crafty space. Perhaps you have a desk in the corner of your living room. Or maybe you have a whole office space. Think about what craft supplies you reach for over and over again. What are your favorites?

Think about what projects you are going to work on for the season. Pull coordinating supplies to use to go along with those projects. I try to stick to 1-3 projects a month, so I don't get overwhelmed.

Gather those supplies in a container and try to only reach for those during the season!

*What are your favorite supplies? What do you reach for again & again? Make those easy to grab and use!*

### *Ways to house your capsule crafty supply stash:*

- Basket
- Gardening tote (get my favorite one [HERE](#) on Amazon)
- Rolling cart
- Cardboard box
- Plastic bin from the Dollar Tree

### *What to include in your capsule crafty supply:*

- Printables from the Creative Faith Etsy shop, printed and cut out on white or clear sticker paper
- Tiny scissors
- Pens
- Highlighters
- Stickers
- Washi tape
- Watercolor tin with brush
- Gelato crayons
- Die cuts with a tape runner or glue pen





# How to Make Washi Tape Shapes

Do you have an access of washi tape in your crafty supply stash? Washi tape is one of my favorite supplies to use. In the summer of 2017 I created my first ever washi tape shape (the pineapple image featured on the next page). Since then, I have made lots of other fun shapes. This is especially easy to do at Christmas.

## *What to do?*

1. Take a pencil and outline the shape you want to make on your Bible or prayer journaling page.
2. Gather washi tapes from your stash in coordinating colors.
3. Rip little bits of the washi tape and layer them in your shape!
4. You can "seal" it with gesso on the top if you want, but that is not necessary.

“

*You can never have too much washi tape.*

”

# Other washi tape shape ideas



Here are some other examples of washi tape shapes I have made. Need some ideas for Christmas?

- Heart
- Ornament
- Christmas tree
- Gift package
- Mug of hot chocolate
- Holly
- Star
- Nativity scene
- Angel
- Christmas cookie
- Poinsettia
- Bow

They will  
call him  
Emmanuel,  
which means,  
God with us.

MATTHEW 1:23



# Favorite healthy drink recipe: matcha latte

## Ingredients needed:

- Water
- Grass fed organic milk
- Organic matcha powder (Costco sells my favorite one!)
- Organic maple syrup

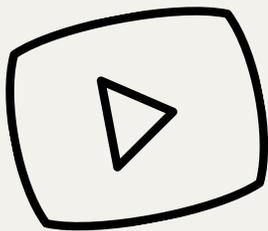
## Supplies needed:

- Your favorite mug
- Teaspoon
- Milk frother

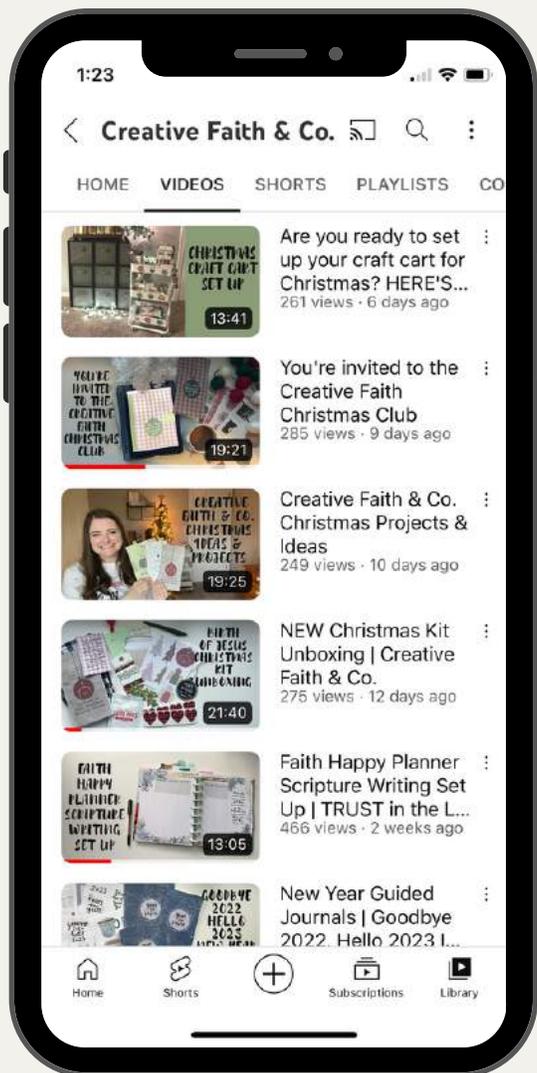
## Instructions:

1. Fill your mug with 4 oz of milk & heat.
1. Fill your other microwavable container with 4 oz of water.
2. Add 1 teaspoon matcha powder to the water.
1. Add maple syrup (or honey) to the water and matcha mixture. Add depending on how sweet you want your drink.
2. Heat water/matcha mixture.
3. Use frother to mix the water/matcha mixture.
4. Add to mug of milk, sip and enjoy!





Have you missed any of the latest Creative Faith & Co. YouTube videos? New ones drop every Tuesday and Saturday!



How to set up a Christmas craft cart 

December bullet journal set up 

Advent log family Christmas countdown tradition 

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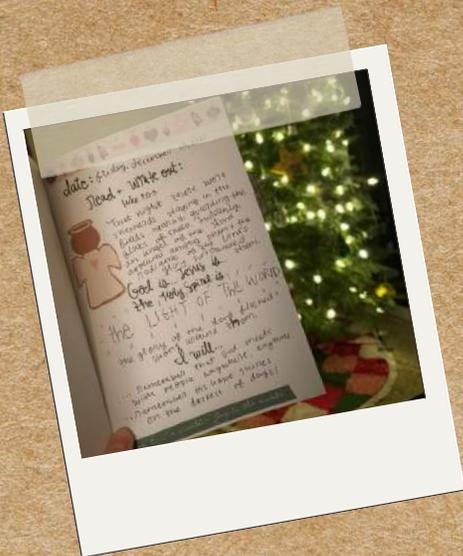
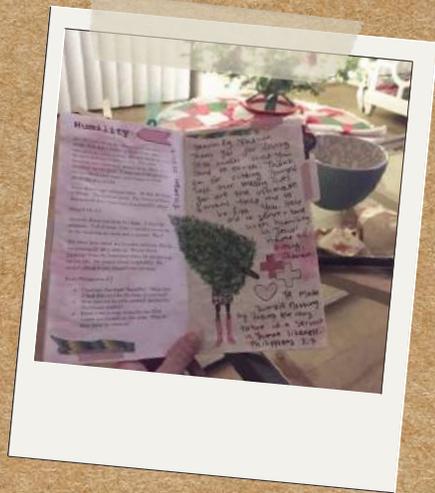


# 7 Christmas Journaling Prompts

- 1) What is your favorite Christmas memory?
- 2) What prayer do you want God to answer this December?
- 3) What is your favorite Christmas recipe? Who can you make that recipe for to bless someone else this month?
- 4) What is your favorite Christmas Bible verse? Write it down and mail it to a friend to encourage her.
- 5) What was the best Christmas gift you ever received? What was the best Christmas gift you gave someone else?
- 6) How can you slow down this season? What can you say "no" to?
- 7) What is your favorite Christmas movie? What lesson can you learn from it?



# Christmas Bible & Prayer Journaling Inspiration



Stay tuned  
for the next  
edition of  
the Creative  
Faith & Co.  
magazine!



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