



# *LAUDATO SI'* COSMIC advent wreath

when a vision  
of the universe takes hold  
in your mind, your soul becomes  
vast as the cosmos . . .

like the spiral  
like the lotus  
like the waves  
like the trees  
like the stars,  
we were meant to

*Unfold*

Drew Dillinger



The *Laudato Si'* COSMIC ADVENT WREATH is an adaptation of the traditional advent wreath which each year makes its way out of the dark storage closets and into the light of our homes and church sanctuaries.

The COSMIC ADVENT WREATH brings Pope Francis encyclical letter, *Laudato Si'* to life in a new way.

Use this simple paper image as the centerpiece for your advent wreath and surround it with a variety of

greens, rocks, shells, berries . . . **be creative . . . use your imagination . . .**

**The four candles invite us to embrace a new level of shared consciousness born of science and religion.** More diverse colors are added (*tie colored ribbons around white candles*) to reflect and celebrate the four major births of the Cosmos that have brought us to this moment in history.



week 1  
**birth  
of the universe**  
*blue candle*

*"God's first "idea"  
was to become  
manifest - to pour*

*out divine, infinite love into finite  
visible forms. The "First Flaring  
Forth" (Big Bang) is now our scien-  
tific name for that first idea; and  
"Christ" is our theological name.  
Both are about LOVE and BEAUTY  
exploding outward in all directions."*

Richard Rohr

week 2  
**birth of the solar system**  
*green candle*

*"This vast ocean of our solar  
system is like a womb, that has  
unfolded over some five billion  
years to become galaxies and stars,  
palm and pelicans, the music of  
Bach and each of us alive today."*

Brian Swimme

**Let us SING** as we go.

May our struggles and our concern

for this planet **never**  
take away the **JOY**  
of our **HOPE.**

*Laudato Si'*



the  
**JOY**  
of our **HOPE**

week 3  
**birth of Jesus the Christ**  
*red candle*

*Christ and Jesus are not exactly  
the same. In Jesus, God's pres-  
ence became more obvious and  
believable in the world. "By his  
incarnation (the CHRIST) inserted  
himself not just into our humanity,  
but into the universe which sup-  
ports humanity. The presence of  
the incarnate word . . . shines at  
the heart of all things."*

Teilhard de Chardin

week 4  
**my birth into the whole  
cosmic body of the universe**  
*amber candle*

name \_\_\_\_\_  
date \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

*"We have the power to create  
a new world, and we have the  
power to destroy this one. How we  
choose depends on how we grasp  
this moment as the kiss of God, im-  
pelling us to stand up and speak."*

Ilia Delio, OSF

© Design: Gen Cassani, SSND  
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• Inspired by the *Laudato Si'*  
Cosmic Advent Wreath" of  
Earthrise Farm, - Kay and  
Annette Fernholz, SSNDs and  
the metal Sculpture local artist  
John Schmidt of Minnesota.  
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## about the image

• Image Credit: NASA, ESA,  
and the Hubble Heritage  
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Collaboration

From NASA  
"Resembling festive lights on a  
holiday wreath, this NASA/ESA  
Hubble Space Telescope image  
of the nearby spiral galaxy M74  
is an iconic reminder of the  
impending season. Its perfectly  
symmetrical spiral arms emanate  
from the central nucleus . . ."

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