

4a Jesus Is Born – Bible Story

Narrator: On the hills outside of Bethlehem, shepherds sat around a fire and watched their sheep. A light began to grow around them.

Shepherd 1: Look! That light isn't from the fire. It's coming from the sky!

Shepherd 2: Look in the light! Is that an angel?

Shepherd 3: What would an angel want with us? We're just shepherds.

Shepherd 2: Well, I think it's an angel, and I'm scared!

Angel: Don't be afraid! I have come to bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people! Your Savior has been born tonight. You will find him in Bethlehem, lying in a manger.

Narrator: Suddenly the sky grew even brighter than before as many more angels appeared.

Angels: Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth.

Narrator: Then as quickly as the angels had come, they were gone.

Shepherd 1: We need to find the child the angel told us about.

Shepherd 3: Let's go right now into Bethlehem!

Narrator: The shepherds hurried and found the child lying in a manger, just as the angel had told them. They worshipped the newborn king, and they shared with everyone the message from the angels.

Shepherd 3: We were out on the hillside, keeping watch over our flocks, when suddenly the sky was full of angels glorifying and praising God.

Shepherd 2: They told us the Messiah had been born and where to find him. We found him just like the angels said. We saw his mother, Mary, and we told her about the angels.

Shepherd 1: And now we're telling you!

Shepherds: The Messiah is born! Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those whom God favors.

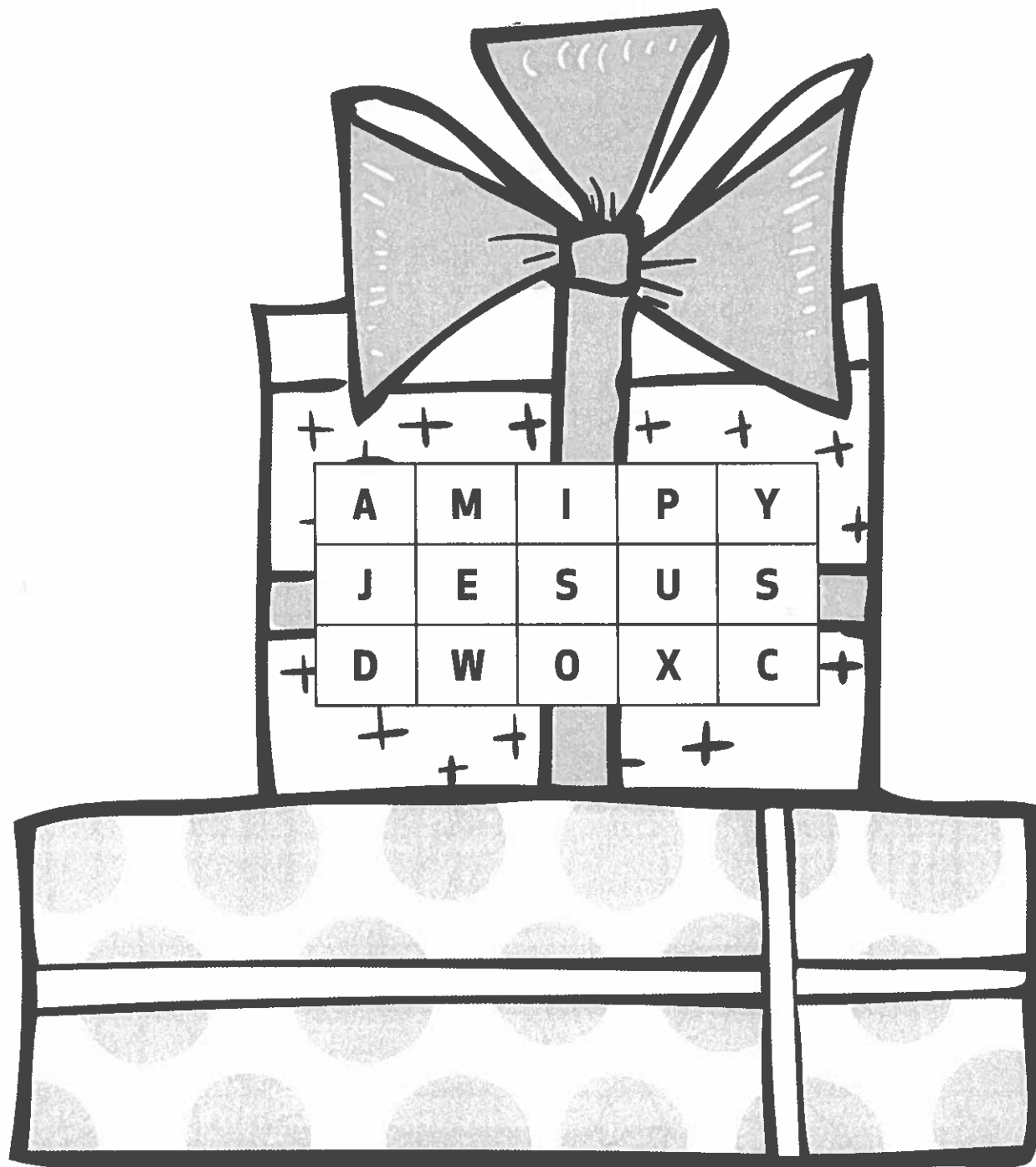
(Based on Luke 2)



