

# "The Journey to Bethlehem"

December

2011



GLENDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Mustard Seed - December 2011

On the jacket to his book, The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem, Rev. Adam Hamilton says this about his book.

*"It is one of Western civilization's best-known stories. For two thousand years it has been told and retold, preached and sung about. We celebrate it every year with Christmas trees and lights, with gifts and cards, carols and hymns. And yet, its very familiarity may keep us from fully grasping its riches."*

*"The purpose of this book is to explore the story of the birth of Jesus with fresh eyes and ears. We will walk through the Holy Land and retrace the steps of those involved. We'll draw upon insights gained from historians, archaeologists, biblical scholars, theologians and from walking in the places the story occurred, all in an effort to discover the real meaning of Christmas."*

You can journey with Adam Hamilton as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. You can follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and others, gaining insight into our own journeys with Christ.

This Advent and Christmas, I invite you to join others here at Glendale UMC on this journey. We have the books available for \$11 each, and there are two small groups that will be studying and discussing the book. One meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM and the other meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 AM. You are encouraged to sign up for one or the other. Participants will gain the most from the book, DVD clips from the Holy Land, and other material.

Also during this season, I will be using the book as a basis for our weekly worship services as we follow a theme of Journey, following our own path to the manger. Each Sunday we will build on one of the insights from the book. My sermons will deal with different qualities of the characters, qualities we can learn from and pray for ourselves. Each Sunday there will be creative ideas to tap the spiritual learning's from Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, and the Shepherds. Come journey and grow with us. On Christmas Eve we will gather at the manger and celebrate with Mary and Joseph, the Angels, shepherds, and wise men.

With Christmas falling on a Sunday, we are offering two opportunities this year on Christmas Morning. One will be a short worship service of mostly carols and a short message at the regular 9:00 AM time. The other will be an opportunity to take a "pilgrimage" to Bethlehem by coming to the church any time between 8:00 and noon. The church will be open for people to come and spend as much or as little time as they wish visiting each of the stations we create on the Sunday's in Advent. It can be a time of prayer and reflection. As people visit the stations there will be things to interact with and hopefully help you remember and experience the insights from our Advent journey that has brought us into the presence of the new-born savior.

We hope you will journey with us this Advent and Christmas; not only in worship but in one of the study groups.

- Pastor Dave

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## Advent & Christmas Schedule

### Advent Study - The Journey \*

Nov. 21, 7 PM	Small group study: Mary of Nazareth
Nov. 28, 7 PM	Small group study: Joseph of Bethlehem
Dec. 5, 7 PM	Small group study: Mary's Visit to Elizabeth
Dec. 12, 7 PM	Small group study: From Nazareth to Bethlehem
Dec. 19, 7 PM	Small group study: The Manger

\* Women's Study Group will offer the Advent Study on Wednesdays (9am-11am) Nov 23, 30, Dec 7, 21, 28

### Advent and Christmas Worship

Sunday Worship,	Nov. 27	Mary of Nazareth - "Willingness"
Sunday Worship,	Dec. 4	Joseph of Bethlehem - "Mercy"
Sunday Worship,	Dec. 11	Mary's Visit to Elizabeth - "Encouragement"
Sunday Worship,	Dec. 18	"Sunday School Christmas Program"

### Christmas Eve, Saturday, Dec. 24

5:00 PM	Family Worship geared toward children
9:00 PM	Traditional Lessons and Carols Service

### Christmas Morning, Sunday, Dec. 25

8:00 AM-9:00 AM & 10:00 AM-Noon

Church will be open for personal pilgrimage and prayer. Come anytime. Spend as much or as little time as you wish praying at the various stations that have led us through Advent to the manger.

