

DECEMBER 2024/JANUARY 2025

We are called to be evidence of God's love breaking into the world

Nambour Uniting Church

37-39 Coronation Avenue, Nambour QLD 4560

<u>Rev Maile Molitika – Minister's Message</u> <u>The Blessing of God</u>

As we get closer to Christmas of 2024, we are reminded from Psalm 67 about our responsibility as God's people in this world. Giving thanks to God is our priority in life. This psalm is a Song of Thanksgiving and the author probably wrote at the very beginning about his situation, he had been in trouble and God had drawn him out from that unfortunate situation. The first two verses are prayers from the heart - "God be merciful to us and bless us; look on us with kindness, so that the whole world may know your will; so that all nations may know your salvation." He knew that he cannot do anything apart from God. Advent is coming and we need to prepare ourselves to be ready at all times. We are called to celebrate the coming of Christ not only in the manger but His coming to judge the living and the dead. In this psalm, we are reminded that one day the world will be judged and the wrong put down, the right brought up to the top. This judgement will be based on our attitude to Jesus and his message. It will not depend on how well we know Jesus, it will be from Jesus' perspective for he knew us inside out.

Matthew 7:22-23 "When the Judgement Day comes; many will say to me, "Lord, Lord! In your name we spoke God's message, by your name we drove out many demons and performed many miracles! Then I will say to them, "I never knew you. Get away from me, you wicked people!" All people are called according to our psalm to "praise God". This is far more than singing hymns on Sunday morning or singing other songs in a prayer meeting. What the psalmist is urging us in this psalm; he wants us to make all our lives a credit to God. This is the way to ensure God's blessing on our lives and on the world. We are challenged to do this during Advent and into the Christmas Season. If we do this we can rejoice and be glad together with our families and friends during this festive season. Advent is both a joy and sad time. It is a joyful time because the family usually get together for Christmas. They may reside in different places even in different countries but seeing each other during Christmas time brings joy and happiness to the members of the family. Our family will be getting together towards the end of January next year and this is a bonding time to make sure that relationships between us are strong and healthy as we move into the unknown future. On the other hand, it is a sad time for others, especially for those who do not have families, they may feel lonely and to an extent, it may be fatal to others who do not cope well with loneliness. In fact, this is the most time where suicide often occurs. The spirit of celebration is often troubled by someone who chooses not to live anymore. It is sad to see, that in the midst of happiness and celebration, people are unable to join in that spirit, pursuing a sad choice to end their life.

When God called the Jewish people to be his very own, he intended that the nation should have a missionary character. To tell the surrounding nations two very important truths. <u>Firstly</u>, tell them that there is only one God. <u>Secondly</u>, if the people are living in obedience under God Commandments, they will be happy and prosperous.

Let us be reminded again from this psalm, we are **to give thanks to God at all times**. We live in a time where wars and other natural disasters happen and it causes others to panic about our world. The question whether God is a loving God is often in the mind of so many doubtful people, but as genuine followers of Christ, there is no doubt in our mind God is a Loving God despite the troubles in our world. Let me finish off with this assuring word from John 16:33 - "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Grace & Peace Rev Maile

A Prayer for Creation

Creating God, as your Spirit moves over the lands and waters of this place, we wonder at the glory of all you have made. All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small... For these we offer you our wonder and praise. (Pause and reflect)

As we ponder the wonder of creation, we are also aware we do not tread lightly on your gift of the earth.

As your Spirit moved to order the chaos, we have done much to bring chaos that undoes the order of things. As much as we protest fire and droughts, flood and pestilence, we have become the architects of our own undoing.

Forgive our desire to be masters over all rather than good stewards of all you have given us. Forgive our addiction to easy wealth and easy power and the way mining and deforestation has devastated the waterways and lungs of our planet.

Forgive us for the systems we create where enough has become never enough and we burden creation beyond her breaking point. (Pause and reflect)

The psalmist (Ps 29) reminds us of the power of God's voice over the waters and in the thunder. May this glorious voice realign us to the glory of God and may it re-establish us in right-relationship to the whole created order.

