

# Advent of Joy

3rd Sunday of Advent: December 16

Read	Isaiah 9:6-7 John 1:19-34 Matthew 2:3-4 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Philippians 2:1-11
Review/Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• When we think of people opposing Jesus, we often think of the Pharisees and Sadducees who plotted to kill Jesus as an adult. But, even as a child, Jesus had people plotting against Him. Who wanted to have Jesus killed as a child? Why?</li><li>• Read Isaiah 60:3. How does this verse link to the wise men? What directed the path of the wise men to come to Jesus?</li></ul>
Apply (Choose 1-2 questions to discuss; or do them all if time permits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Herod tried to deceive the three wise men (magi) so he could kill Jesus. But, both the wise men and Joseph were warned. Has God ever warned you not to do something? How has God guided you in the past? What do you need his guidance on now?</li><li>• Even when Jesus was born, the wise men, who were Gentiles, were welcomed into His presence, bringing him gifts. What gifts can you lay that the feet of Jesus? Identify 3 specific ways you can surrender your “treasure” unto Him.</li><li>• The wise men were drawn to the light of a star. By following the light, they found Jesus. How were you drawn to Jesus? How did you hear the good news?</li></ul>
Pray	Thank you for being the light of the world. Help me to shine brightly for you and to point people to your love. Although you are my friend, Jesus, help me to fully understand what it means to have you as my king. Show me how to worship you with my treasures, my talents, and my time. When people try to rise up against me, thank you for you for your protection, your guidance, and your direction. Your timing is perfect; give me eyes to see how true that is. Amen.