

JOSEPH'S DREAM



Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. Matthew 1:20 ESV

Song: Once In Royal David's City - *Cecil Frances Alexander*

**Once in royal David's city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby,
In a manger for His bed;
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and low,
Lived our Savior long ago.**

**But our eyes in truth should see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above,
As He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!**

Leader: This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 1:18 ESV*

Leader: An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

All: She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."

Leader: All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

All: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" - which means, "God with us."

Leader: When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

Matthew 1:20-24 ESV

Song: Of the Father's Love Begotten - *John M. Neale*

Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that ha-ve been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

Oh ye heights of heaven adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him,
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be si-lent,
Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!

Advent Message

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

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

Song: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus - *Charles Wesley*

**Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.**

**Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal spirit, Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26 ESV*

Doxology - *Thomas Ken*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, you heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**