

# Joy



**SAY** Jesus is the Joy of our Salvation, and at Advent, we light candles to remind ourselves of the light of hope, promise of peace, and joy of salvation he brought to a lost and broken world.

**ASK** What is Joy?

**EXPLAIN** Joy is a feeling of great happiness. It's pure bliss, It's overwhelming gladness bubbling up in your soul.

**LIGHT** the first, second, and third candles of your wreath.

**SAY** These candles represent hope, peace, and joy. When Jesus came, he brought joy to our heart.

**READ & DISCUSS** Isaiah 9:3-4 and Luke 2:8-14

**PRAY** O Lord, our God, thank you for sending Jesus to bring us salvation and restore our joy. We rejoice because he came to live with us and in us and through us. May the good news of great joy of Jesus' coming be ever on our lips. Help us to be yours as we wait for you to come again. We love you. Amen.

**FURTHER DISCUSSION** What brings you joy? What part of the Christmas story makes you most glad? What are some ways that our family can bring joy to others this Christmas?

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## *Isaiah 9:3-4*

*You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.*

## *Luke 2:8-14*

*In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"*