

What is a Christingle?

A Christingle is an orange decorated with a candle, red tape, dried fruit or sweets. The orange represents the world and the candle symbolizes Christ, the light of the world.

The Christingle tradition originated with the Moravian Church, a protestant denomination¹, and it can be traced back to 1747 when a bishop handed candles wrapped in ribbon to children during Advent.

Christingles are used in church services and school assemblies during Advent.

Incidentally, Moravians notably originated the Easter sunrise service.²



¹ Reid, D. G., Linder, R. D., Shelley, B. L., & Stout, H. S. (1990). In Dictionary of Christianity in America. InterVarsity Press.

² Nickens, M. (2020). A Survey of the History of Global Christianity (Second Edition, p. 138). B&H Academic.