



VINTAGE ADVENTURE

@ HOME

PEACE



Dear Vintage Adventure friends,

Once again the season of Christmas is fast approaching and our Vintage Adventure @ Home booklet for December is full of interesting, reflective and fun articles and activities. As you can see from our cover page, we are focussing on Jesus coming at Christmas and the angels promising that this is a season of 'peace on earth.' Perhaps as you read this statement, your reaction is, 'If only'. Not only are our news bulletins full of stories of war, violence and suffering – but the Christmas holidays are also times for many families of tension and emotional stress. Janet, in our reflection, reminds us that Jesus has promised to 'never leave us nor forsake us' – wherever we are, alone or with company, at all times of the year, including those moments, when we may feel left out or sad.

We consider the gift of letting go of things that have hurt us and offering forgiveness to others, making peace both with our fellow humans and with God, perhaps using the words of the prayer at the end of the reflection. The Prayer of St Francis of Assisi encourages us to be the bringers of peace within our own situation. Catherine Aldis has written a poem about resting in the arms of God and benefitting from the peace only He can give us.

For those of you who like history we include an account of the Christmas Day Truce of 1914 as well as some events which over the years, have happened in December. To balance the serious content, we have some beautiful artwork by Ann to enjoy as we reflect. And naturally, there is a variety of fun items which we hope you can spread over several days to help pass the time if you are on your own.

As we approach the end of another year, rest assured that you are each one, very precious to us. Despite what is happening in the world at large, may you welcome Jesus into your life, and sense God's peace. Be comforted that we are holding you in our prayers for God's blessing at Christmas and in the year to come.

*With all our love and Christmas greetings
Cynthia and your Caraway friends.*



Opening Prayer

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ,
Who came into the world as a baby, be with us all. Amen

Opening Scripture

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over His kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and for ever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. Isaiah chapter 9 v 6 & 7



Carol verse 1



It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
'Through all the earth, goodwill and peace from heaven's all gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Reflection

Jesus did not come into the world with great pomp and ceremony.
He came in the quiet of the night and yet He is the King of kings,
and angels sang with joy at His coming. I like to think they sing over us with
joy when we accept Jesus as our Saviour.



Bible Verses



A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord – and He will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, or decide by what He hears with His ears; but with righteousness He will judge the needy, with justice He will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth; with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be His belt and faithfulness the sash round His waist. Isaiah chapter 11 v 1-5.

Prayer

Dear Lord, You are powerful and majestic,
give Your people strength and peace each day. Amen.



Carol verse 2

With sorrow brought by sin and strife the world has suffered long
and, since the angels sang, have passed two thousand years of wrong:
the nations, still at war, hear not the love-song which they bring:
O hush the noise and cease the strife, to hear the angels sing!

Reflection

This world seems to be constantly full of war between one country and another. We see it on our TV screens daily, and sometimes we find it hard to see where God is in the strife. His heart is sad at our cruelty to each other. In the next few Bible verses we see how God intends for things to be.



Bible Verses

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. Isaiah chapter 11 v 6-9.



Prayer



Dear Lord, all Your promises You have kept, they are Yes and Amen. You never promised we would not have problems, but that You would be with us through all difficulties and struggles. Thank You. Amen.

Carol verse 3

And still the days are hastening on – by prophets seen of old –
towards the fulness of the time when comes the age foretold;
then earth and heaven renewed shall see the Prince of Peace, their King;
and all the world repeat the song which now the angels sing.



Blessing

May God bless you and keep you. Amen



Reflection

This is the time of year when we are bombarded with all the Christmas advertisements and many become stressed and worried over presents to be bought, cards to be sent and money to be spent and the reason for Christmas gets forgotten. The little boy born over two thousand years ago changed the history of the world. For those who know these events it is a time of rejoicing and celebration, for this little boy, Jesus, came to bring the love of God to those who felt unloved, to change our self-centeredness into caring for others, to bring us forgiveness for our sins and the hope of eternal life.



