

DECEMBER 24-25, 2017  
CHRISTMAS EVE,  
CHRISTMAS DAY



*Jesus comes to bring salvation for all.*

### CHRISTMAS BIBLE READINGS

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 2:1-20</b> <b>Titus 2:11-14</b>	<b>The birth of Jesus</b> <b>God's kindness</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Hebrews 1:1-12</b> <b>Isaiah 9:2-7</b>	<b>God has spoken by his Son</b> <b>The coming King</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR CHRISTMAS

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. **Titus 2:11 (NRSV)**

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

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

Lord God, we thank you for our Lord Jesus Christ who came into our world to be the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

God, thank you for this special day; bless all we do and all we say. May we each enjoy your blessings, as Jesus' birth we celebrate. Amen.

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

May the Lord make known to you Jesus Christ born in Bethlehem that you may not fear but have great joy and peace forevermore.



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DECEMBER 24-25, 2017  
HYMN FOR CHRISTMAS  
*Silent Night*



### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- The word grace means “undeserved kindness.” When have you received kindness you didn't think you deserved?
- In Titus 2:11, Jesus is described as the grace of God who came to bring salvation to all. How is this good news for you? For others?
- Usually good news is good for some and not for all, but with the birth of Jesus the angel says, “I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people” (Luke 2:10). How does the Christmas story bring hope for the whole world today?

### DEVOTIONS



Before opening your Christmas gifts, continue to use an Advent wreath with four blue or purple candles and a white center candle. Light all five candles, and use the following words:

*Say:* Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth.” [Light all the candles.]

*Read:* Luke 2:1-20. Or read the Christmas story from a children's storybook Bible. Talk about a favorite part of the story and then end with a prayer.

*Pray:* **Lord God, we thank you for our Lord Jesus Christ who came into our world to be the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Amen.**

### SERVICE



Write the names of those gathered in your home during Christmas on slips of paper and randomly distribute. Ask each person to offer a “gift of service” for the person named on the slip.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



The giving and receiving of gifts is a Christmas tradition that all ages enjoy. God's gift to us is Jesus. Take a moment before opening your gifts to thank God for the greatest gift of all, Jesus. Bless one another:

**May the Lord make known to you Jesus Christ born in Bethlehem that you may not fear but have great joy and peace forevermore.**



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