9:00 AM	Christmas Day worship; singing and reflection
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The Journey  
Walking the Road to Bethlehem

a simple girl | an ordinary man | an unforgettable destination

# Christmas Traditions

## Fellowship Event

Wednesday, Dec 14 at 5:00 pm

*Christmas Caroling*

*Hot Chocolate*

*& Potluck Meal*

*the sounds of Christmas Cheer!*



## Sunday School Christmas Program

December 18 Worship Service

Practice sessions during Sunday School

**Dress Rehearsal on**

**Saturday, Dec 17, 4:00 – 6:00pm**

(a light meal will be served )

Questions?  
Contact Lisa Friesen



## United Methodist Women Annual Christmas Bake Sale

A fundraiser for UMW Missions: Emma Norton Services, The Family Place, OXFAM America, UMCOR

- \* Donate your favorite home-made cookies, candy, baked goods (sign up sheet at UMW table in Fellowship Hall)
- \* Be a helper on sale day (sign up sheet at UMW table)
- \* Come to the sale and purchase Christmas goodies (buy one of a kind or an assortment - priced by the pound)

Questions? Contact Lisa Friesen (952-403-0773 / [lisa.friesen@live.com](mailto:lisa.friesen@live.com))

## Christmas Poinsettia Garden

Give in Honor/Memory of a special person  
or share a message of  
Christmas Blessing



6.5" (single plant)

\$10.99

8.5" (2-plant pot)

\$16.99

Orders will be taken through Dec 11

## UMCOR Coffee Project

Fair trade coffee, teas and chocolate bars make tasty hostess, teacher and holiday gifts for that hard to shop for friend. Give the gift that gives twice. Products are available for purchase after church in the fellowship hall.





## The Christmas/Birthday Party

Friday, December 16th, from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.  
at Bridgewood Church



### PURPOSE OF THE EVENT

To reach out to the poor and the working poor with a Christian based holiday event which demonstrates the love of Christ by imitating Him through sharing fellowship, eating a meal together, listening to live Christian music and participating in fun activities.

### MEAL

Homemade potato salad and beans; ham and turkey sandwiches, cheese, veggie tray, fruit tray and birthday cake.

### NEEDED

Volunteers to play with children; help with meal, etc.  
Money for door prizes, donations of NEW pairs of socks – child and adult

### Bridgewood contacts

Carole Saathoff: [csaathoff44@integra.net](mailto:csaathoff44@integra.net)

### Glendale contacts:

Ann Scarborough: 952-994-1790 OR

Lynn Van Osdale: 952-233-1795



**THANK YOU !  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT AT OUR  
FALL FESTIVAL SALE**

Thank you to the volunteers and shoppers at the recent Ten Thousand Villages Fall Festival. The hope of increased sales was met and excitement is growing as more people came from throughout the community to support this annual mission of GUMC.

Merchandise sales totaled **\$2400**. Ninety percent of the total goes to fair trade artisans, and Glendale Missions selected "Imagine No Malaria" to receive our ten percent donation of \$240.

**Special thanks** to Marsha Hill and her crew for setting up, Bob Scarborough and Arlys Meeker for keeping the record books, Deb Gorczycki for communications and to all of you who posted announcements in your staff rooms or invited friends to the festival.

*Thank You!*

### **Results of American Red Cross Blood Drive – held on October 27**

*Because of your efforts, there are a total of 49 new pints of blood now available for patient care.*

*Thank You! Through every season, throughout every community across the nation, hospitals and patients rely on the American Red Cross to meet their needs for blood transfusions. In turn, the American Red Cross relies on the generosity and dedication of its sponsors, volunteers and donors to support its life-saving mission. Without you, we could not save lives. You are the lifeblood of our organization and we are so grateful for you and all that you do.*

**Next Blood Drive is January 26, 2-7pm**



The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
Give Blood.



### **Remember Our Community Food Shelves**

**Suggested nonperishable donations:**

soups, boxed meals, beans, fruit, cereal, canned meat, rice, pasta, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, toothpaste, shampoo, toilet paper, diapers, laundry detergent.

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM WALKING BY FAITH KIDS

The Walking by Faith kids have had a good month – we have been studying how to be kind to each other and respect each other the Jesus would respect us. We made ghost cookies one night and I am not sure if we had more of the frosting on ourselves or the cookies but we had a good time and shared our cookies with the choir.

We are planning to join the UMW on December 10th when they hold their bake sale and sell some of our crafts to help earn money for summer camp. We are already looking forward to camp! Some of the items we will be preparing for the sale are fire starters, God's eyes, and stocking stuffer ideas. Please come see us on the 10th of December.