It's also the time when families get together to share time and celebrate, but it can also be a time of sadness when people are on their own, maybe through the loss of loved ones or family breakdowns when loneliness feels

more acute. If we are fortunate there will be friends or organisations who would love to have us, so please join them if this is the case. If you are nevertheless on your own remember that the greatest Christmas present has been given to all of us and His promise still stands today. Hebrews 13 v 5 says:



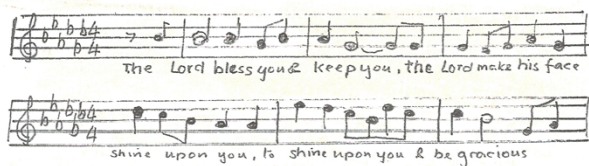
“Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you.”

May God's love, blessing and guidance be upon you all. Amen



THE LORD

BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE
TO SHINE UPON YOU AND
BE GRACIOUS UNTO YOU
THE LORD LIFT UP HIS
COUNTEenance UPON YOU
AND GIVE YOU HIS PEACE





David Bute moved to Ukraine to marry Katya in 1998 and they set up a ministry called 'Kreativity'. David sends an email every day with updates on their work during this time of war. Here David shares a few words on God's true peace for them at this time.

Ukraine News Update Day 636 of the war

Greetings from Ukraine! This week we are focusing on thanksgiving. On Saturday I shared in Church three key things for us to be grateful for - we've talked about the community of 317, and the idea of freedom. The third thing is peace. An unusual idea during war.

Peace looks different for each one of us. For someone, peace may mean drinking a cup of coffee without the children interrupting you. It could be going to sleep and not being disturbed by air raid sirens during the night, even though they go off. It could be not answering your phone that is ringing. Waking up early, sitting in the darkness, praying, thinking, dreaming. It could be a reunion with friends or family. A husband returned from the frontlines. It could be the peacefulness of the cemetery, peace to mourn the loss of someone you loved.

There are times of peace with God in the metaphorical 'cave', or times of peace with family around the 'table'. And just as with freedom, it is harder to find peace during war. But it is possible. I'm not talking about peace in this country or peace in the world. We hope and pray that will come. But being at peace with God will help us find peace with ourselves, and that will ultimately help us find peace with this world.

The dove is the international symbol of peace. Have you ever wondered why? Because the Holy Spirit is represented by a dove. *'As soon as Jesus was baptised, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him.'* Matthew 2:16



And this confirms to me that true peace is from God. True peace is found through being filled with the Holy Spirit. And that peace will then guide our thoughts, words and actions, at home, at work, at 317, on the frontlines, wherever we are.

Unfortunately, the Ukrainian language uses the same word for pigeon and dove. Maybe Ukrainians think the Holy Spirit is represented by a pigeon. When I spoke about this on Saturday night at 317, I wanted to get a real dove and release it as a symbol of peace. But it would have made a mess inside, and if we had done it outside, it would have died, either from the cold or from local air defences.

Today we pray that the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Completely plagiarised from Philippians 4.

David, Katya, and the Kreativitiy team

'CHRISTMAS' in ISRAEL

Kathy writes.....

Back in the summer, and in fact just a month before the terrible scenes we now see unfolding, my husband and I had the privilege of spending ten days in Israel. We visited at the hottest time of year, and it

was both incongruous and yet also completely natural to find elements of Christmas all around us, particularly in Bethlehem. We will never forget singing "Silent Night" in the Church of the Nativity there, or having lunch in a restaurant in Shepherds' Fields, which had Christmas decorations on the windows because as the proud owner said, "it is Christmas all year round here"! Wandering around the Old City of Jerusalem, we even came across a cobbled street with arrows directing us to Santa's House!





Looking out of the window of our hotel in Bethlehem, as the sun set and the moon rose over the city, it was overwhelming to think that we were gazing in wonder at the same skyline as the shepherds did in the distant hills on that silent night, as they waited for the word to become flesh.....