Word Search – Puzzle (Preschool)

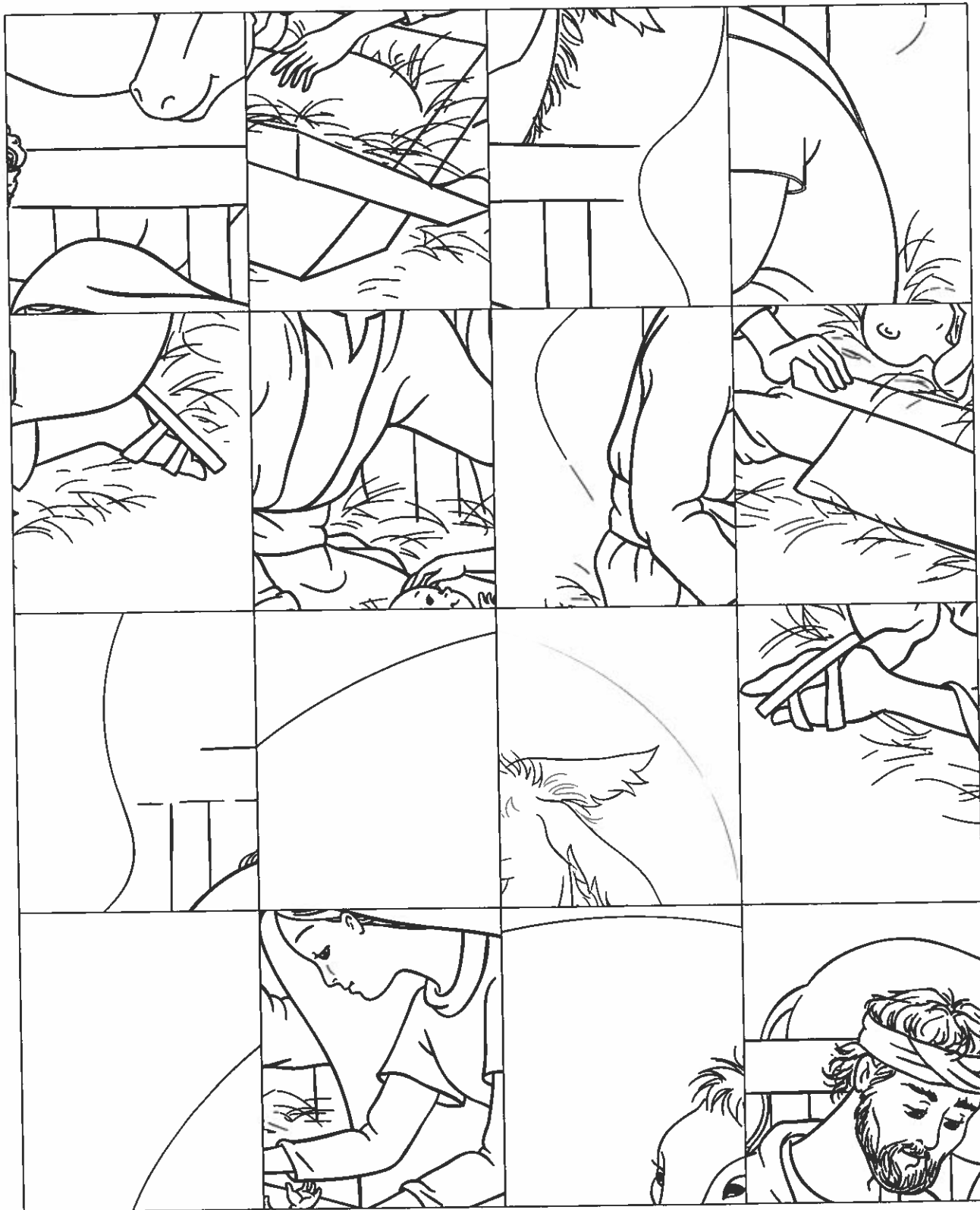
4b

Look in the word search for the name of the baby whose birthday we celebrate at Christmas.
That baby was God's greatest gift to the whole world.



