

## HOPE



1ST SUNDAY OF Advent

*November 29, 2020*

READER ONE: Today is the first Sunday of Advent, a time when we get ready to celebrate Jesus' birth. Prophets spoke for God, saying that God would send a Savior. *(Read Isaiah 9:2, 6)*

READER TWO: *(Light the first candle)* God's people hoped for a Savior. They waited a long time for the baby Jesus.

READER ONE: God sent Jesus into the world to bring light and hope for all people.

READER ONE: *(Prayer)* Thank you, God, for Jesus who helps us when we're sad or afraid, who shows us that we can always trust you.

## PEACE



2ND SUNDAY OF Advent

*December 6, 2020*

READER ONE: *(Light the first candle)* This candle reminds us that God's people hoped for a Savior.

READER TWO: Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Before Jesus' birth, Zachariah spoke of a Savior who would guide our feet in the ways of peace. The prophet Micah said: *(Read Micah 4:3-4)*

READER ONE: *(Light the second candle)* This candle reminds us that Jesus came to bring peace and good will.

READER TWO: *(Prayer)* O God, we thank you that your angels sang to the shepherds and for us: "Glory to God" and "peace on earth."

ALL: *(Sing "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")*  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

(Words by Charles Wesley, 1734)

JOY



*December 13, 2020*

READER ONE: *(Light the first candle)* This candle reminds us that God's people hoped for a Savior.

READER TWO: *(Light the second candle)* This candle reminds us that Jesus came to bring peace and good will.

READER ONE: On this third Sunday of Advent we remember the joy Jesus brings to us and to all people (Read Luke 2:8-11).

READER TWO: *(Light the third candle)* This candle reminds us of the angel's good news of great joy told to the shepherds.

READER ONE: *(Prayer)* O God, how glad we are for your gift of Jesus. Amen.

LOVE



*December 20, 2020*

READER ONE: *(Light the first candle)* This candle reminds us that God's people hoped for a Savior.

READER TWO: *(Light the second candle)* This candle reminds us that Jesus came to bring peace and good will.

READER ONE: *(Light the third candle)* This candle reminds us of the joy Jesus brings to us and to all people.

READER TWO: On this fourth Sunday of Advent we remember God's love in sending Jesus into the world and Jesus' love for all people. *(Read 1 John 4:7-9)*

READER ONE: *(Light the fourth candle)* this candle reminds us that God sent the baby Jesus because God loves us.

READER TWO: *(Prayer)* Dear god, we are so glad that you love us. Help us love one another. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## CHRISTMAS EVE



*December 24, 2020*

*"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom  
his favor rests."* *Luke 2:14*

It's time to look beyond the stable. Through the window, can you see the star? The Christmas star became a special sign from God inviting other people to come and worship the Christ child too. For Jesus wasn't just born for you and me – he came to be the Savior of the world.

Is there someone for whom you could be a star, someone to invite to the stable, too, and show the way?

*(Prayer)* Lord Jesus – Thank you for inviting me to celebrate your birth. Let your light shine on me every day, to guide the steps I take. Let all my journey lead me back to you. And let me not come alone. Amen.

*(From Around the Stable by Arden W. Mead)*

## CHRISTMAS DAY



*December 25, 2020*

READER ONE: *(Light the first candle)* This candle reminds us that God's people hoped for a Savior.

READER TWO: *(Light the second candle)* This candle reminds us that Jesus came to bring peace and good will.

READER ONE: *(Light the third candle)* This candle reminds us of the joy Jesus brings to us and to all people.

READER TWO: *(Light the fourth candle)* this candle reminds us that God sent the baby Jesus because God loves us.

READER ONE: *(Light the Christ candle [white])* This is the Christ candle. It reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.

READER TWO: *(Prayer)* Thank you, God, for Jesus' love. Help us tell others the good news: Jesus is born! In Jesus' name. Amen.

ALL: *(Sing "Joy to the World")*  
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

*(Words by Isaac Watts, 1719)*