As Christmas approaches and our minds turn to the season of goodwill and peace, it is hard to make sense of what is going on in the world today, not just in Israel but also in Ukraine, we feel powerless, and our hearts yearn for the suffering to cease.

With this in mind, one of the most powerful pieces of artwork we saw on the West Bank Separation Wall in Bethlehem, was the striking picture of a girl releasing birds – perhaps doves - into the air, a poignant symbol of longed-for peace.



While the rest of the world carries on and we become immersed in our own Christmasses, let us continue to pray fervently for those suffering because of injustice both at home and throughout the world.

May those doves of peace soon be released.



Quick Puzzle

unscramble the letters below that all relate to Christmas

SETSPERN

VTNAED

YHLOL

KYTREU

TSRA

SJEUS

PRAWPGNI EPAPR

VYITATIN

SLEOTEMTI

Something to think about!

The greatest gift you can give or receive this Christmas

Ouch! That really hurt! All of us at some point in our lives will have been emotionally wounded by someone we trusted – perhaps a relative, friend, even someone at church. These wounds can go deep and for many years we may have nursed them. Sometimes tragically these wounds start to fester and bitterness can take root. Forgiveness isn't just a nice sentiment but a necessity if we want to live a healthy, joyful and useful life.



Just how do we forgive when the hurt runs so deep? Firstly, for our own well being – we choose to. We may not feel like it, but we take it to the Lord in prayer. We can say something like:

“Father, You know how much hurt me by his/her words/actions. I choose to forgive him/her and ask You to help me. I place them in Your hands. Forgive me for any hurt I may have caused. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.”

Leave this person with the Lord and then whenever they or the hurt comes into your mind, say “No, I have forgiven them”. After a while, feelings of forgiveness will follow. You don't have to contact them unless you want to.

Soon you will experience the wonderful peace of God as it floods your heart and mind as the heaviness of carrying that hurt leaves. You will be set free.

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you have a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3 verse 13

‘Not forgiving someone is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die’ Nelson Mandela

A prayer to find peace with God

Dear God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Thank You for sending Jesus to die for me. I ask You to forgive me of all my sins, the things I have done wrong. Please wash me, cleanse me and set me free. I ask Jesus to come into my heart and to be Lord over my life. I ask for Your grace and strength to walk with You every day. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

(Romans 10:9 / John 3:16-17)

Let us pray for you: Heavenly Father, we pray for the person reading this booklet. We ask that You would please give them the strength and ability to forgive those who have hurt them through words or wrong actions. May they experience Your deep lasting peace this Christmastime in all their relationships and Your wonderful freedom in their lives. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Prayer of Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an
instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred,
let me sow love:
where there is injury, pardon:
where there is doubt, faith:
where there is darkness, light:
where there is despair, hope,
and where there is sadness, joy.

Divine Master, grant that I
may not so much seek to
be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we
are pardoned,
and in dying that we are
born to eternal life.

PEACE IN THE MIDST OF WAR

24th -26th December 1914

World War 1



One of the British soldiers from World War 1 recalls: *We were in the front line ... about 300 yards from the Germans and ... on Christmas Eve we had been singing carols and the Germans had been doing the same and we been shouting to each other, sometimes rude remarks, more often just joking remarks. Eventually a German said, 'Tomorrow you no shoot, we no shoot.' What was interesting was that at Christmas both sides started to communicate in more friendly terms. It really began with the Germans singing Christmas carols and setting up Christmas trees on top of their parapets.*

In one part of the line, a German officer, Walter Kirchhoff, a Berlin Opera singer, sang a number of carols, including the one we know as Silent Night, Holy Night, first in German and then in English. Gradually soldiers from both sides crept out of their trenches into the no man's land, across to the barbed wire and started to exchange cigarettes, chocolates and makeshift gifts, sharing stories of families back home and agreeing on the misery of war.

