

ADVENT

O holy night the stars
are brightly shining; It
is the night of the dear
Savior's birth. Long lay the
world in sin and error
pining, Till He appeared
and dawned light on us
with the angels singing.
A child of
the most world
redeemer, For yonder
breaks a new & glorious
morn! Fall on your
knees! O hear the angel
voices! O night divine,
O night divine!

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains, &
the mountains in reply echoing their
joyous strain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
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It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song
of old, from angels bending near the earth to
touch their happy feet,
on the earth, good
will to men, from
heaven's all glorious King. The world
in solemn silence lay to hear the
angel sing. Still through the
choirs they come with
musical wings, swift and
all their heavenly
music floats over
all the weary
world.

Joy to the world, the Lord
is come! Let earth receive
her King! Let every heart
prepare Him room, and
hasten and nature sing,
& heaven and nature sing,
& heaven and nature sing,
& heaven and nature sing,
and nature sing,
to the earth,
the Savior reigns.
Let us our songs
renew, while fields lie
flooded, rocks, hills, & plains,
repeat the sounding joy;
repeat the sounding joy;
repeat the sounding joy;
He rules the world with
truth and grace.

O holy
town of
Bethlehem, how
all we are glad
Above thy deep and
darksome sleep the often
stars go by, but in the dark
morn's almost the revealing
light: the hopes & fears of all
the years are met in thee
tonight: for Christ is born
of Mary: & gathered all
above, while mortals sleep,
the angels keep their watch
of wondering
men on earth.

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Still, night, Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the
sight: Christ is born!
Heavenly
host sing, Alleluia
born sing, Alleluia
the Savior reigns!

A thrill of
Hope

Week 1 Devotional

The Promise Of Hope

Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 9:2–7

From the very beginning, God promised redemption. Even in the middle of humanity's fall, God whispered hope into the darkness: "He will crush your head." That promise in Genesis 3:15 foreshadows Jesus, the One who would come to defeat sin and death forever. Centuries later, Isaiah's prophecy spoke of a child to be born, a light to shatter the world's gloom. Advent reminds us that this hope is not wishful thinking, but confident expectation in a faithful God.

No matter what circumstances surround us, we hold to the hope that Christ has come, and He will come again.

1



Reflection Question

Where in your life do you need to be reminded that God keeps His promises?

2



Prayer:

Lord, thank You for being our everlasting hope. In moments of doubt or despair, lift our eyes to see the promise of Your Son. Help us to wait with expectation and to live with confidence in Your faithfulness. Amen.

Family Activity

Create a "Hope Chain." Each family member writes one thing they're hoping for (big or small) on a strip of paper. Link them together into a paper chain and hang it somewhere visible to pray over all month long.

[illegible]