

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

December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

THE
REASON
WE
Celebrate



What's in a Name Object: A book on the meaning of names.

What's your name? That is a question we hear quite often, but has anyone ever asked you what your name means? Do you know what your name means? When your mom and dad found out they were going to have a baby, they spent a lot of time choosing a name. They may have looked through a book that gives the meaning of names. I looked up a few names to see what they meant.

John is a very popular name for boys and Joan or Joanna for girls. Their name means "God's gracious gift."

Have you ever known anyone named Daniel or Danielle? Their name means "God is my judge."

I have known quite a few boys named Michael and girls named Michaela. That is a great name that means "one who is like God." One of the angels in the Bible was named Michael.

When Mary and Joseph found out that they were going to have a baby, they didn't have to go to the library and get a book to choose his name. In fact, they didn't choose his name at all. God sent an angel to tell Mary and Joseph, "You will have a son, and you will call his name Jesus because he will save his people from their sin." You see, the name Jesus means "the Lord saves." God loved us so much that he sent his only Son to die on the cross to save us from our sin. The Bible tells us that there is no other name that can save us.

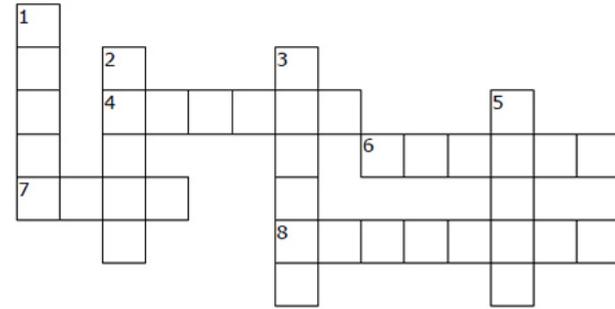
What's in a name? If the name is Jesus, there is salvation!

Heavenly Father, we thank you that there is salvation in the name of Jesus. During this holiday season, help us to remember that it is his birthday that we celebrate. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel. Alleluia (Matt. 1:23)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 4. To be filled with fear
- 6. The earthly father of Jesus
- 7. The mother of Jesus
- 8. A name that means "God is with us"

DOWN

- 1. Images and emotions that occur while you are sleeping
- 2. To become husband and wife
- 3. A young unmarried woman
- 5. The Son of God

JESUS	MARRY	MARY	DREAM
IMMANUEL	VIRGIN	JOSEPH	AFRAID

MANGER ART: On a piece of construction paper, help the child make a nativity stable outline with craft sticks and glue some pieces of straw in the stable. Have the child write JESUS IS SALVATION on the "roof" craft sticks of the stable.



God With Us



"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").
Matthew 1:23 (NIV)