



Follow along with arKids as we discover the magic in the songs we sing. Your parents are following along with Pastor Jenn – but this message is important for us too. The best part...the WHOLE family can follow along using this resource!

Light your lantern, sing loud for the world to hear, and pray together as a family to keep JESUS the light of the Christmas season!

Don't forget to share with your friends!!



Song: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

*“All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: **“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”** (which means “God with us”). (Matthew 1:20–23)*

Matthew reminds us that **Jesus is the one who saves**. Jesus is “God with us!” It is Jesus who saves us from sin. Throughout the next 12 days we will learn WHY we celebrate his birth. *SPOILER*...Because people no longer have to be feel stuck or alone in their sin. We sing because Jesus has come! Let’s sing together ALL SEASON LONG!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to give me joy.



Song: Angels We Have Heard On High

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.’” (Luke 2: 11-14)

In the second verse of this song do you hear them asking the shepherds, “Why are you so excited?” They went to the place they heard the angels and have found shepherds there, **delighted by the angels’ news**—but the angels are already gone!!! “Why so happy?” they ask the shepherds.

And the shepherds responded - You may have missed the big reveal, but you didn’t miss the more important thing, Jesus. Isn’t that great news?!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, make me brave and strong – ready to share your great news like the shepherds.



Song: O Holy Night

“Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, **glorifying and praising God** for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.” (Luke 2: 20)

Imagine what it would feel like to get lost from your big person, your most favorite person in the world. It would be scary, right?! BUT imagine what it would feel like to find them again. Joy, Relief, Comfort.

That is what Jesus did for us. God sent Jesus to show us the treasure we are to him! We are the very image of the God of all creation. And when God sent his only son, Jesus, to live among us he was reminding the world that we were worth saving. He was like our mom or dad saving us in a very scary moment. So, sing this season with JOY that Jesus knows you by name!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help me to remember that God knows my name. I'm made in the image of God.



Song: Silent Night

*"An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. **I bring you good news** that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."
(Luke 2:9-11)*

Close your eyes and imagine.... There was this quiet... dare we say *silent*... night. We can imagine the sky was clear and the stars were shining, and this group of shepherds were settling in for the night.

SUDDENLY - God sent an angel to tell them that *He* was coming to be with them. And then it wasn't just one angel... it was a HUGE choir of angels, singing of God's **goodness and kindness** to the world. He was giving us his Son! It was a silent night, but the booming message of good news came through the silence and changed the whole world.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your message of love and kindness!
When it seems like you're silent, help me know that you're near.



Song: Glory Born

“An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1: 20-21

For years and years God promised his people a new day. A time of joy and hope. They waited, not always patiently. Do you ever feel like waiting is hard? Try waiting for 400 years! The Israelites were growing impatient.

So imagine Joseph’s surprise when the angel tells him that he will welcome the long promised savior, God’s son. So... while God may have seemed silent, he was never still. He would use Israel, Joseph, and of course Jesus to give us the most amazing gift. God had kept his promise. *Jesus is here.*

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help me remember that though I can’t see you, you’re never still. You’re always at work.



Song: Away in a Manger

“And while they were there, the time came for [Mary] to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” Luke 2: 6-8

Have you ever been in a barn? Just think about bringing a tiny, new baby and laying him in the hay where cows, pigs, and donkeys were living. No way! We’d never do that, right?!

But the Bible explains that this is where Mary and Joseph were left to bring the most important person on earth into this world. It may seem silly but isn’t it amazing that God uses the very birth of his son to show us how much he loves us. Jesus is the king of all – he deserved better! Yet, through this story God is already showing us how much he loves us. What a miracle! I wonder if we can love others that way too.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help me treat others the way you have treated me.



Song: The First Noel

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Christmas lights are such a fun part of this time of year! Although sometimes we forget the "reason for the season." As you sing this song as a family, turn on your lantern from arKids, or string your Christmas tree – let each light remind you that the Christmas season celebrates the LIGHT that Jesus is for each of us! We hope that you can be that for others this year too!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, as I enjoy the lights of Christmas help me to remember to shine for you!



Song: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'" Luke 2: 10-11

Has anyone ever told you a really good story? Something that got you really excited. Something you couldn't wait to tell your friends and family.

The message from the angels was even better! Jesus WAS the good news and he was the JOY that we all needed to receive. Even better...he is ready, even now, to share joy with EVERYONE! This is the good news we hope you share this year!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, as I am so thankful the joy you brought to us. Help me to remember to share your love and kindness!



Song: Jesus Our Savior

"[When the wise men] saw the star, they rejoiced with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother and they fell down and worshipped him." Matthew 2:10-11

The Savior of the world was born, but no crowd was there to celebrate the occasion. There was no fancy announcement of the birth of this King. A baby was born to a young mom and dad far from home in a barn. It was quiet and simple. Joseph and Mary could not have known all that would happen in the years ahead as they held their newborn son. But God knew...and he shared that news with the wise men!

What a miracle God gave us. Someone that loves us no matter what. Someone that holds us in his hands. Someone that chooses us every day. Sing and remind your family of the one who came for YOU!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I am amazed at your great love for me. Thank you for sending Jesus to be my Savior.



Song: O Come All Ye Faithful

“When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.” Luke 2:17-18

In this song, we’re told to “Come and behold him.” Come and SEE the one who is “Born the king of angels.” That doesn’t mean Jesus is some sort of angel, it means all the angels report to him. He’s the King OF angels. They bow to him. How cool is that?!

And if the angels are amazed at the presence of Jesus, can you imagine how it would feel to see him? To sit with him? To hear his voice? What a gift God gave us in Christmas! A time to celebrate THE BEST GIFT EVER! A gift even that even made the angels worship. Don’t keep this gift to yourself! Go like the shepherds and sing it loud for the world to hear!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help me remember your greatness!



Song: God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman

“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20b)

Sing it again!

“God rest ye merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay. Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day...”

You might be thinking...”What does that mean?!” It means, you definitely aren’t alone!

These fancy words remind us that God **MUST** rest in our heart. Every day we have something that makes us worry, or makes us angry, or make us feel sad. **BUT** if we let the joy of Jesus live in our hearts, he will always remind us that we are never alone. So, you don’t have to worry! Talk with your family about ways you can remember God lives in your heart, even on the hard days.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for knowing what my heart needs. Help me to trust that you are with me no matter what may come my way.



Song: Joy to the World

The point to this whole Christmas thing? It isn't Santa. It isn't presents. It's not even the tree. NO!

In this song, we sing with **joy to the world** that Jesus, our Savior, lives with us! And do you know what? We won't be alone. Not only will people sing about Jesus, we have a choir backing us up, REPEATING our songs... maybe not in OUR words, but in their own way. After we sing, this song reminds us: fields, water, rocks, hills, the grass... they will all REPEAT the sounding joy we make. The world, even nature, is going to repeat those praises we sing to our King.

So when the song "Joy to the World" plays, sing loud and proud. We challenge you on Christmas morning: Before touching the first gift – sing this together as a family and remember the BEST GIFT EVER!

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for bringing joy to the world. I worship you. Thank you for sending Jesus to me.