

Chrismon Tree



The practice of having a “Chrismon Tree” began with a Lutheran pastor, Mr. George Pass, in 1940. He began making decorations for his own Christmas tree that were symbols about Jesus Christ, and the meaning of Christmas, instead of the usual pretty but meaningless shiny balls, Santa Clauses and reindeer. The practice soon caught on with other Christians and many churches, and today the Chrismon Tree is a common sight all over the United States. “Chrismon” is a combination of two words, “Christ,” and “monogram.” Monogram, of course, means initials, or symbols for a particular person. The Chrismon tree bears symbols or monograms about Jesus our Savior.

Our Christmas tree adds to the festive symbolism of Advent. As the bare tree receives a decoration each day, it will be fully trimmed by December 25th. The daily

scripture reading is coordinated with the decorations.

Put up the Christmas tree on December 1st. Add the symbols beginning on day 2, pinning in the position indicated (or where your child might like to place them). Finding the right shape and putting it up is especially fun for children.

Day	Element	Passage	Action
1	Tree	Hebrews 13:8	Think of ways that the evergreen reminds you of Jesus.
2	Star	Isaiah 9:2	Why is light a symbol for Jesus Christ? Ask for increased “light” in your knowledge of Jesus through this Advent season.
3	Angel	Luke 1:26 – 35 (30 – 33 for shorter)	How do you think Mary felt when she heard the news? Thank God for His Good News to you.
4	Bell	Isaiah 61:1	Jesus came to make this prophecy come true. How can you work with Him to make it true for someone near you this Christmas?
5	Sun	2 Corinthians 4:6	What light does the moon reflect? In what way may we reflect God’s light?
6	Dove	John 1:29 – 34	How does the dove symbolize the kind of kingdom Jesus came to establish?
7	Poinsettia	Hebrews 12:15	Is any “root of bitterness” threatening to spring up in you this Christmas season? How can God’s grace keep it from growing?
8	Apple Tree	Galatians 5:22	What is the natural fruit of a person with God’s Spirit within? Cultivate it!

Christmon Tree

Day	Element	Passage	Action
9	Love	1 John 4:7 – 11	“We love, because He first loved us.” (1 John 4:17)
10	Apple	Psalms 17:8	Christmas is evidence of the high favor in which God holds us.
11	Heart	1 John 3:18	Think of specific ways your love for each other can be shown in action this Christmas season.
12	Candle	Matthew 5:16	How do we “shine” so people will give glory to God? What attitudes are involved?
13	Camel	Matthew 2:1 – 12	“What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would give a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part. What can I give Him, give Him my heart!” -- Christina Rossetti
14	Joy	Luke 2:8 – 14	Sing one or more of the carols which include the angel’s song: “Hark he Herald Angels Sing”, “Angels We have Heard on High”, etc.
15	Pear	John 15:4, 5	What makes a pear or any fruit or leaf alive and growing? What does it mean to be branches on Jesus’ vine?
16	Lamb	John 1:29	Lambs were among Jesus’ first company. He was destined to be the Lamb, the sacrifice, for all sins.
17	Gift Box	2 Corinthians 9:6 – 9	What are the principles which guide our choices of gifts to give?
18	Candy Cane	2 Corinthians 9:10 – 15	Does the gift of ourselves to each other equal the lavishness of candy and cookies and gifts in our home? God’s inexpressible gift of Jesus is an unsurpassed model for our giving.
19	Crown	Philippians 2:5 – 11	Jesus exchanged His crown for a cross, that through His victory we might all share in His kingdom. Let us crown Him King of our lives.
20	Peace	Philippians 4:5 – 7	How does the peace in these words relate to all the peace the angels proclaimed? What peace am I experiencing amidst the busy pace now?
21	Wreath	Matthew 6:31 – 33	The circle of the wreath suggests the question: Around what or whom does my life revolve? What I think about most is a clue to the answer.
22	Church	Luke 2:22 -33	Why do we think God helped Simeon know who Jesus was?
23	Flower Pot	Mark 4:30 – 32	How does the kingdom of God grow? How can you help it grow today?

Christmon Tree

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24	Madonna	Luke 2:1 – 7	<p>Sing refrain of:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“O Come, All Ye Faithful”</p> <p>“O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Silent Night”</p> <p>“Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright. Round yon virgin, mother and child, Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.</p>
25	Baby Jesus	Isaiah 9:7	Think of all the names you can which are used in the Bible to describe Jesus. Which ones describe best what He means to you right now?

Christmon Tree

The Meaning of Christmas Colors and Ornaments

	Element	Description	Scripture
1	Tree	Gave its live to become your Christmas tree. Jesus gave up His life to become your Savior	John 10:15 – 18
2	Red	Jesus shed His blood so we could have everlasting life.	Hebrews 9:22 1 John 1:7
3	Candle	Jesus is the light of the world.	John 8:12 Matthew 5:17
4	Stockings	Symbolic of how and where we walk as Christians.	Ephesians 2:10
5	Green	Everlasting Life which we have when we have Jesus.	John 3:36
6	Ornaments	Have no light of their own, shine because they reflect. We reflect Christ.	2 Corinthians 4:6
7	Bells	Ring out the story of Christmas to tell of Jesus birth and love.	1 John 5:11 – 12
8	Candy Cane	Tastes good. Reminds us of the good things Christ did while here on earth.	Luke 11:28 Acts 20:35 Revelation 22:14
9	Snowman	Our sins are white as snow when we receive His as Savior.	1 John 1:7; 1:9 Romans 3:5 – 6 Acts 15:9
10	Bible	When your tree was growing, it was fed by roots. We are fed by God's Word.	Joshua 1:3 Psalm 1:2 – 3 Psalm 119:11 1 Peter 2:2
11	Carolers	A new song.	Psalm 40:3 Psalm 96:2
		Sing His praise.	1 Thessalonians 5:18
12	Circle	Eternal; never-ending.	1 John 5:11 – 12 John 6:47 John 3:36
13	Crown	The Kingship of our Lord.	Revelation 14:14
14	Money or Silver	What we use to pay for things we buy. Jesus paid for our sins with His life.	1 Peter 1:18
15	World	God loved us.	John 3:16
16	Heart	Believe with all your heart.	John 14:1 – 4
17	Angel	Announced His birth:	
		Mary	Luke 1:30 – 31
		Joseph	Matthew 1:21
		Shepherds	Luke 2:11 – 14
18	Star	Guided the wise men to Jesus. Jesus was called the bright and morning star. Stars give light to find your way.	Matthew 1:21
19	Gift	Tag. For Whosoever. Our gift is eternal life taken by faith.	
		Cost	Ephesians 2:8 – 9 Hebrews 13:3
		Self	2 Corinthians 8:5 Romans 12:1; 6:23
20	Shepherd	Came to lowly first.	Luke 2:8 – 15

Christmon Tree

	Element	Description	Scripture
21	Sheep	Seep knows and follows their master's voice.	John 10:1 – 5 Isaiah 53:6
22	Wise Men	Came to the rich.	Matthew 2:9 – 11
23	Manger- Stable	No room in the inn, also no room in our hearts.	Luke 2:7
24	Mary, Joseph		Luke 2:33
25	Picture of Christ	He came that we might have life.	John 10:10