



**DAILY BREAD  
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS  
CHRISTMAS EVE — YEAR C**

**INVOCATION**

L: In the name of the Father  
and of the Son +  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**G: Amen**

**PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 96**

**A: Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord a new song.**

L: Sing to the LORD, praise his name;

**G: proclaim his salvation day after day.**

L: Declare his glory among the nations,

**G: his marvelous deeds among all peoples.**

L: Worship the LORD in the splendor of his  
holiness;

**G: tremble before him, all the earth.**

L: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;

**G: let the sea resound, and all that is in it;**

L: let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.

**G: Then all the trees of the forest will sing for  
joy;**

L: for he comes to judge the world in righteousness

**G: and the peoples in his truth.**

**A: Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord a new song.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**READING & MEDITATION** *see next page*

**PRAYER**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**A: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**A: Today in the town of David a Savior has  
been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.  
(Luke 2:11)**

**BENEDICTION**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**A: Amen**

## READING AND MEDITATION:

**The Nativity of Our Lord—Christmas Eve:** A light shines in the darkness, bursting forth into our hearts and lives as the Word is made flesh. The glory of the Lord marks the fulfillment of promise as the Light of the world is born into the world. We who have been purified and brought into the Light reflect that light in our present age. We proclaim what we have seen and heard: “A Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.”

**As you study this week, seek to find the connecting theme in all the lessons by using Luther’s Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:**

1. *What is God saying to me in this lesson?*
2. *For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?*
3. *What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?*
4. *For what does this lesson lead me to pray?*

## THE GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-20

The time had come for God to fulfill what had been spoken of through the prophets. With the birth of Jesus, light shone in darkness. Heavenly messengers and the glory of the Lord tell of his birth. We join the shepherds in hastening to manger to see him who “shines, the long expected.” Let us share the Good News: “Salvation unto us has come.”

*My takeaways:*

## FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 9:2-7

Isaiah was called to harden the hearts of those who had turned away and to strengthen the hearts of those still looking for the promised redemption of Israel. Among some of the harshest judgment on Israel’s apostasy come these words of comfort for the faithful. The darkness of sin will be scattered. A light will dawn. He will be everything the LORD has promised. The Lord יהוה אֱלֹהֵינוּ will accomplish it.

*My takeaways:*

## SECOND LESSON: TITUS 2:11-14

Just as Israel longed for the coming of the Messiah, so we long for the coming again of the Christ. The babe of Bethlehem has come; the fight is won; victory is assured. Now we live in his light until he comes again in glory.

*My takeaways:*

## SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST LESSON: MICAH 5:2-5A

Last Sunday (Advent 4C) built anticipation, today we celebrate its fulfillment. Stressing the eternal nature of the Christ Child, Micah foretells the coming of the Shepherd King who will bring peace to the ends of the earth.

*My takeaways:*

## SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 1:1-9

In words that echo the first chapter of his gospel, John proclaims what he, too, has “seen and heard.” Jesus has come to bring the light of salvation from sin, righteousness and fellowship with God.

*My takeaways:*

***What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?***