

DECEMBER 24-25, 2016  
CHRISTMAS EVE,  
CHRISTMAS DAY



*Born for you today is Christ the Lord!*

### CHRISTMAS BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect upon these Bible passages as part of your Christmas celebrations.

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Isaiah 9:2-7</b> <b>Luke 2:1-20</b>	<b>A child is born</b> <b>The birth of Jesus</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>John 1:1-14</b> <b>Titus 3:4-7</b>	<b>The Word became human</b> <b>God sent Jesus</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR CHRISTMAS

But the angel said, “Don’t be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy. This very day in King David’s hometown a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord.” **Luke 2:10-11 (CEV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for Christmas:**

O God of our salvation, as we open these gifts today we give you thanks for the greatest gift of all, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Fill our homes and world with Jesus’ love and our hearts with his peace. Amen.

#### **Mealttime Prayer:**

We thank you, O God, for your love that unites us, for food that feeds us, and for the gift of your Son that redeems us. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God’s favor rest on you, and may the good news of Jesus’ birth bring you great joy.  
(Luke 2:10, 14)



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### A HYMN FOR CHRISTMAS

*Hark, The Herald  
Angels Sing*



### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when they found out there was no room at the inn? (Luke 2:7)
- How do you make room for Jesus in your life?
- How does it change your view of the world to know that God has entered it through the flesh and blood of a baby born in Bethlehem?

### DEVOTIONS

Use this simple liturgy when you light a candle as the “Christ candle” for Christmas. It may also be a candle in the center of your Advent wreath.

*Leader: John 1:5 reads, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” Jesus is the true light who gives light to every person. As we light this candle we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the true light of the world.*

*All: Thank you, Lord Jesus, for being born into our world. Light our hearts, our homes, and our world for you, our Savior.*

### SERVICE

Christmas festivities usually involve a great deal of preparation and cleaning up. Resolve to work together to carry out the necessary chores. If you are guests at another home, do what you can to serve your hosts this Christmas with willing hands.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Before you open your Christmas gifts, sing *Away in the Manger* and other Christmas carols, then pray.

*Leader: Dear God, we gather today to celebrate the gift of Jesus to our world. We share your love with one another by giving and receiving gifts. As we open these gifts today we give you thanks for the greatest gift of all, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Fill our homes and our world with his love and our hearts with his peace.*

*All: Amen.*



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