

# Redeemer Lutheran Church

## “At-Home” Sunday School Packet

### Sunday, December 20, 2020

Today's Bible Lesson: “Let Your Light Shine” Matthew 2:1-12

\*To find links to the videos mentioned, go to the church website ([redeemerlutheran.us](http://redeemerlutheran.us)). Under Ministries, go to Youth and then Children's Ministries.

1. Begin with Luther's Morning Prayer (see handout)
2. Family Sing-A-Long Videos – Pick 3 of your favorites from the videos online.
3. Today's Lesson
  - a. Have children complete “Let Your Light Shine” handout. Using this puzzle, the children will learn that they should let their lights shine before men, that they may see their good works and glorify God in Heaven.
    - i. How can we be like a bright light to the world? (*By doing good works cheerfully and because we love Jesus.*)
    - ii. Why is it important that the world see our lights shine? (*To glorify God.*)
    - iii. Is letting your light shine more than just doing good works? Explain. (*Allow for discussion.*)
  - b. Read the poem “The Window” on the handout.
  - c. Explain that magi were Men of Arabia and Persia who studied the stars. Some believed they had the power to interpret dreams and for that reason today we often refer to them as wise men.
  - d. Have you ever looked up on a clear night and tried to count all the stars? Have you ever seen a star that looked a little brighter than the rest? There is one special star in the sky even today that people follow. It's called the North star, or Polaris. What is special about this star is that it always stays in the same place and all the other stars circle it. It's called the North Star because when you look at it, you're facing north. Before fancy machinery and computers, ship

captains used the North Star to navigate the oceans. They could always tell where they were by finding the North Star.

- e. Read the lesson.
- f. Questions
  - i. Why were the Magi looking for Jesus? *(They wanted to worship Him.)*
  - ii. How did King Herod react to the visit by the Magi? *(He was deeply disturbed.)*
  - iii. What did the prophets say would come out of Bethlehem? *(A ruler who will be the shepherd of Israel.)*
  - iv. What did King Herod tell the Magi to do? *(Go find the baby and report back to him where Jesus was.)*
  - v. How did the Magi find where Jesus was staying? *(They followed a star.)*
  - vi. Where were Mary and the baby when the Magi arrived? *(In a house.)*
  - vii. What was the first thing the magi did when they found Jesus? *(They bowed down and worshipped Him.)*
4. Lesson Activities - Activity Sheets (see handouts)
5. Family Prayer Time (see handouts for options)



## **Luther's Morning Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## **Luther's Evening Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



## **Matthew 2:1-12**

### **The Visit of the Wise Men**

**2** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men<sup>a</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem, **2** saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." **3** When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; **4** and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. **5** They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

**6** "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

**7** Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. **8** And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." **9** After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. **11** And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and

they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

# LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

**Instructions:**

First cross out all words that are days of the week

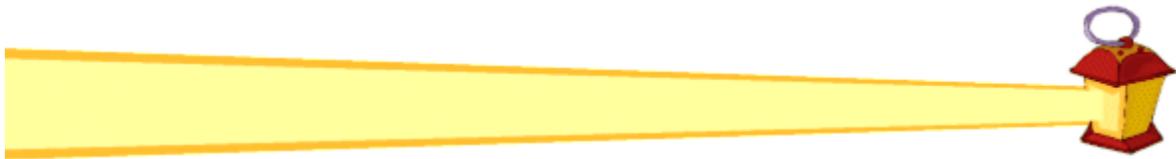
Second cross out all words that are colors

Third cross out all words that are names of animals

Fourth cross out all words that are numbers



SUNDAY	BROWN	SEVEN	LET	PIG	WHITE	SIXTEEN
THREE	YOUR	TURTLE	GOLD	EIGHT	LIGHT	FRIDAY
SHINE	HORSE	FOUR	RED	BEFORE	TUESDAY	ORANGE
PURPLE	OTHERS	WEDNESDAY	ALLIGATOR	FIVE	THAT	FIFTY
RACCOON	THEY	FROG	BLUE	MAY	MONDAY	TWO
THIRTEEN	GREEN	SEE	THURSDAY	NINETEEN	SNAKE	YOUR
SATURDAY	GOOD	SQUIRREL	DEEDS	SUNDAY	TIGER	AND
GLORIFY	YOUR	PINK	TUESDAY	YELLOW	FATHER	BLACK
BEAR	IN	FRIDAY	HEAVEN	GIRAFFE	FIVE	WEDNESDAY



What do the remaining words say? Write them in order on the lines below.