In our seeking restoration and renewal, we can confidently claim in the name of Jesus Christ, that we are forgiven, *thanks be to God. Amen.*

<u>Permission granted by the author</u> **Rev. Arnie Wierenga, Leongatha- Korumburra-Loch Poowong** Kookaburra Ministry Team Gippsland Presbytery of the Uniting Church in Victoria, The Fig Tree Worship Resource (Sunday January 7th, 2024)



IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

y Sittle e the truth is there To Claus DRIALMUL V.95°



Dear Editor— I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus? - Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.

Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished. Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did

not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see

The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see.

Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn?

Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there.

Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world. You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real?

Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding. No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood. Francis B. Church Editor of the New York Sun 1897

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

Continued ...

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and went on to became one of the most famous editorials ever written.

It first appeared in the **The New York Sun in 1897**, well over a hundred years ago now, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business. Thirty-six years after her letter was printed, Virginia O'Hanlon recalled the events that prompted her letter:

"Quite naturally I believed in Santa Claus, for he had never disappointed me. But when less fortunate little boys and girls said there wasn't any Santa Claus, I was filled with doubts. I asked my father, and he was a little evasive on the subject. It was a habit in our family that whenever any doubts came up as to how to pronounce a word or some question of historical fact was in doubt, we wrote to the Question and Answer column in The Sun. Father would always say, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so", and that settled the matter. Well, I'm just going to write The Sun and find out the real truth, I said to father. He said, "Go ahead, Virginia. I'm sure The Sun will give you the right answer, as it always does."

And so, Virginia sat down and wrote her parents' favourite newspaper. Her letter found its way into the hands of a veteran editor, Francis P. Church. Son of a Baptist minister, Church had covered the Civil War for The New York Times and had worked on The New York Sun for 20 years, more recently as an anonymous editorial writer. Francis B Church, a sardonic man, had for <u>his personal motto</u>, **"Endeavour to clear your mind of can't."** When controversial subjects had to be tackled on the editorial page, especially those dealing with theology, the assignments were usually given to Francis B Church. Now, he had in his hands a little girl's letter on a most controversial matter, and he was burdened with the responsibility of answering it.

"Is there a Santa Claus?" the childish scrawl in the letter asked.

At once, Church knew that there was no avoiding the question, he must answer, and he must answer truthfully. And so, he turned to his desk, and he began his reply which was to become one of the most memorable editorials in newspaper history. Church married shortly after the editorial appeared. He died in April, 1906, leaving no

children. Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial.

Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in New York.

The **NeXus** between our mission and our spiritual power is the gathered congregation. While God comes to us by His Spirit thus transforming us by his grace, we are drawn into precious fellowship with each other. As a congregation gathers for worship, it is being strengthened, then sent out again for a missional purpose. In times such as these, this copy of **Nambour NeXus** is provided so that you may have resources to assist you in your personal or household worship of God, to assist you in growing your faith, and to encourage your concern and prayers for others.

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Yes Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus recording by Jim Nettleton

Original vinyl recording

CLICK on the LINK below to listen; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UT5mCxYAlgl

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Thank you all for being generous people. May your giving become the power of love in the world. Is There a Santa Claus?

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of THE SUN: "DEAR EDITOR: I am 8 years old.

"Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

" Papa says ' If you see it in THE SUN it's so."

" Please tell ma the truth; is there a Santa Claus? " Vinginia O'Hanion.

* 115 WEST NINETY-PIFTH STREET."

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, VIRGINIA, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas I how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoymen', except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

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You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank Gon! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, VIRGINIA, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

SEVEN DAILY PRAYERS FOR SEVEN DAYS DECEMBER 2024/JANUARY 2025

Christmas Prayers of Love & Compassion

Prayers full of love and compassion for every person during the time of celebration for the birth of our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ. May we all pray these heartfelt prayers of love to Our Lord God Almighty!



Pray aloud at any time, or with a soft voice, in the morning, and at dinner time, the Lord will answer each prayer, one at a time.