A letter from 19 year old Henry Williamson to his mother recounts..
'Dear mother, I am writing from the trenches In my mouth is a pipe presented by Princess Mary. In the pipe is tobacco. Of course, you say, But wait. In the pipe is German tobacco. Haha, you say, from a prisoner or found in a captured trench. Oh dear, no! From a German soldier, yes, a live German soldier from his own trench. Yesterday the British and Germans met and shook hands in the Ground between the trenches and exchanged souvenirs and shook hands. Yes, all day Xmas Day, and as I write (on Boxing Day).....'

Sadly, this truce did not happen in every section of the front line and there were still deaths on that first Christmas Day of the war.

One day, when Jesus returns, God has promised there will be no more war and His peace will prevail throughout the universe. Instead of a partial, temporary peace, there will be an everlasting peace together with a new creation as perfect as He originally intended! There really will be Peace on Earth.

Deeper into You

Enfolded in Your peace,
leaning on Your goodness,
resting in Your arms,
surrounded by Your love,
tenderly laid on Your shoulder,
lifted by strong hands,
gently led forward
along Your way
through sorrow to joy,
darkness to light,
night to day,
from fear to freedom,
doubt to faith,
storm to calm,
turmoil to peace,
through life ...
to Life -
deeper into You

Catherine Aldis 2002 *Threads of Gold* p 32

These Days in History

24 and 25 December

24 December (Christmas Eve)

1818

The Christmas carol 'Silent Night' is sung for the first time in Austria.

1968

American astronauts on Apollo 8 become the first men to transmit a Christmas Eve message from space.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Howard Hughes Business Magnate & Aviator

Born: December 24th, 1905 **Died:** 1976 (aged 70)

Nationality: American

He was the son of a successful oil-drill tool manufacturer, inherited the family business at the age of 18. He used his fortune to finance films, gaining fame for big-budget pictures such as *The Hell's Angels* (1930). In Hollywood, Hughes developed a reputation as a playboy, dating actresses Katharine Hepburn, Ava Gardner and Ginger Rogers. Hughes developed a passion for flying and founded his own aircraft company in the early 1930s. Besides designing and building planes, he risked his own life testing planes and setting world air-speed records. After a plane accident in 1946, he became a recluse. He was married twice.



Christmas Day

1066

Duke William of Normandy (William the Conqueror) was crowned King of England.

1758

The sighting of Halley's Comet establishes the fact that it returns in a 76 year loop

Get crafty this Christmas....

Make a Dove made from a paper plate



1. Draw the shape of 2 wings and the dove's body

2. Cut shapes out



3. Glue or sellotape a wing either side of the body. Draw an eye. Colour in beak. Attach ribbon or string to hang up.

LORD, NOW LETTEST THOU THY SERVANT DEPART

IN PEACE

ACCORDING TO THY WORD, FOR MINE EYES HAVE SEEN

THY SALVATION

WHICH THOU HAST PREPARED BEFORE THE FACE OF ALL PEOPLE

TO
BE A

LIGHT

TO LIGHTEN THE GENTILES AND TO BE

THE

GLORY

OF THY PEOPLE ISRAEL

LUKE 2:29-32

CHRISTMAS JOKES



Xmas Turkey - It was Christmas Eve at the meat counter and a woman was anxiously picking over the last few remaining turkeys in the hope of finding a large one. In desperation she called over a shop assistant and said "EXCUSE ME, DO THESE TURKEYS GET ANY BIGGER?"

"NO MADAM" he replied, "THEY'RE ALL DEAD."

