

# *Christmas Eve Service*

## *December 24, 2018*

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Welcome  
Advent Wreath  
Carol Singing.....*Worship Team*  
Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11  
Message: "What is Christmas Anyway?"  
Carol Singing.....*Worship Team*  
Candle Lighting  
Closing Songs  
Closing Prayer

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**Tomorrow is Christmas Day!** May you be richly blessed as you celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, and remember those who are missing loved ones at this time.  
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### Prayer for Those in Mourning at Christmas

Bless those who mourn  
the loss of relative or friend  
and feel that with this loss  
their lives are incomplete.

Bless those who mourn,  
and fill these empty hearts  
with pleasant memories,  
the sound of laughter,  
sunshine and happier days.

Bless those who mourn,  
and heal their brokenness  
with the soothing balm  
of your gentle touch  
that they might know  
wholeness and peace.

### Christmas Family Devotional

*As we get up on Christmas morning there always seems to be something magical in the air. Most of us wake up early with anticipation of the great day. We are excited for the gifts that we will give and the gifts we will receive. We are excited for the people we will see and the time we will spend together. We wake up remembering that this is such a special day because of Jesus' birth! We remember the prophetic words given long before Jesus was born.*

*"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)*

*We recount the story of Jesus' birth as He came in under the radar, and although Israel was desperately awaiting His arrival, there was no room in the inn when He arrived. We see Him revealed to Joseph and Mary and then to the shepherds after the angels gave them the announcement of His birth!*

*"Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Saviour – yes, the Messiah, the Lord – has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12 (NLT)*

*2,000 years later we find ourselves in living rooms and dining rooms all across the world still celebrating that glorious and yet silent night. The day God came to be with mankind and redeem us from the sin debt that we carried. We celebrate the newborn King, not the king of Israel, but the King of Heaven and Earth, the King of kings and the Lord of lords! This amazing Saviour came for me and for you. He came to make a way to God. In Paul's letter to Timothy he says this:*

*"This is good and pleases God our Saviour, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity – the man Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time." 1 Tim. 2:3-6 (NLT)*

*So as we celebrate Christmas this year, remember the Saviour – His humble beginning in the manger, His powerful resurrection from the grave and His desire to be our Mediator! Praise God that Jesus made a way for us to be forgiven. On this day we dedicate our lives to the Saviour of mankind, and say, "Thank you for giving Your life to us and because of this, we give our lives to You!"*