Sandy & Jessica and the WBF Gang

## DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:

- ◆ Wednesday, Dec 21: No Meeting – Merry Christmas!
- ◆ Wed, Dec 28 Service Project: Feed My Starving Children



## C.H.A.O.S. Jr. High Youth (grades 7-8)

*Christ's Helpers Always Offering Son-shine*

**Sunday, Dec 4:** Meet at church for games and make plans for the next few months. Bring your activity calendars for December, January, February so we can try to plan around school, sports, band & other schedules you may have.

**Sunday Dec 11:** to be decided

**Sunday, Dec 18:** Meet at church to decorate cookies and take them to some of our older members (you will get to eat cookies too!)

**Sunday Dec 25:** No Meeting – Merry Christmas!

**Wednesday, Dec 28:** join with the Walking By Faith Kids to serve at Feed My Children (afternoon, time to be announced)

## Walking By Faith

(grades 4 – 6)

Led by Sandy Driscoll and Jessica Randol, they meet on Wednesday nights from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Fun, fellowship, hands-on-Bible lessons and service projects to share the love of Jesus.

## C.H.A.O.S.

### Jr. High Youth (grades 7-8)

Led by Linda Vanderwerf and Pastor Dave, the group meets three times a month on Sunday afternoons from 2:00pm to 3:30pm. Two of those meetings will be here at the church for fun and fellowship, and the third will usually be off-site for either a fun outing, or a service project.



## FOR SR. HIGH YOUTH & PARENTS DEC 4 AT 3:30PM

Youth Leaders, Rich Carlson, Laura Schostag and Pastor Dave are hosting a meeting for Senior High Youth and their Parents to share ideas and input on the future of AFTERSHOCK youth group. Your participation is important and we would like to hear from you.

If you are unable to attend, please contact Pastor Dave to share any feedback you have for us. Your input is important.

## Advent Reflection

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the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!'

Luke 2:10-14



An excerpt from "The Night of the Child", by Robert Benson

It will be up to us to prepare our hearts for the Night of the Child, to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight the paths. It will be up to us to make a journey of sorts toward Bethlehem, to spend some time listening to the story as it weaves its way through Advent. We are the ones who must make room in our hearts for the story to speak, who must listen carefully to its twists and its turns, listening for the places where it begins to tell us our own story.

The season will be full of stories, of family and friends, of Christmases long ago, of memories and hopes and half-forgotten days gone by. And in the midst of them, we must take care that we do not neglect the telling of the story. We must be present to its telling, if we hope for it to touch our hearts. We are the ones who must ponder in our hearts what all of this has to teach us about the Story of us all.

It will be up to us to leave our flocks and our fields unattended for a while. It will fall to us to manage our time and our energy and our calendars and our schedules. We are the ones who must make sure that there is a place and the time to be silent and thoughtful, to rest and contemplate. We are the ones who must seek out the time to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Night of the Child.

...If we would see the Child on this Night, then we must be prepared perhaps even to be a child on this Night, to let our imagination and our hope and our faith carry us to some new way of seeing, some new way of hearing, so that our eyes might be opened and our ears might be too, so that our hearts might be quickened and our spirits might be touched.

**Behold, I am about to do something new. Can you not perceive it?**

It is the annual question that accompanies the Promise and the story and the Night of the Child itself.

We hope that when all is said and done we can say yes this year, along with Mary and with Joseph.

We hope too that the glory of the Lord shines round about us some too this year, perhaps even enough to make us sore afraid and then to send us off to try to describe it to someone.

We hope that when the angels begin to sing that we join in with as much joy as we can muster.

And we hope that we can find a gift of something dear and something precious to offer in the stable alongside the ones who came seeking the star and found the child.

We hope that when this something new happens again this year that we can indeed perceive it. And that we see it as the fulfillment of the Promise itself.