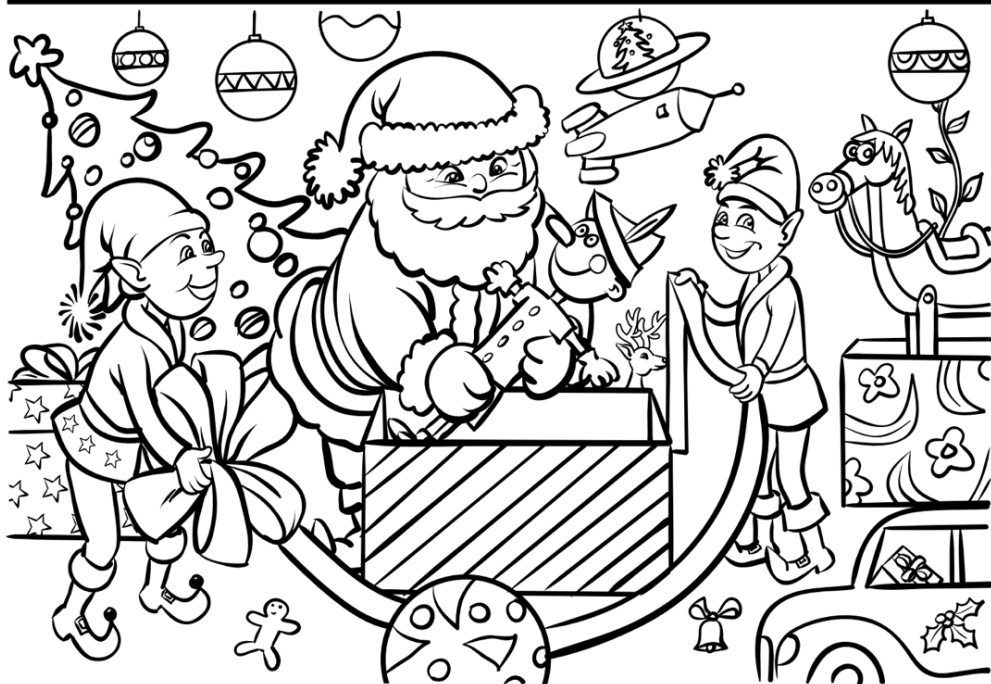
Santa's Outfit How do you know Santa has to be a man?

Because no woman is going to wear the same outfit year after year!

Christmas Shopping - It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner in the dock "What are you charged with?" The prisoner replied "Doing my Christmas shopping too early". "That's no crime" said the magistrate - "Just how early were you doing this shopping?" "Before the shop opened" answered the prisoner.



Spot the Differences! Can you find all 10?



Fun Riddle for Christmas

*I can be long, I can be short
I can grow and I can be bought
I can be painted, or left bare
I can be round, or I can be square*

To answer this riddle, follow the steps below. Once complete, the unmarked words will reveal the answer.

- Cross out 6 Christmas desserts
- Tick 6 countries where a white Christmas is a possibility
- Circle 7 things 'My true love sent to me'
- Underline the names of Santa's 8 reindeer
- Scribble through 8 popular Christmas decorations
- Shade 6 items of winter clothing



Fruitcake	Dasher	Gloves	Holly	England	Hens
Doves	Poinsettia	Eggnog	Canada	Dancer	Sweater
Ireland	Vixen	Coat	Partridge	Cupid	Candles
Scarf	Mince Pie	Prancer	Trifle	Angels	Germany
Garlands	Lords	Donder	Swans	Marzipan	Blixen
Russia	Fingernails	Geese	Wreaths	Ear Muffs	Stars
Maids	Mistletoe	Boots	Pudding	Austria	Comet

Word Search

CHRISTMAS



P C A W S U N A T I V I T Y
R U A F L T P M A N G E R S
B E W R G J O A X R D O H H
E S I A O S R C R E K M O E
T A S N D L S M K A F S L P
H L E K D V S E M I B O L H
L V M I J E E K I M N L Y E
E A E N B P E N S Y S G E R
H T N C S Y H R T J P A S D
E I J E R U S A L E M W K S
M O N N C A R P E N T E R F
L N O S U Y F T T F E A S T
V L E E H C I Q O K Z H V S
U R L P R O P H E C Y D K G

Bethlehem

Noel

Prophecy

Shepherds

Mistletoe

Carpenter

Jerusalem

Salvation

Reindeer

Stockings

Frankincense

Nativity

Feast

Advent

Holly

Manger

Parable

Carols

Wisemen

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE



A crossword puzzle grid with 20 numbered starting points for words. The grid is composed of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. Numbers 1 through 20 are placed in the top-left corner of the starting squares for each word.