Day 1 Sunday Holy Lord Jesus, we thank you for this wonderful gift of love through Our Father God, which has been so generously granted to us all. Help us to continue to love each other and accept each other unconditionally. Love enables us to communicate to one another all our joys, sufferings, and desires, and all our hopes, sorrows, and difficulties.

Make us generous in giving and humble in receiving, Amen.

Day 2 Monday Holy Lord Jesus, please grant us the power of Your Love that we may forget self and live for each other so that we may have truly one spirit, allowing us to build a true communion with You, Lord, and also between ourselves. Make us generous in giving and humble in receiving, Amen.

Day 3 Tuesday, Holy Lord Jesus, may we remain ever open to You, the true source of all love. Teach us how to serve, teach us to be compassionate in preparation for the time when You will send us to those in need, enabling us to become your messengers of love, and remembering it is the message of love that is given from You. Make us generous in giving and humble in receiving, Amen.

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CHURCH EMAIL FACEBOOK YOUTUBE CHANNEL WEBSITE nambouruca@gmail.com www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church nambouruca.youtube nambouruniting.org.au

2023 Sunday Services are available on the Nambour Uniting Church Website and youtube (2024 services unavailable due to ongoing works in our Church auditorium) The website also contains Mission Possible photos, word study, reflections, stained glass windows and more Thanks to Don Heaton for recording our Services, and Ian Brown for our great website

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Day 4 Wednesday Holy Lord Jesus, we thank You for Your many blessings. We pray you may bless and fill our family with love, peace and prosperity. May we also pray for joy, abundance and strength; for great health and continued healing; for our loved ones; for Your kindness and mercy; and we also pray for Your guidance and protection.

Make us generous in giving and humble in receiving, Amen.

Day 5 Thursday Holy Lord Jesus, please help those that are hurting right now. Guide them and place your arms around them to comfort them and give them strength. Let us love them as You love them. Make us generous in giving and humble in receiving, Amen.

Day 6 Friday Holy Lord Jesus, may we remove from our pockets the stones we intended to throw, but cement them together to build a home that welcomes all. Just as Thomas touched the wounds of Jesus, may we be unafraid to touch the wounds of our suffering neighbour. May we outstretch our hands, for there is no "them". We can become sisters and brothers, all. Make us generous in giving and humble in receiving, Amen.

Day 7 Saturday Holy Lord Jesus, **"And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love."** (1 Corinthians 13:13). Bless our Christian women and men, bless all who would hear Your Word, bless those who are in mentally challenging lives, please help our children as they navigate the new technologies and social media, protect them all please Lord. Make us generous in giving and humble in receiving, Amen.

A Christmas Day Prayer

Holy Lord Jesus, You are my Lord and Saviour. With You I have hope; with You, compassion. I have love from You and most of all I have faith in You! May I live by your words in the New Testament – **love one another!**

Please have mercy on all peoples of this world on this most special of days. May you open their eyes to your endless love and mercy - for Your Father, The Creator, is our Father also. Please bless us Lord, bless our children, and bless those who hear this prayer. In the name of Jesus, the True Christ, Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

This land on which we live and worship is God's land and God's Spirit dwells here. We acknowledge the Kabi Kabi people, traditional custodians under God of the Sunshine Coast and its hinterland. We pay our respects and pray for their elders and all their descendants. We are thankful that we can share with them in our community and nation. We reaffirm our commitment to care for the land and participate in the reconciling journey, for God requires this of us.

INTERCONNECTED



There are two ways of looking at the world in which we live. One looks at the world as a resource to be used for our own benefit; the other sees ourselves as part of a system of inter-dependence. The second recognises that whatever we do to nature will ultimately impact upon ourselves.

I have been reading the biography of an Australian Aboriginal man, Banjo Clarke. He is quite frank about the differing attitudes to the environment by indigenous people and European settlers. He says, "Aboriginals... knew how to catch our food in fish traps, and how to govern the land without destroying it. *Everything was sacred to us*. We looked on the land as a mother who knew how to care for us, and we knew how to care for her. We never did much damage because we knew that if we hurt the land it would get sick and die, like a mother. She would no longer provide food for the people; we were directly dependent on nature."¹

He is right: we are totally interconnected with nature. I never cease to be amazed how a plant can take carbon dioxide (a gas), convert it into carbon (a solid), and release oxygen, absolutely vital for our life, into the atmosphere. Trees are our environmental lungs, yet we plunder them recklessly. Think about the water cycle. We pollute our waterways with all kinds of waste, yet the process of evaporation distils that water and returns it to us as pure, crystal clear rainwater. We forget that every impact on the environment affects the whole system: in reality, our destructive practices are slowly destroying us.