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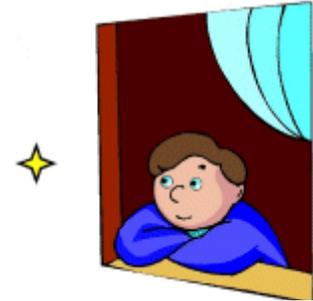
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**Matthew 5:16 NIV**

# THE WINDOW (A CHRISTMAS POEM)

*A poem about a brilliant light in the night showing the way to the newborn king.*

Looking out my window late one night,  
What I saw was such a strange and unexpected sight.  
Never have I seen before such brilliance in the sky,  
Right outside my bedroom, was a warm and glowing light.



I tried to fall asleep again, but the light stayed on my mind.  
The mystery seemed to fill the world with never-ending time.  
What could it mean to see such brilliance in the sky tonight?  
Somehow, I knew I was seeing a heavenly sight.

So I gazed some more and while I did, I saw there were three men.  
They were pointing up and saying something about a newborn king.  
I sensed they also saw the light, as it pierced the sky,  
Then together, in a hurry, they rode quietly on by.

I was looking out my window, late that night.  
How wonderful, how glorious a light shining so bright,  
Who could know what blessings such a light like that would bring?  
It led the world to our Lord, Savior, and King.

I hurried and found my shoes, then threw on some clothes.  
I followed silently behind, to see where they would go.  
They stopped at one small house and then quietly went in,  
As the light grew even brighter, and the nighttime air grew thin.

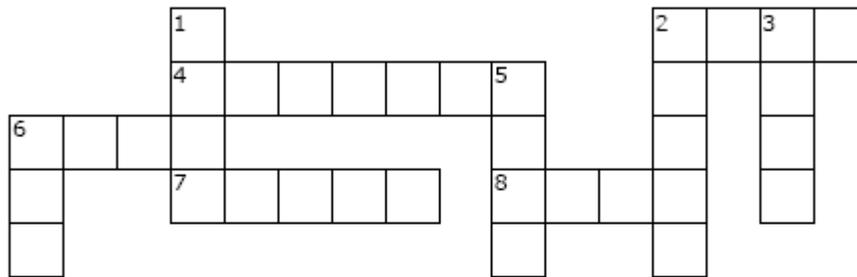
I had to see for myself what was happening inside.  
So I went up to the window, and peered in with widened eyes.  
I saw him, a child, asleep by mommy's side,  
Then the men bowed down to Him; all I could do was cry.

As I wiped the tears away, the young boy came awake.  
His mother quietly said, "My child, it's okay."  
As I wondered how deeply in trouble I might be,  
He looked out from His window, and gently smiled at me.

I was looking out my window, late that night.  
How wonderful, how glorious a light shining so bright,  
Who could know what blessings such a light like that would bring.  
It led the world to our Lord, Savior, and King.

# The Visit of the Magi

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.  
Matthew 2:11 (NIV)



## ACROSS

2. The wise men who visited Jesus and Mary and Joseph shortly after Jesus was born
4. A substance that is burned to produce a sweet smell
6. To come into existence by birth
7. Presents which are given without cost to the one receiving them
8. A twinkling point of light in the night sky

## DOWN

1. A male ruler of a country
2. A sticky substance with a strong smell which is used in making perfume
3. A valuable, shiny, yellow metal used to make coins and jewellery
5. The direction which is opposite to west
6. To kneel or bend the head or body forward as a show of respect

MAGI	BOW	STAR	GOLD	KING
GIFTS	EAST	BORN	MYRRH	INCENSE

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# The Visit of the Magi

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.  
Matthew 2:11 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on Matthew 2:1-12 (NIV).

