

## OUR PART IN THE STORY:

### Daily devotions on Sunday's Narrative Lectionary text

#### Jesus as Immanuel Matthew 1:18-25

SHARE your highs and lows for the day.

READ *Sunday's entire text each day to learn the story deeply. his reading is probably very familiar to you. Try to listen for things you never noticed before when you read it again.*

- ❖ The very beginning of the Book of Matthew lists Jesus' genealogy, or family tree (1:1-16). Read it together. How many names do you recognize? Tell the stories of the ancestors you can recall.
- ❖ Draw your own family tree. See how far you can go back. What stories of your own ancestors can you find or remember?

TALK *about what you just read, and relate it to your highs and lows. The questions and prompts below are intended to spark discussion and action. Use one each day or several at one sitting.*

- ❖ What is the most important characteristic or fact about Joseph that you take from this reading?
- ❖ In naming Jesus, Joseph adopted him. Why is naming such a meaningful act?
- ❖ What would you have done if you were in Joseph's place and got very unexpected and troubling news?
- ❖ Do you ever have dreams that tell you something important?
- ❖ What is the significance of the name Immanuel (God with Us) to you?

PRAY *for your family and friends, for the courage to make important decisions, for your highs and lows, and for the presence of God with Us.*

BLESS *each other by making the sign of the cross on each other's forehead and saying, "God is with you."*

## OUR PART IN THE STORY:

### Daily readings based on Sunday's Narrative Lectionary text

#### Jesus as Immanuel Matthew 1:18-25

*Read a different text each day, and consider how it relates to Sunday's lesson and to your daily experiences.*

#### MONDAY: The Sign of Immanuel Isaiah 7:10-17

- ❖ Do you ever wish you had a sign from the Lord?

#### TUESDAY: The Coming King Isaiah 9:1-7

- ❖ Do you know anyone walking in darkness? What would be a great light to them?

#### WEDNESDAY: The Genealogy of Jesus Matthew 1:1-17

- ❖ Why do you think this extensive list of Jesus' ancestors was important to the gospel writer and his readers? What does it mean to you?

#### THURSDAY: Jesus is Born Luke 2:1-7

- ❖ What detail stands out to you the most in this reading? How can you read it again like you've never read it before?

#### FRIDAY: The Shepherds and the Angels Luke 2:8-14

- ❖ Why did the angels appear to the shepherds before anyone else? Why is that significant?

#### SATURDAY: The Shepherds and the Angels Luke 2:15-20

- ❖ Who do you think the shepherds told first? What do you think Mary was pondering?