For generations Christians have justified their abuse of the environment from Genesis 1:28, where God gave humans authority over the whole creation. The Hebrew text has been translated variously as "dominion" (KJV, RSV), "rule" (LXX, NASB), "subdue" (NIV), "be masters" (JB). The Good News, however, simply states, "I am putting you in charge", namely "I am giving you *responsibility* to care for the world which I have created". That's the key! Indeed, the world was created to provide for our basic needs, that is, our daily bread and well being. However, we have taken this gift of control as a mandate to abuse the physical creation for our own profit, far beyond our essential needs.

¹ Camilla Chance, "Wisdom Man", Penguin, 2003, p.188.

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We need to remember that it is God who delegated this responsibility to us. We have been given the incredible privilege of being God's caretakers of this planet. As our indigenous people emphasise, the earth does not belong to us; we are merely its stewards or caretakers. God says, "The land is mine and you are but aliens and tenants!"(Leviticus 25:23). The earth does not belong to us but to its creator, God! (Psalm 24:1) With any responsibility there is always a correlated accountability; *we are accountable to the Creator for what we are doing to the creation*.

The Psalmist recognised himself as simply a steward of God's earth. Psalm 8 moves from wonder (v8), to humility (v4), acceptance of responsibility (v5-8) and finally to worship (v9).² Stewardship is all about responsible management. Perhaps we need read our bibles more carefully, as well as listen to our indigenous people in order to rediscover a more responsible attitude toward the world around us. We could start by taking Albert Schweitzer's life motto, "Reverence for Life"³, more seriously. The original German means, "to be in awe of the mystery of life". Only where there is reverence and respect for our natural world will we ourselves survive.⁴

Rev Graham Warne



[Morning breaks over Middleton Beach, Albany, WA.]

² "Accepting responsibility for the Earth", *Wilderness and Garden*, Zadok Institute, Canberra, 1989, p.14.
³ Albert Schweitzer (*physician, theologian, philosopher & musician, 1875 – 1965*), *Preface to Civilization and Ethics*.

⁴ In 1979 PCB's (Polychlorinated Biphenyls) were banned. However, this resilient man-made chemical has remained in the soil and oceans, with a cumulative effect the higher up the food chain it is found, particularly in tuna, dolphin, seals, polar bears and humans. It is responsible for infertility, increased risk of cancer and suppression of the immune system. Recently dead killer whales and seals which had washed ashore in Scotland were found to have died due to a high accumulation of PCB in their system. **(A sober warning to us all)**

The 12 days of Christmas in Christian tradition signifies the time between the birth of Christ and the arrival of the three wise men, also known as the Magi. It starts on December 25, which is celebrated as Christmas Day, and lasts until January 6, which is the Epiphany.

The lyrics to "The 12 Days of Christmas" may be references to Christianity; a suggestion is that the song was written to help Christians learn and pass on the tenets of their faith while avoiding persecution.

The various gifts are as follows;

1. A Partridge in a Pear Tree The partridge in a pear tree represents Jesus, the Son of God, whose birthday we celebrate on the first day of Christmas. Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge, the only bird that will die to protect its young.

2. Two Turtledoves These twin birds represent the Old and New Testaments.

So, in this gift, is found the complete story of the Christian faith and God's plan for the world.

3. Three French Hens These birds represent faith, hope, and love.

This gift hearkens back to 1 Corinthians 13, the love chapter written by the Apostle Paul.

The Three French Hens also represents the Holy Trinity: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit 4. Four Calling Birds The four Gospels — Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

5. Five Gold Rings The gift of the rings represents the first five books of the Old Testament, the Torah - Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

6. Six Geese a-Laying <u>THE CREATION</u> God created the heavens and the earth, God created the sky and seas, God created the land and plants, God created the sun, moon, and stars, God created fish and birds, God created land animals and man.

