

WORD SCRAMBLE

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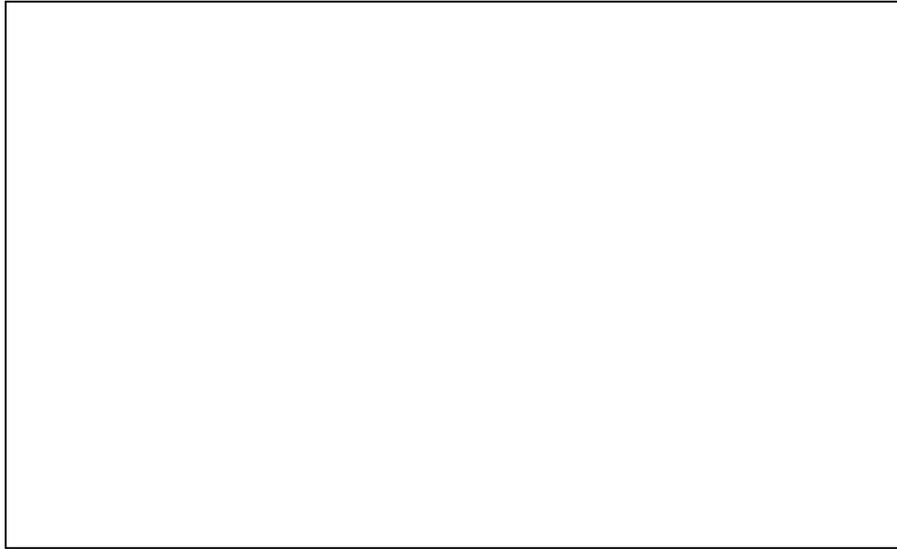
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Draw a picture of Jesus



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LESSONS FOR LAMBS

EVE OF THE CIRCUMCISION AND NAME OF JESUS (DECEMBER 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE)

*The color for the Eve of the Circumcision
and Name of Jesus is white.*



What to listen for during the service?

We hear in Matthew 1:21 the angel told Joseph, "you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Jesus is an important name by which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Listen for the name of Jesus during the service. How many times do you hear it? I hope you hear it a lot!

Gospel Reading: Luke 12:35-40

(The Gospel Reading is from the part of the Bible that is about Jesus and his ministry.)

35 "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, 36 and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. 38 If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! 39 But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. 40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Questions to talk about with your parents:

- 1) When should we be ready for Jesus to return?
- 2) How can we be ready? Does it mean we should never sleep or we should stop doing our daily responsibilities in life?
- 3) What's the best way to be ready for Jesus? Where should we go? What should we read?

People of the Bible: Jesus

Today we celebrate New Year's Eve, but more importantly we celebrate the Eve of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus. When Jesus was eight days old His parents brought Him to the temple to be circumcised, as was the custom of the Jewish faith. We hear about this in Luke 2:21, "And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb." Luke goes on to tell us about the Presentation of our Lord in the temple, which we will celebrate on February 2. Luke and the other Gospels tell us many things about Jesus' life and His ministry. Jesus' baptism marked the beginning of His official ministry. He was the promised Messiah from the Old Testament, and was God become Man to be the Savior for all who believe. His baptism laid on Jesus the sins of all people, which was the reason He came to us.

After His baptism, Jesus then taught the people and performed miracles for approximately three years, in order to lead them to follow Him and believe. He would then be crucified to pay for the sins of all people and give eternal life to those who believe in Him. His birth, ministry, death, and resurrection (when He rose from the dead) are written about in the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John). Because of all these things Jesus did, your baptism now unites you with Christ. You became a child of God when His name was put on you in your baptism. He has come to save you. Throughout your entire life you can remember your baptism and believe, knowing that you are safe in Jesus.

HYMN – "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:
- 2 Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the opening day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!