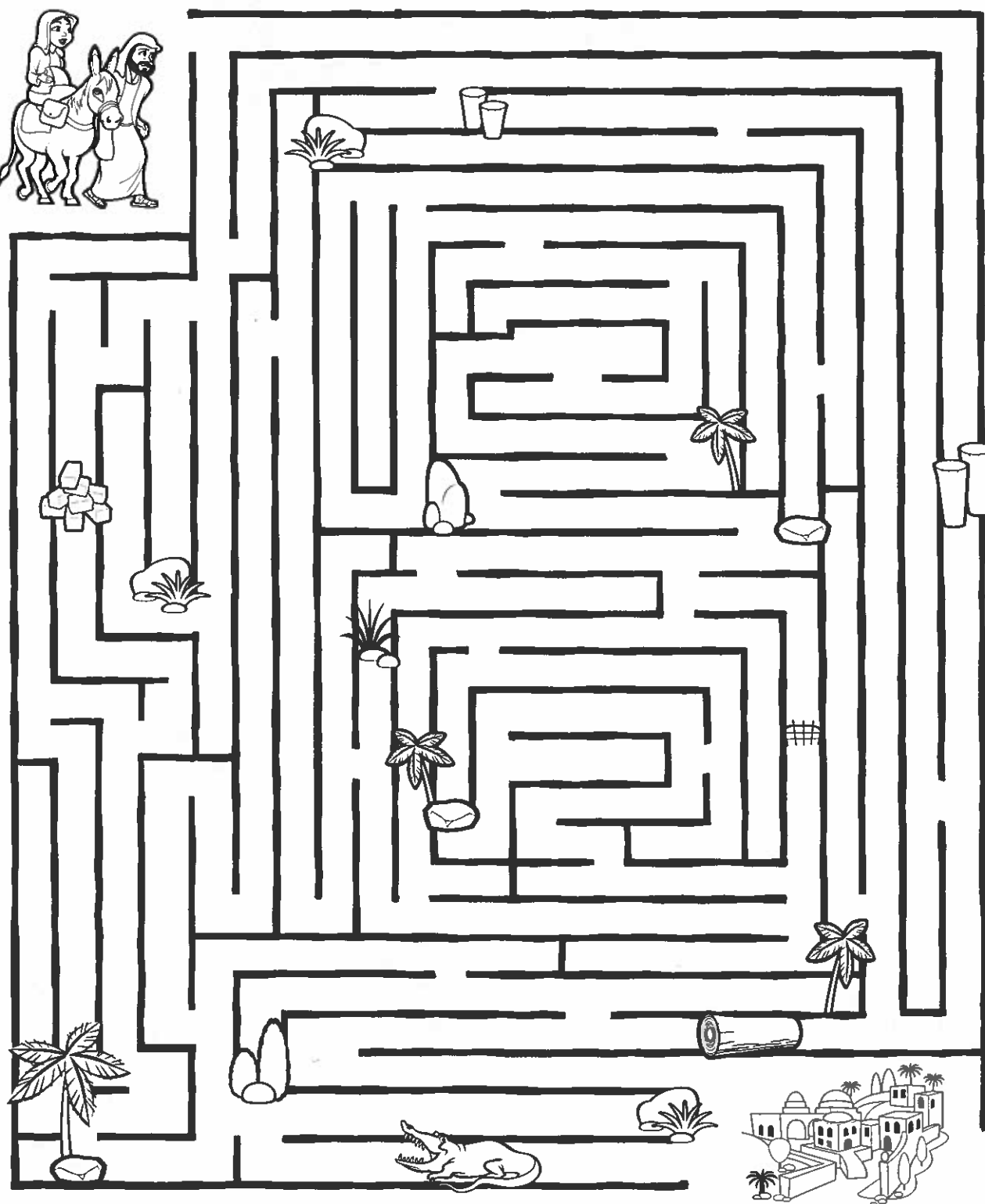
4c Manger Jigsaw – Puzzle (Younger Elementary)

Cut out the pieces of the manger jigsaw puzzle. Then assemble the puzzle to see the picture of the nativity scene.