7. Seven Swans a-Swimming The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy Ministry Teaching Exhortation Giving Leading Compassion. As swans are one of the most beautiful and graceful creatures on earth, they would seem to be a perfect symbol for spiritual gifts.

8. Eight Maids-a-Milking As Christ came to save even the lowest of the low, this gift represents the ones who would receive his word and accept his grace. The eight maids represent the 8 Beatitudes; Matthew 5:3-10: Blessed are...

- 1. the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 2. those who mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 3. the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- 4. those who hunger and thirst for righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- 5. the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- 6. the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- 7. the peacemakers: for they shall be called children of God.

8. they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

9. Nine Ladies Dancing These nine dancers were really the gifts known as the fruit of the Spirit. The Fruits of the Spirit include: Love Joy Peace Patience Kindness Goodness Faithfulness Gentleness Self-control **10. Ten Lords a-leaping** The Ten Commandments.

11. Eleven Pipers Piping This is almost a trick question, as most think of the disciples in terms of the dozen. But when Judas betrayed Jesus and committed suicide, only eleven men carried out the gospel message. Therefore, the Eleven Pipers Piping signify the 11 Faithful <u>Disciples</u>: Simon (whom He named Peter), Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, Judas son of James (and Judas Iscariot was later replaced with faithful Matthias).

12. Twelve Drummers Drumming The drummers are the 12 points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed. 1. I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 2. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. 3. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. 4. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. 5. He descended into hell. On the third day, He rose again. 6. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. 7. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. 8. I believe in the Holy Spirit, 9. the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, 10. the forgiveness of sins, 11. the resurrection of the body, 12. and the life everlasting.

The song most of us are familiar with today comes from an English composer named Frederic Austin; in 1909, he set the melody and lyrics.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS DECEMBER 2024

CLICK on the underlined readings for each day to access the daily verses on the <u>Bible Gateway</u> website for the Daily Bible readings

Sunday, December 01, 2024: First Sunday of Advent Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36 Monday, December 02, 2024: Psalm 90; Numbers 17:1-11; 2 Peter 3:1-18 Tuesday, December 03, 2024: Psalm 90; 2 Samuel 7:18-29; Revelation 22:12-16 Wednesday, December 04, 2024: Psalm 90; Isaiah 1:24-31; Luke 11:29-32 Thursday, December 05, 2024: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:5-12; Philippians 1:12-18a Friday, December 06, 2024: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:13-18; Philippians 1:18b-26 Saturday, December 07, 2024: Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 4:1-6; Luke 9:1-6 Sunday, December 08, 2024: Second Sunday of Advent Baruch 5:1-9; Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6 Monday, December 09, 2024: Psalm 126; Isaiah 40:1-11; Romans 8:22-25 Tuesday, December 10, 2024: Psalm 126; Isaiah 19:18-25; 2 Peter 1:2-15 Wednesday, December 11, 2024: Psalm 126; Isaiah 35:3-7; Luke 7:18-30 Thursday, December 12, 2024: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 6:1-8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 Friday, December 13, 2024: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 8:4-12; 2 Corinthians 9:1-15 Saturday, December 14, 2024: Isaiah 12:2-6; Amos 9:8-15; Luke 1:57-66 Sunday, December 15, 2024: Third Sunday of Advent Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18 Monday, December 16, 2024: Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:1-19; Hebrews 13:7-17 Tuesday, December 17, 2024: Isaiah 11:1-9; Numbers 16:20-35; Acts 28:23-31 Wednesday, December 18, 2024: Isaiah 11:1-9; Micah 4:8-13; Luke 7:31-35 Thursday, December 19, 2024: Psalm 80:1-7; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 10:10-18 Friday, December 20, 2024: Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 42:10-18; Hebrews 10:32-39 Saturday, December 21, 2024: Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 66:7-11; Luke 13:31-35 Sunday, December 22, 2024: Fourth Sunday of Advent Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55 Monday, December 23, 2024: Psalm 113; Genesis 25:19-28; Colossians 1:15-20 Tuesday, December 24, 2024: Nativity of the Lord - Proper I Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20 Wednesday, December 25, 2024: Nativity of the Lord - Proper II Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-20 Wednesday, December 25, 2024: Nativity of the Lord - Proper III Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14 Thursday, December 26, 2024: Psalm 148; 2 Chronicles 24:17-24; Acts 6:1-7 & 7:51-60; Friday, December 27, 2024: Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:32-36; John 21:19b-24; Saturday, December 28, 2024: Psalm 148; Isaiah 54:1-13; Revelation 21:1-7; Sunday, December 29, 2024: First Sunday after Christmas Day 1 Samuel 2:18-20 & 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52 Monday, December 30, 2024: Psalm 147:12-20; 2 Chronicles 1:7-13; Mark 13:32-37 Tuesday, December 31, 2024: Psalm 147:12-20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19