The grid layout is as follows:

- Row 1: 16 (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), 12 (black), (black), (black)
- Row 2: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 3: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 4: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 5: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 6: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 7: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 8: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 9: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 10: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 11: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 12: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 13: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 14: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 15: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 16: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 17: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 18: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 19: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)
- Row 20: (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black), (black)

The numbered starting points are:

- 1: Row 10, Column 1
- 2: Row 10, Column 4
- 3: Row 10, Column 7
- 4: Row 10, Column 10
- 5: Row 10, Column 13
- 6: Row 10, Column 16
- 7: Row 10, Column 19
- 8: Row 10, Column 22
- 9: Row 10, Column 25
- 10: Row 10, Column 28
- 11: Row 10, Column 31
- 12: Row 10, Column 34
- 13: Row 10, Column 37
- 14: Row 10, Column 40
- 15: Row 10, Column 43
- 16: Row 10, Column 46
- 17: Row 10, Column 49
- 18: Row 10, Column 52
- 19: Row 10, Column 55
- 20: Row 10, Column 58

Crossword Clues



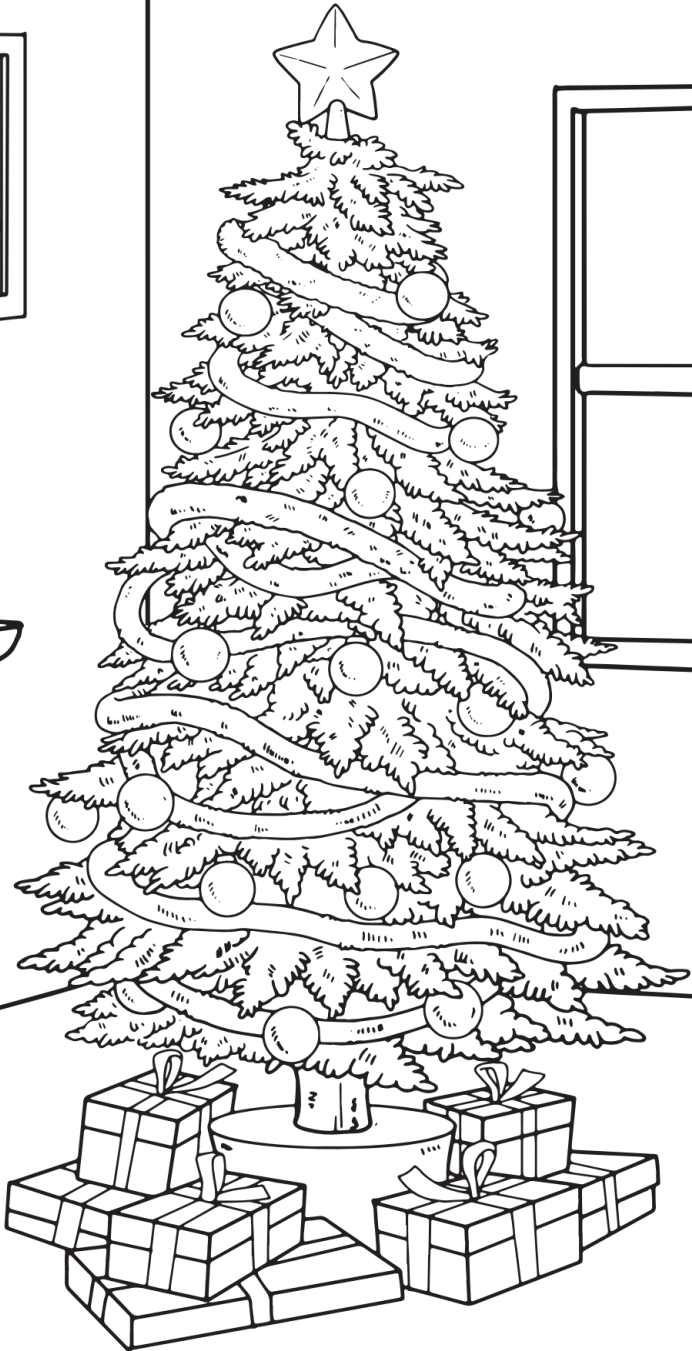
Across

- 1 Stand underneath this to get a kiss
