### ADVENT JOURNAL





Let yourself fall open to Advent, to anticipation, to the belief that what is empty will be filled, what is broken will be repaired, and what is lost can always be found, no matter how many times it's been lost.

- Shauna Niequist



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JOHN 1:1-5	
	WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR THIS ADVENT?



The birth of the child into the darkness of the world made possible not just a new way of understanding life but a new way of living it.

- Frederick Buechner



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



# ISAIAH 11:1-3 WHERE DO YOU SEE NEW LIFE EMERGING LIKE A NEW BRANCH FROM AN OLD ROOT?



It is good to remind ourselves that the will of God comes from the heart of God and that we need not be afraid.

- Warren Wiersbe





## LUKE 1:26-33 WHERE IS GOD URGING YOU, LIKE MARY, TO NOT BE AFRAID?



Mary, grasped and seized by the Spirit, speaks of God's coming into the world, of the advent of Jesus Christ. For she knows better than anyone what it means to wait for Christ.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer



MY PRAYER	FOR	TODAY:
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LUKE 1:34-38
WHAT DO YOU NEED TO SURRENDER TO MAKE ROOM IN YOUR LIFE FOR JESUS?



Waiting does not diminish us, any more than waiting diminishes a pregnant mother. We are enlarged in the waiting. We, of course, don't see what is enlarging us. But the longer we wait, the larger we become, and the more joyful our expectancy.

- Eugene Peterson



#### JEREMIAH 33:14-16

WHAT PROMISES ARE YOU LONGING FOR GOD TO FULFILL IN YOUR LIFE?



The same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow, and every day.

- Francis de Sales



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### LUKE 1:46-50 WHAT GREAT THINGS HAS GOD DONE FOR YOU? REMEMBER THEM HERE.



At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern.

- Mother Theresa



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LUKE 1:51-55
HOW IS GOD AT WORK IN THE WORLD, AND HOW CAN YOU JOIN HIM IN THIS WORK?



God still looks for Josephs today. Men and women who believe that God is not through with this world. Common people who serve an uncommon God.

- Max Lucado



	MY	PRAY	ΕR	FOR	TODAY:
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#### MATTHEW 1:18-23

TAKE SOME TIME TO SAVOR GOD'S PRESENCE TODAY. GOD IS WITH US!	





That is the wonder of all wonders, that God loves the lowly.... God is not ashamed of the lowliness of human beings. God marches right in. He chooses people as his instruments and performs his wonders where one would least expect them. God is near to lowliness; he loves the lost, the neglected, the unseemly, the excluded, the weak and broken.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

MY	PRAYER	FOR TODAY:



MICAH 5:2-4
HOW HAVE YOU SEEN GOD TAKE WHAT IS SMALL AND FORGOTTEN AND USE IT FOR HIS MIGHTY PURPOSES?





When we have been brought very low and helped, sorely wounded and healed, cast down and raised again, have given up all hope--and been suddenly snatched from danger, and placed in safety; and when these things have been repeated to us and in us a thousand times over, we begin to learn to trust simply to the word and power of God, beyond and against appearances.

- John Newton

MY	PRAYER	FOR	TODAY:



#### LUKE 1:68-71

WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING FOR GOD TO
RESCUE YOU?



What God ever became so tender we could touch
Him? So fragile we could break Him? So
vulnerable that His bare, beating heart could be
hurt? Only the One who loves you to death.

- Ann Voskamp





LUKE 2:4-7
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU THAT GOD CAME TO EARTH AS A HELPLESS BABY? AND HE DID IT OUT OF LOVE FOR YOU?



I am more sinful and flawed than I ever dared believe, more loved and welcomed than I ever dared hope.

- Elyse Fitzpatrick



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



## JEREMIAH 31:31-33 THANK GOD FOR ALL THE WAYS HE HAS DRAWN NEAR TO YOU.



I truly believe that if we keep telling the Christmas story, singing the Christmas songs, and living the Christmas spirit, we can bring joy and happiness and peace to this world.

- Norman Vincent Peale





### LUKE 2:8-12 ASK GOD TO FILL YOU WITH HIS JOY AS HE DID FOR THE SHEPHERDS.



The God of your mountain is also the God of your valley. He's not scared of messy situations or messy people. He's not intimidated by the situations beyond your control. Wherever you find yourself today, lift your eyes to the hills – your help comes from the LORD.

- Steven Furtick



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



# ISAIAH 35:3-6 HOW HAVE YOU SEEN GOD'S STRENGTH AND PROVISION IN DESERT SEASONS?



Just as your body needs sleep, your soul needs time to rest in God. To learn more about Him. To talk to Him. To worship and praise Him.

- Craig Groeschel





#### LUKE 2:13-14

SPEND SOME TIME IN WORSHIP TODAY, PRAISING GOD AND GIVING HIM GLORY.



The best we can hope for in this life is a knothole peek at the shining realities ahead. Yet a glimpse is enough. It's enough to convince our hearts that whatever sufferings and sorrows currently assail us aren't worthy of comparison to that which waits over the horizon.

- Joni Eareckson Tada



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



### **HABAKKUK 3:17-19** DO YOU FEEL EMPTY AND BARREN THIS ADVENT? TAKE A MOMENT TO ASK GOD FOR THE GRACE AND STRENGTH TO REJOICE IN THE MIDST OF YOUR SUFFERING.



Look for Christ and you will find Him. And with Him, everything else.