DAILY BIBLE READINGS JANUARY 2025

CLICK on the underlined readings for each day to access the daily verses on the <u>Bible Gateway</u> website for the Daily Bible readings

Wednesday, January 01, 2025: Holy Name of Jesus Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 2:15-21 Wednesday, January 01, 2025: New Year's Day Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8; Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46 Thursday, January 02, 2025: Psalm 147:12-20; Proverbs 1:1-7; James 3:13-18 Friday, January 03, 2025: Psalm 72; Job 42:10-17; Luke 8:16-21 Saturday, January 04, 2025: Psalm 72; Isaiah 6:1-5; Acts 7:44-53 Sunday, January 05, 2025: Second Sunday after Christmas Day Jeremiah 31:7-14; Sirach 24:1-12; Psalm 147:12-20; Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:1-18 Monday, January 06, 2025: Epiphany of the Lord Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7 & 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12 Tuesday, January 07, 2025: Psalm 72; Daniel 2:1-19; Ephesians 4:17-5:1 Wednesday, January 08, 2025: Psalm 72; Daniel 2:24-49; Ephesians 5:15-20 Thursday, January 09, 2025: Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Friday, January 10, 2025: Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 2:1-10 Saturday, January 11, 2025: Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 3:1-15; 1 Corinthians 2:11-16 Sunday, January 12, 2025: Baptism of the Lord Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17 & 21-22 Monday, January 13, 2025: Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 4:1-16; Ephesians 6:10-17 Tuesday, January 14, 2025: Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 5:12-21; 1 John 5:13-21 Wednesday, January 15, 2025: Psalm 106:1-12; Numbers 27:1-11; Luke 11:33-36 Thursday, January 16, 2025: Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:1-5; Acts 8:18-24 Friday, January 17, 2025: Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:19-25; 1 Corinthians 7:1-7 Saturday, January 18, 2025: Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 4:1-4; Luke 11:14-23 Sunday, January 19, 2025: Second Sunday after the Epiphany Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11 Monday, January 20, 2025: Psalm 145; Isaiah 54:1-8; Romans 12:9-21 Tuesday, January 21, 2025: Psalm 145; Song of Solomon 4:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-17 Wednesday, January 22, 2025: Psalm 145; Song of Solomon 4:9 to 5:1; Luke 5:33-39 Thursday, January 23, 2025: Psalm 19; Isaiah 61:1-7; Romans 7:1-6 Friday, January 24, 2025: Psalm 19; Nehemiah 2:1-10; Romans 12:1-8 Saturday, January 25, 2025: Psalm 19; Nehemiah 5:1-13; Luke 2:39-52 Sunday, January 26, 2025: Third Sunday after the Epiphany Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6 & 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21 Monday, January 27, 2025: Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:1-10; 1 Corinthians 14:1-12 Tuesday, January 28, 2025: Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:11-26; 2 Corinthians 7:2-12 Wednesday, January 29, 2025: Psalm 119:89-96; Jeremiah 36:27-32; Luke 4:38-44 Thursday, January 30, 2025: Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 34:1-7; Acts 10:44-48 Friday, January 31, 2025: Psalm 71:1-6; 2 Chronicles 35:20-27; Acts 19:1-10