

Children's Talk **Advent 1** at All Souls

When I was a child my mum – like many other mums – used to bake from time to time. Peanut brownies were a family favourite. If we were particularly lucky, we would get to lick the spoon.

Does this resonate with any of you?

Licking the spoon was a tantalizing foretaste (literally) of what was to come. It was never enough to satisfy – unless of course mum was called away from the kitchen at a pivotal moment, and then whole mouthfuls of dough could be snuck.

It has to be said that portion control has never been my strong suit. I usually ended up feeling a bit queasy, and not all that interested in the peanut brownies when they came out of the oven.

Does that resonate?

I reckon Advent is the Liturgical equivalent to Licking the Spoon. I know – you didn't expect such high-brow theology today! Advent is a foretaste of Christmas, but not yet. (I could of course at this point have a little rant about how society so inundates us with advertising and Christmas music that Advent is effectively lost, but I won't...)

Advent is all about Christmas but not yet.

It is about anticipation as we wait once more for the Christ child to be born in our midst.

May this Advent be filled with much spoon licking!