- 5 Open this calendar one day at a time
- 7 Christmas songs
- 8 The colour of Rudolph the Reindeer's nose
- 11 Traditional meat for Christmas dinner
- 13 Bright light in the night sky
- 14 Little helpers
- 16 City where Jesus was born
- 19 Hang this on your door

Down

- 2 Where Santa lives
- 3 The scene depicting the Christmas story
- 6 Another name for gifts
- 9 Made of wax and shines brightly
- 10 The Christmas Season
- 12 Evergreen with red berries
- 13 Keeper of the flocks
- 15 One of the Christmas colours
- 17 One of the Three Wise Men
- 18 Santa's favourite animals
- 20 Hang it up on Christmas Eve





Word Search



PEACE

Q N R D I L I G E N C E D T
W W E G R A T I T U D E N P
C F S A P A T I E N C E G R
Z O P R C A R I N G M D T R
F R O O S W G T J T M D O N
R G N P H I G U I O T X L O
I I S K E U N M T C D O E B
E V I U M R M C E A H F R E
N E B K K O A P E B V Y A D
D N I Z C Q S T M R O R N I
S E L Y K E N L I J I Q C E
H S I P R W G D X O P T E N
I S T E A M W O R K N M Y C
P Z Y A V H U M I L I T Y E

Sincerity

Diligence

Cooperation

Commitment

Forgiveness

Responsibility

Friendship

Obedience

Respect

Patience

Teamwork

Caring

Gratitude

Tolerance

Humility

Joy

The Caraway Team thank you for your support this year and we all wish you a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

We leave you with the words of Jesus from John 14 verse 27:

My peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

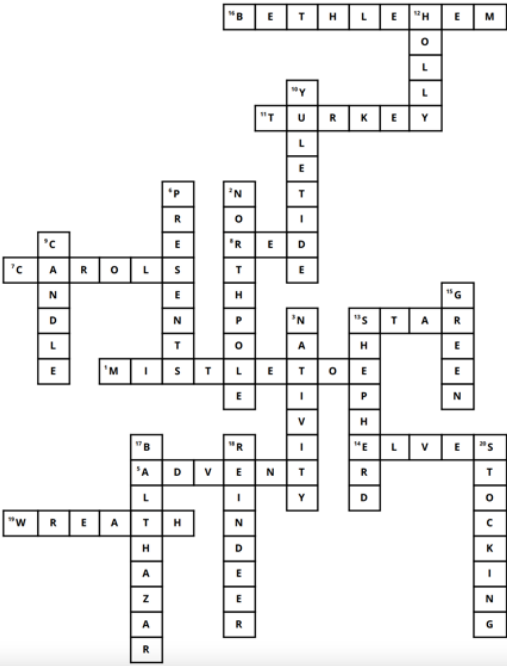
Puzzle answers

UNSCRAMBLE LETTERS

- PRESENTS
- JESUS
- ADVENT
- WRAPPING PAPER
- HOLLY
- NATIVITY
- TURKEY
- MISTLETOE
- STAR

Crossword

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Spot the Differences! Answers.



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Messy Vintage

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