

## Discuss:

- Read some of the Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah of Israel. In what ways did these prophecies come true through the birth of the One named Jesus?
  - Isaiah 7:14 & Matthew 1:23
  - 2 Samuel 7:13 & Luke 1:26-38
  - Micah 5:2 & Luke 2:1-7
- How would you explain who Jesus is?

## Activities for Kids:

[www.churchonthecorner.us/christmas](http://www.churchonthecorner.us/christmas)

## Worship in Giving:

Christmas is when God gave humanity and all of us the greatest most valuable gift of all time. One we desperately needed and could never purchase. One way we can respond to God's generous gift to us is through our giving. Maybe gather as a household as you give online.

Scan the QR code below, or visit our website at [churchonthecorner.us](http://churchonthecorner.us) and click on the Online Giving button:



## Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, open the eyes of our hearts to see how all the prophecies foretold about the coming Messiah, were fulfilled through the birth of Jesus, the Christ-child. Please help us to proclaim this awesome truth to all those around us so that all may know the free gift of salvation given to us through Jesus, not just at Christmastime, but always! In Jesus Name, Amen!

# Home Worship Bulletin

Sunday, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024



*The Adoration of the Magi – painted by Leonaert Bramer between 1630-1635*



[churchonthecorner.us](http://churchonthecorner.us)



*Journey of the Magi – painted by James Tissot 1894*

Begin your time together by lighting a candle and then sing Joy to the World to serve as a reminder that Jesus Christ is the Light and Hope of the World and our eternal King!

**Sing: Joy to the World** (see insert)

### **Read: Reflection**

(Take turns reading each paragraph!)

There is so much excitement surrounding the celebration of Christmas. Yet, what does it all mean?

In the days, months, and years following Jesus' birth, many encountered this child with an understanding that there was something extraordinary about him.

Eight days after Jesus' birth, his parents presented him to the Temple priests in Jerusalem to offer him up to the Lord. The Holy Spirit led a devout man named Simeon to the Temple. Simeon's response to seeing the infant Jesus was to share the following praise:

*Luke 2:29-32 (NLT)*

*"Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"*

A few years later, the Magi, or Wisemen from the East, likely from Persia, or modern-day Iran, followed the Word of God and the light of a star to the exact spot where this child was staying. When the Magi encountered the child, Jesus, their response was to bow down and worship him, and to offer him gifts fit for a king:

*Matthew 2:10-11 NLT*

*"When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."*

Both Simeon and the Magi knew that Jesus was more than an ordinary human-being. He was, as the prophet Isaiah proclaimed 700 years earlier, Emmanuel, which means "God with us" (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23). He was the Word of God made flesh (John 1:14). He was the Savior of the World come to save us from our sins and to give us eternal life (John 3:16).

*John 1:9-12 NIV*

*"The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—"*

**Sing: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** (see insert)