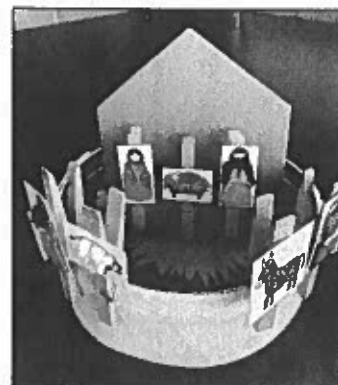
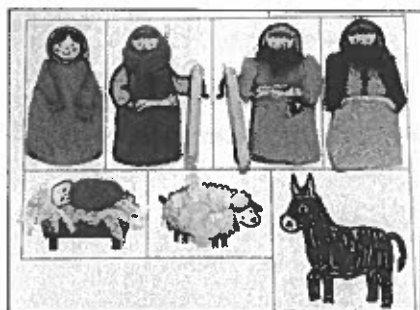
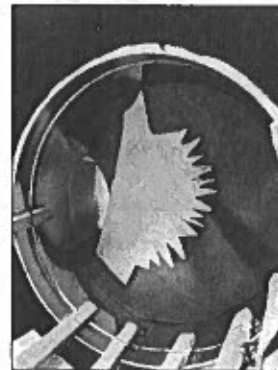
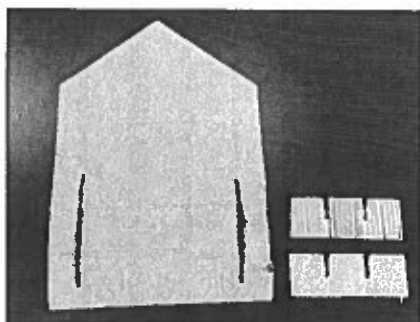
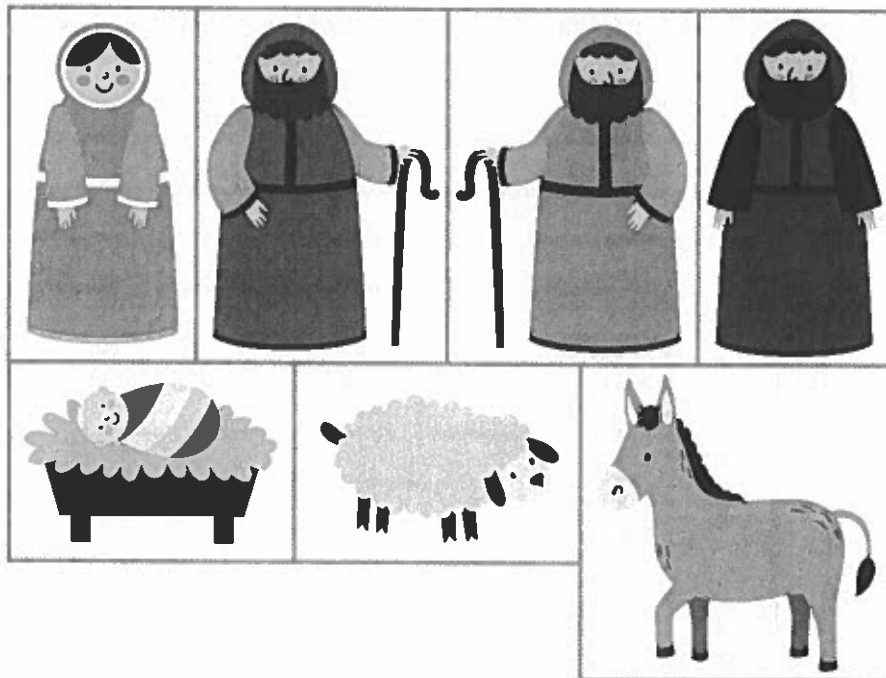


4d

A black and white line drawing of Mary and Joseph traveling. Mary is seated on a donkey, wearing a headscarf and a long dress, with a satchel hanging from its saddle. Joseph is walking beside the donkey, wearing a long robe and a head covering, looking towards Mary.



4e Clothespin Nativity – Craft



Come to Us, Emmanuel – Song

4f

In the days to come,
hope is all around us.
We await the One,
feel his love surround us.
A time that brings us happiness;
his story we retell.
Hope is almost here.
Come to us, Emmanuel.

You bring us everlasting peace
with songs of Noel.
Hope is born with you.
Come to us, Emmanuel.

Doo doo doo doo doo-oo-oo.

Words: Dennis Scott
© 2014 Act IV Music

In the days to come,
with anticipation
the season has begun—
joy and adoration.

You bring us everlasting peace
with songs of Noel.
Hope is almost here.
Come to us, Emmanuel.

Doo doo doo doo doo.
Doo doo doo doo doo doo.



4g Loving God/Loving Neighbor – Faith Family Devotional

Jesus Is Born

Luke 2:5-7

After making the long trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem, Joseph searched for a place they could stay overnight. He knew Mary was tired and uncomfortable, and she needed a good place to sleep. But the city was full of other people who had traveled there to register for the tax, and the only available space was a room where animals were kept. They made beds on the hay for a peaceful night's sleep, but it turned out to be an exciting night. Mary gave birth to her first child, a son. She wrapped him up snugly and laid him in a manger used for feeding the animals.

Verse of the Month

The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people." Luke 2:10

What Do You Think?

How have you celebrated the birth of a baby in your family and in your faith community.

How do you celebrate the birth of baby Jesus?

Family Activity

Talk about the special events that happened at the time of the births in your family.

As a family, make birth announcement cards for baby Jesus. Share them with your friends and neighbors and invite them to celebrate the birth of Jesus with you.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for babies and especially for baby Jesus. Help us celebrate his birth with everyone we know; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.