

· RIVERLAND HILLS ·  
**FAMILY ADVENT**  
GUIDE 2024





DECEMBER 1 – 7

# HOPE

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## IN CHRIST

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This week focuses on the prophetic hope found in the coming Messiah, Jesus, as foretold in Scripture. We reflect on how Christ fulfills God's promises and how this hope can sustain us through trials, encouraging us to share the hope of Christ with others.

— **READ:** Isaiah 9:2-7

— **DISCUSS:**

- How does this prophecy point to Jesus Christ as our hope?
- In what ways can we hope and trust in Christ today, especially when life is hard?
- How can we encourage one another in hope during this season?
- What is something we can look forward to this Christmas?

— **LISTEN AND SING:** O Holy Night

— **ACTIVITIES:**

- Dec 6: Attend **RH Kids Winter Wonderland**
- Dec 7 + 8: Attend ***“Good News of Great Joy”***
- Make Christmas Cards (or ornaments) for family and friends.



DECEMBER 8 – 14

# PEACE

THROUGH FAITH + TRUST

This week emphasizes the peace that comes from trusting in God's sovereignty. We discuss the nature of true peace, in Christ, and how to cultivate a peaceful environment in our homes.

— **READ:** Luke 1:26-38

— **DISCUSS:**

- What does Mary's obedience teach us about trusting God and His plan?
- How does the peace of Christ differ from the world's peace?
- What steps can we take as a family to cultivate peace in our relationships?

— **LISTEN AND SING:** Silent Night

— **ACTIVITIES:**

- Dec 14 + 15: Attend *"And It Came to Pass": A Night of Worship for Advent*
- Watch a Christmas movie, or two, together.



DECEMBER 15 – 21

# JOY

IN SALVATION

The angels announced Christ's arrival to the shepherds, and this week we celebrate the joy of salvation in Jesus. We consider the enduring joy that comes from knowing Christ and look for ways to share that joy with others.

— **READ:** Luke 2:8-14

— **DISCUSS:**

- Why do you think the angels specifically proclaimed joy?
- How does our understanding of joy differ from temporary happiness?
- What are some joyful traditions we can start or continue as a family?

— **LISTEN AND SING:** Joy to the World

— **ACTIVITIES:**

- Go look at Christmas lights or go caroling together.
- Surprise an individual or family with Christmas cookies or a gift basket.



DECEMBER 22-24

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GOD'S

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# LOVE

The love of God is unmatched, as we see in John 3:16. This week we will explore the nature of God's love. Through faith in Jesus, we embody love in our relationships and consider how we can lovingly serve others.

— **READ:** John 3:16

— **DISCUSS:**

- How does God's love, shown through Christ, impact our understanding of love in our family?
- What are practical ways we can show God's love to others this season?
- How does understanding God's love for His people shape our relationships?

— **LISTEN AND SING:** Away in a Manger

— **ACTIVITIES:**

- Attend RH Kids Christmas Eve Celebration
- Attend RHBC Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



DECEMBER 25

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THE BIRTH OF

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# CHRIST

CELEBRATING THE INCARNATION

Today we celebrate Jesus's birth, recognizing it as the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan. We think about the significance of the nativity story. Christ is our promised Savior who has come. We will discuss how we can honor Jesus in our celebration and traditions today.

— **READ:** Luke 2:1-20

— **DISCUSS:**

- How does the birth of Jesus fulfill God's promises throughout Scripture?
- What does the humble birth of Jesus teach us about God's character?
- How can we honor Jesus's birth in our family celebration and traditions today?

— **LISTEN AND SING:**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

— **ACTIVITIES:**

- Pray for those that you can share the good news of great joy with today.
- Open gifts together—**Merry Christmas!**