



December 24

Advent Wreath

This year, Christmas Eve marks the beginning *and* the end of the fourth week of Advent. Kids will be out of school, you will have errands to run, and perhaps you may be traveling. It will be easy to get lost in the hustle and bustle. Today, take time to be quiet and still as you light all four candles of the Advent wreath, and reorient yourself toward the Light of the World.

Week Four: Love

Candle: Three purple and one pink

Scripture: 2 Sam 7:1-11, 16; Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Rom 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Prayer: God of love, you sent your Son, Jesus, to shine bright like the sun, lighting the way for all who walk in darkness. May the light of Christ's hope, peace, joy and love shine bright in us as we approach his coming, so that we may be ready to welcome him on Christmas day. *Amen.*

Hymn: O Holy Night

Nativity: Mary and Joseph

Scripture

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them...And Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. -Luke 2:6-7, 19

Reflection

I wonder how Mary and Joseph must have felt when they were told there was no room in the inn?

I wonder what it was like for Mary to hold the Son of God in her arms?

I wonder how we can ponder this story in our hearts?

Hymn

O Holy Night!

Recommended Reading

The Night Before Christmas by Clement Clarke Moore

The Story of Christmas by Pamela Dalton



O Holy Night!

1. O ho - ly night! the stars are bright - ly shin - ing, It is the
 2. Led by the light of faith se - re - ly beam - ing, With glow - ing
 3. Tru - ly He taught us to love one an - oth - er; His law is

night of the dear Sav - ior's birth; Long lay the world in
 hearts by His cra - dle we stand; So led by light of a
 love and His gos - pel is peace; Chains shall He break, for the

sin and er - ror pin - ing, Till He ap - peared and the soul felt its
 star sweet - ly gleam - ing, Here came the wise men from O - ri - ent
 slave is our broth - er, And in His name all op - pres - sion shall

worth. A thrill of hope the wea - ry soul re - joic - es, For
 land. The King of kings lay thus in low - ly man - ger, In
 cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grate - ful cho - rus raise we, Let



December 25

Christmas Day

Merry Christmas! God is with us. Before opening gifts, place baby Jesus in the manger as a tangible reminder that Christmas is about just one very precious gift: Jesus Christ.

Prayer for Christmas Day

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

- Book of Common Prayer



Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2. Mild, He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die;
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Right-eous-ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise; Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty;
 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord:

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, Our Im - man - u - el!
 Come, De - sire of na - tions, come, Fix in us Thy hum - ble home;

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, Our Im - man - u - el!
 Come, De - sire of na - tions, come, Fix in us Thy hum - ble home.

Color the candle each week!

