DECEMBER 24-25, 2026
CHRISTMAS EVE, CHRISTMAS DAY

taking faith home

Jesus is born for those in need.

CHRISTMAS BIBLE READINGS

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

Thursday	Luke 2:1-20	The birth of Jesus
	Isaiah 9:2-7	The reign of the coming king
Friday	Psalm 96	Sing a new song
	John 1:1-14	The Word became flesh

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR CHRISTMAS

But the angel said to [the shepherds], "Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."
Luke 2:10-11 (NRSVUE)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Christmas:
Amazing God, for good news given to peasants, to shepherds, and to us, we give you thanks and praise through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
With this gift of food, we remember you are to be praised for all you do for us through Jesus Christ, born in a manger in Bethlehem. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May the God who comes to save you, bless you with joy.

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The "Four Key Faith Practices"—Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals & Traditions—are a framework developed by the Rev. Dr. David Anderson. For a brief description, go to: https://milestonesministry.org/history-of-the-four-keys/.

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HYMN FOR CHRISTMAS

Silent Night

taking faith home

CHRISTMAS MILESTONES

Tell or think about a recent mountain high and valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When have you surprised someone? When has someone surprised you?
- How is Jesus' birth in Bethlehem good news to you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 2:1-20.

The shepherds in the fields have a startling encounter with God, through God's angels bringing them good news of Jesus' birth. In that time and place, shepherds were "nobodies," people who were not thought of as important. Some people might even have thought that shepherds were liars and thieves. But when Jesus—God's Son and King of the whole world—was born, God did not send angels to rich and powerful people who thought they were the most important ones. God sent the angels to these shepherds working in the fields. To God, these were important people, and God gave them the important task of telling others about the Savior's birth. Have you ever felt unimportant? How does it feel to know that the Creator of the entire universe thinks that you are very, very important?

Pray: **God, help us to hear the good news of Jesus' birth and know that we are special and important to you. In the name of Jesus, your Son and our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Many people need to see God's love in action. This week, what is something small that you can do to share your time and blessings with those who need them?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Make your Christmas Day into a celebration of Jesus' birthday. Use some Christmas pastries or a cake to help celebrate. Place a white candle in its center, and on Christmas Day, light the candle, sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus, and then take time to complete this sentence:

Say: **The birth of Jesus is special to me because _____.**

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