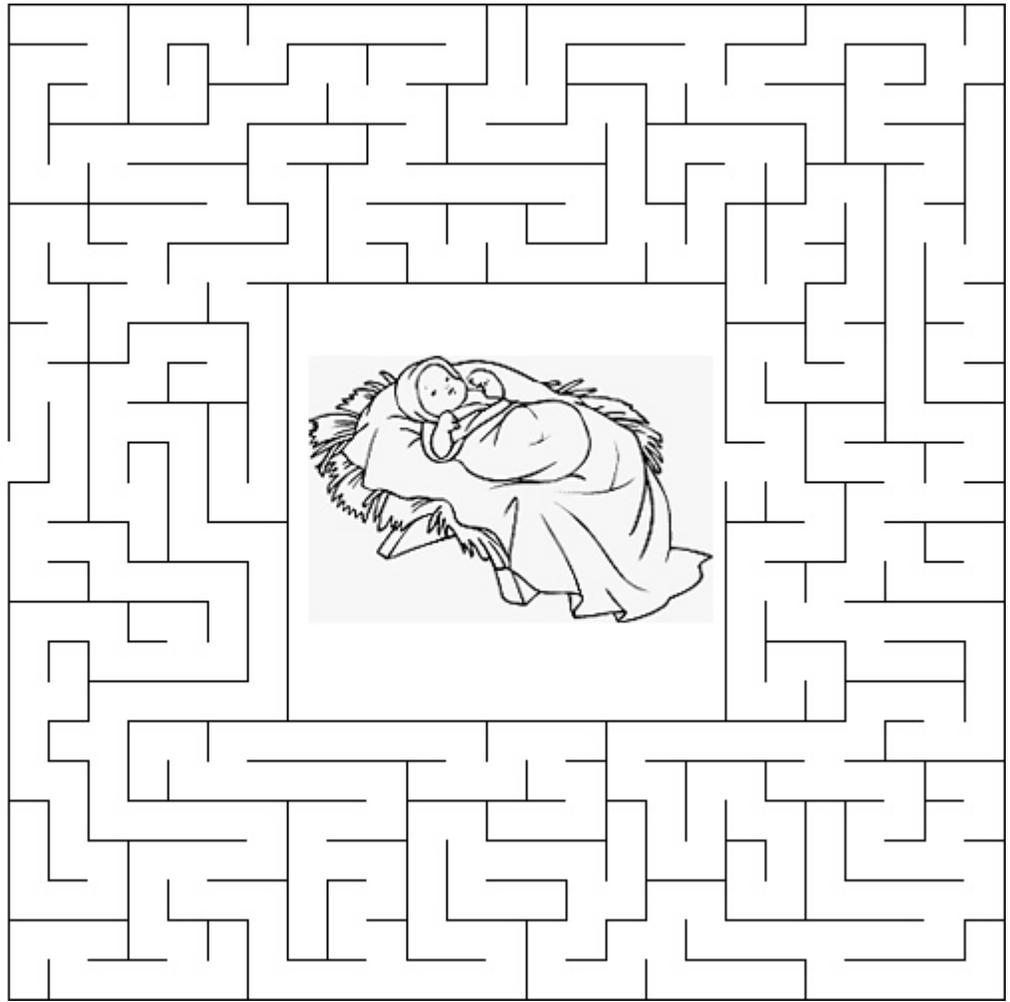
Y W A Y L X P H C H H M Q D H  
 K N N T Y I G R Q V O E G M B  
 W I U A W C N N I R U W R Y R  
 O V N R T E A C H E R S R O G  
 R W Q G X T R V E K S A O M D  
 S O M C H R I S T N M T E K E  
 H R O V B G H V L M S H S O H  
 I S T Y L O O U G I E E H C Q  
 P H H U A D U O B L E B R Y J  
 E I E Y Z V S E H N M A G I D  
 D P R O N Y E T V A E G H L Q  
 G B O R N H E E A S T R I B T  
 T P B K F B G A V E R H W C E  
 P M W I C I N E J Y C S T A R  
 M M B Q D D L V M V T X L X Y

PRIESTS	MYRRH	BETHLEHEM	KING	CHRIST
GOD	CHILD	HOUSE	INCENSE	MARY
STAR	MAGI	TEACHERS	WORSHIP	MOTHER
WORSHIPED	EAST	SEARCH	BORN	HEROD

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Wise Men Search for Jesus

Can you help the Wise Men find the way to the baby Jesus?

"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:2



**Wise Men Worship Jesus  
Matthew 2**

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# The 5 Finger Prayer

Thumb: Those closest to you, your family.

Pointer: Those that point you in the right direction (teachers, doctors, priests) ask for wisdom & support.

Index: (tallest) Those that lead us, (Government) ask for guidance & wisdom.

Ring: (weakest) Those that are weak, in trouble, or in pain. We cannot pray too much for them.

Pinkie: (smallest) Our prayers for ourselves & our own needs.



# MY WORLD:

MONDAY

This month, I will pray for the country of \_\_\_\_\_

These are some of the things I will pray about:

# MY COMMUNITY:

WEDNESDAY

This is what I will pray about for my community:

# WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR THIS MONTH:

SATURDAY

# MY COUNTRY:

TUESDAY

I will pray for my own country! These are some of the things I will pray about this month:

# MY FRIENDS:

THURSDAY

This month I will pray for \_\_\_\_\_

These are the things I will pray about:

# WHAT I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT GOD THIS MONTH:

SUNDAY

# MY FAMILY:

FRIDAY

This month I will pray for: