DECEMBER 6, 2015 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Prepare the way of the Lord.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 3:1-6	Prepare the way of the Lord
Monday	Isaiah 40:1-11	A voice in the desert
Tuesday	Isaiah 57:14-19	Prepare the road
Wednesday	Isaiah 62:1-5, 10-12	Prepare the way for the people
Thursday	Zechariah 2:10-13	The Lord will come to live among us
Friday	1 Peter 1:13-16	Be holy as I am holy
Saturday	Psalm 85	Righteousness prepares the way
Sunday	Luke 3:7-18	One more powerful is coming

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him." Luke 3:4 (CEV)

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord, prepare your way in us. Set us straight where we are crooked and make us smooth where we are rough. Amen. (Luke 3:4-5)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, bless our home with joy this Advent. As we enjoy your gifts, make us ready for your coming. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God fill you with love. May God help you to make good and loving choices, and keep you pure and holy. Amen. (Philippians 1:9-10)



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CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- How are you preparing for Christmas? What will you do over the coming weeks to prepare?
- How does the Advent season of waiting bring joy to your life?

DEVOTIONS



Use this simple liturgy for lighting the second candle on your Advent wreath this week: *Leader:* When Jesus was born an angel appeared to shepherds with "good news of great joy." Our second Advent candle is the candle of joy. As we light it, let us celebrate the joy that Jesus gives us. (Light two candles.)

A//: Thank you, Lord Jesus, for giving us joy. Fill our home with joy this Advent. Amen.

SERVICE



Look through this list of ideas for sharing during Advent. Choose one or more to put into practice this week:

- Look through your clothes and toys for "pre-loved" items that are still in good condition. Bundle them for delivery to a local thrift store.
- Bake cookies as a family. Keep half and give the rest away.
- Write an encouraging note to a friend you haven't heard from in a while.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Set out a Nativity scene but without the manger and baby Jesus. Place the Mary and Joseph figures far from the Nativity, remembering that the couple is traveling a great distance to reach Bethlehem. Each day during Advent, move Mary and Joseph a little closer to the Nativity. Place the baby Jesus in the Nativity scene on December 24th or 25th.

