SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR: Advent 4A

Please refer to Guidelines for Children's Addresses in Worship document produced by the LCA Department of Liturgics and Grow Ministries - download guidelines <u>here</u>.

MAIN POINT

What does your name mean?

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

So the Lord's promise came true, just as the prophet had said, "A virgin will have a baby boy, and he will be called Immanuel," which means 'God is with us.' (Matthew 1:22-23)

AIDS

If you had made the paper chain from the first Sunday in Advent, take some time to remove the seven chains from the previous week and remind the children we are still waiting but the time is getting much closer for Christmas.)

ADDRESS

Do you know what your name means? Do you know why it was chosen for you? The angel told Joseph to give Mary's son the name Jesus, which means 'the Lord saves'. So what do you think this means for Jesus' life?

e.g. that he was going to save us, that we need saving

Jesus was born to save us. This is something very special that God would send his Son to save us. It shows how much he loves us.

Another name for Jesus is 'Immanuel' which means 'God with us'. Can you think of some ways that God is with us in our everyday lives?

e.g. through people who help us when we need help, people who look after us, people who love us, when we read our Bibles, when we pray and when we come to church

Maybe you can think of some ways to show people that God loves them by loving them and spending time with them.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for sending your Son Jesus to save us. Thank you that you are with us every day. Amen

You may wish to hand out *Growing Faith at Home* or another resource before the children return to their seats.



