

***Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way***

November 29, 2015

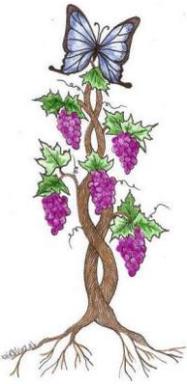
First Sunday of Advent

***Jeremiah 33:14-16***

***Psalms 25:1-10***

***1 Thessalonians 3:9-13***

***Luke 21:25-36***



***Jesus is Coming Again!*** Object: Some decorations and other items that tell us Christmas is coming.

Christmas is coming soon. It is easy to tell. We see the signs all around us. What are the signs? We see Christmas decorations in the stores and on houses, we hear Christmas songs on the radio, we see ads on television and in the newspapers. What if we didn't have all of these things to remind us that Christmas is coming? How would we know? I guess we would just have to look at the calendar.

Two thousand years ago, there was no television or radio. There were no newspaper ads announcing that a child would be born and that he would be the Savior of the world. When Jesus was born, very few people even knew about it, but it was an event which God had promised and which had been foretold by prophets many years before. Many people had been looking forward to the coming of the Messiah, they just didn't know exactly when he was coming.

This Sunday marks the beginning of a very special season called Advent. Do you know what Advent means? The dictionary says that advent is "the coming of something very important." What is it? Is it Christmas? Yes, we are looking forward to that, but we are also looking forward to the coming of another very important event. The return of Jesus!

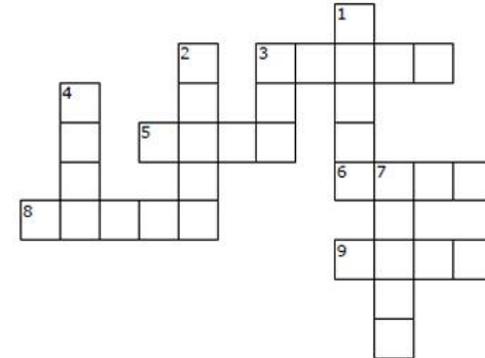
Jesus promised to come again. You won't hear much about it on the television or radio and you won't read much about it in the newspapers, but he promised he would return and we believe it! We look forward to it just as people two thousand years ago looked forward the the coming Messiah. We don't know exactly when he will come, it isn't marked on the calendar, but we are watching and waiting.

Dear Father, we thank you for this special time of year and what it means to us. We thank you for keeping your promise to send a Savior -- and we thank you for the promise that he will come again. Amen.

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**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia (Psalm 85:7)

**Crossword Puzzle**



**ACROSS**

- 3. Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
- 5. The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
- 6. The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth
- 8. To rise to an upright position on your feet
- 9. To make a request to God

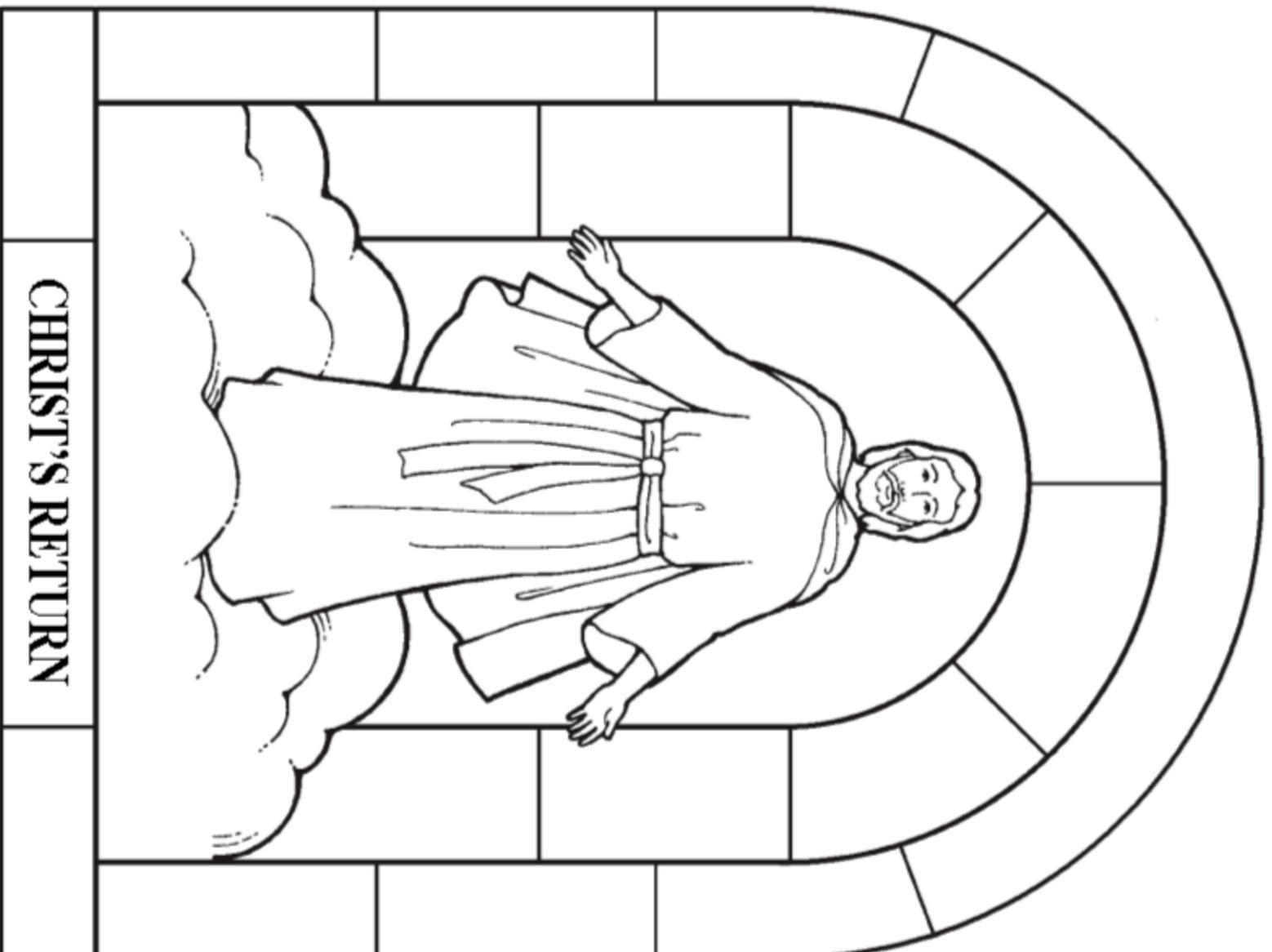
**DOWN**

- 1. To observe very carefully
- 2. Large, white, fluffy things floating in the sky
- 3. The earth's source of heat and light
- 4. To raise from a lower to a higher position
- 7. The planet on which we live

earth	moon	cloud	pray	head
sun	stars	watch	lift	stand

**GIFT DRAWING:** If JESUS were coming today, WHAT GIFT would you give to Him? (You can hand out a paper for children to draw their gift). This should lead to GREAT discussion --- some may say, "I'll give Him ME!"

**CHRISTMAS IS COMING POSTER -** Have the children make a poster showing the signs that Christmas is coming. Discuss and compare things such as Christmas trees, presents, decorations with the true meaning of Christmas such as manger, baby Jesus, and angels.



At that time they will see the Son of Man coming  
in a cloud with power and great glory

Luke 21:27

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