- C. S. Lewis



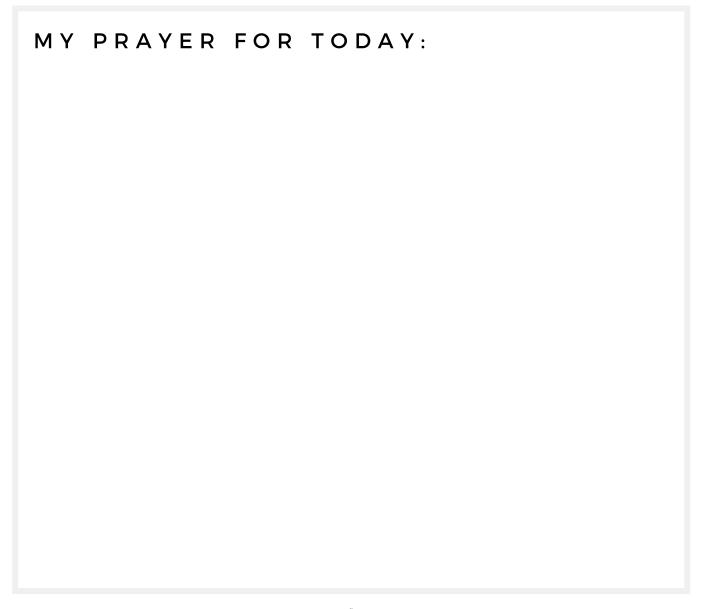


LUKE 2:15-20
WHO DO YOU RESONATE MOST WITH IN THESE VERSES? MARY? THE SHEPHERDS? THE ANGELS? REFLECT ON THAT HERE.



O God and Father, I repent of my sinful preoccupation with visible things. The world has been too much with me. Thou hast been here and I knew it not. I have been blind to Thy presence. Open my eyes that I may behold Thee in and around me. For Christ's sake, Amen.

- A. W. Tozer





### 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6, 16-18

HOW CAN YOU FIX	
YOUR EYES ON CHRIST TODAY?	



Don't miracles manifest themselves in the darkest shadows? When it seems light will never find its way through a storm of agonies, there appears a golden ray like dawn across the otherwise hopelessly bleak landscape. Jesus came to earth so we can sing and laugh, no matter what storm we're up against.

- Mary Chapian

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# LUKE 2:25-26 WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR GOD TO DO IN YOUR LIFE THIS ADVENT?



The beautiful thing about this adventure called faith is that we can count on Him to never lead us astray.

- Charles Swindoll



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:	



LUKE 2:27-32
WHAT PROMISES HAS GOD KEPT FOR YOU AS HE FAITHFULLY KEPT HIS PROMISE TO SIMEON?



Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.

- Corrie ten Boom



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



UKE 2:36-38	
WHAT PRAYERS HAVE YOU BEEN LONGING FOR GOD TO ANSWER? TELL	
HIM ABOUT THEM HERE.	



The God who created, names and numbers the stars in the heavens also numbers the hairs of my head. He pays attention to very big things and to very small ones. What matters to me matters to Him, and that changes my life.

- Elisabeth Elliot



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



### PSALM 95:1-7

BOW YOUR HEART BEFORE THE LORD TODAY AND THANK HIM FOR HIS LOVING CARE.	



This is our time on the history line of God. This is it. What will we do with the one deep exhale of God on this earth? For we are but a vapor and we have to make it count.

- Beth Moore



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



ISAIAH 61:1-3
WHY DID JESUS COME TO EARTH? WHAT IS HIS MISSION?



The miracle of Christmas is not on 34th Street; it's in Bethlehem. Through Jesus God offers you forgiveness for your past, peace of mind in the present, and a solid future in eternity.

- Rick Warren



MY PRAYER FOR TODAY:



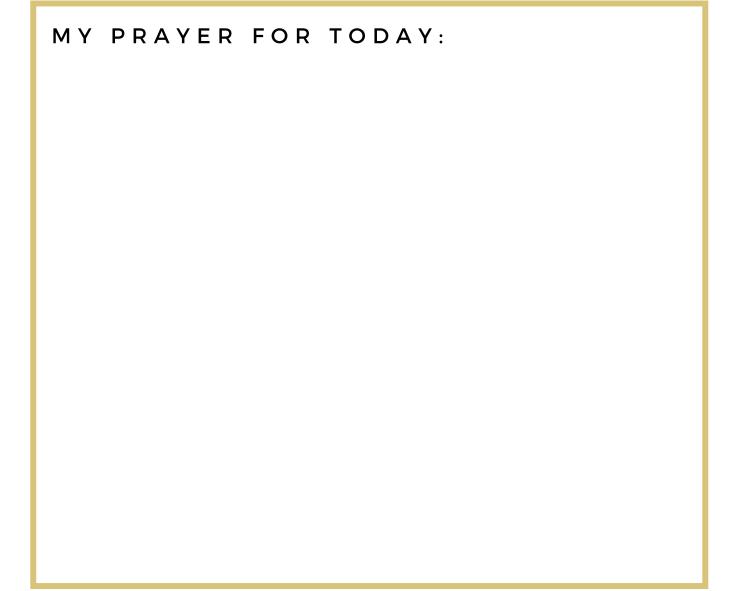
1 PETER 1:3-8	
	WHAT HAS CHRIST'S COMING ACCOMPLISHED FOR YOU?





Who among us will celebrate Christmas right?
Those who finally lay down all their power,
honor and prestige, all their vanity, pride and
self-will at the manger, those who stand by the
lowly and let God alone be exalted, those who
see in the child in the manger the glory of God
precisely in this lowliness.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer





ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7
IN WHAT AREA OF YOUR LIFE DO YOU NEED THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO SHINE?