**The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we have beheld his glory.  
And from him we have received grace upon grace upon grace.**

John 1:14-16

## Small Groups / Fellowship



### UMW Mission Project

#### Collecting Items for THE FAMILY PLACE

THE FAMILY PLACE is a day shelter for families with children in Ramsey County, providing food, shelter and safety as well as a connection to resources. Along with encouragement and support, they provide healthy meals, shower & laundry facilities.  
(www.famplace.org)

Between now and Christmas, UMW will be collecting the following items:

- socks & underwear (new)
- disposable diapers (all sizes except newborn)
- hats & gloves for all ages (new / gently used)
- bath towels & wash cloths



*Thanks for supporting families  
with these basic needs*



**Adult group opportunities are open to all.  
Please join in whenever you are available.**

**QUILTERS** every other Monday, 7-9pm  
at Paula Gaboury's home (952-220-2946). Devotions,  
followed by work on individual or service projects.  
This is an open group—all are invited to attend  
whenever you are able.  
**Next meetings: December 5 & 19**

**MEN'S GROUP** Tuesdays, 6-7 AM Join us for a  
time of devotion, prayer, sharing and reflection. A  
great way to start your day and center your week.  
Come every week or drop in when you can.  
Contact: Bob Black (952-440-9434)

**BOOK CLUB** meets monthly to discuss the book of  
the month (see website for list). All are welcome to  
join in when you can.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, December 20 at 7pm.**  
The December book group will have fun reading  
WHY MY THIRD HUSBAND WILL BE A DOG by Lisa  
Scottoline. The laughter will be shared at the home  
of Joan Geyer. Call Joan for directions (952-496-  
0276). Visitors are welcome. Call Barbara Taylor to  
car pool (952 226 4109).

PS: NO husbands allowed!

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** Wednesdays, 9:00 am,  
meetings are held at church in the Fellowship Hall.  
Current study for Advent: The Journey-Walking the  
Road to Bethlehem. (progressive lunch on Dec 14)  
Contact: Arlys Meeker (952-447-3336)

**CRAFT CIRCLE** Wednesdays from 1-4pm at the  
home of Sally Rutherford (952-447-5962). Bring your  
own items to work on or help with ongoing projects.  
**NO MEETING on December 14 & 28**

### SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT CLASSES

Two classes are offered each Sunday at 10:20 am

1. Bible Study on the book of Acts
2. Applying Our Faith class  
Series: "Four Gospels, One Story"

# December Schedule

## Committee Meeting Dates:

Education Committee: Thursday, Dec 1, at 7:00pm (Library)

United Methodist Women: Saturday, Dec 10, at 9:00am (Fellowship Hall)

Missions Committee: Saturday, Dec 17, at 8:30am (Library)

## Due Dates For Newsletter Items:

**Happenings** each week on **Wednesday**

## **Worship Assistant Schedule**

*If you are unable to be in church, please find a replacement prior to Sunday*

### Greeters

Dec 4: Curt & Denise Kahleck  
 Dec 11: Brian & Mary Davis  
 Dec 18: Doug & Sue Lenz  
 Dec 25: Tom & Bev Parent

### Nursery (during worship)

Lynda Otten  
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 Barbara Taylor

### Audio/Visual

Dec 4: Sydney Skarbalus/Aimee Whitaker  
 Dec 11: Bob Scarborough  
 Dec 18: Sammy Seefeld  
 Dec 25: Trevor Hill/Austin Whitaker

### Ushers

Natalie Olive/Marsha Hill  
 Jeff & Mary Randol  
 Elwood & Virginia Ramsey  
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### Liturgist

Dec 4: Jeff Randol  
 Dec 11: Carolyn Sefkow  
 Dec 18: Paula Gaboury  
 Dec 25: Diane Kammer

### Children's Message

Judi Carlson  
 Lynn Van Osdale  
 Cindy Whitaker  
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### Acolytes

Dec 4: Connor & Hunter Friesen  
 Dec 11: Bailey Skarbalus/Emily Graba  
 Dec 18: Hunter Friesen/Carlos Marquez-Lopez  
 Dec 25: Carlos & Isaiah Marquez-Lopez

### Altar Flowers

Lynn Van Osdale  
 Poinsettia Garden

### Fellowship Hosts

Dec 4: Mike & Shelley Shultz  
 Dec 11: Bob & Janice Black  
 Dec 18: Lisa Duffy family  
 Dec 25: Lynn Van Osdale

### Offering Counters

Brian Davis/Paul Libra  
 Ron Hill/John Skarbalus  
 Karl Brown/Karle Nolte  
 Rhonda Seefeld/Kay Dunning



*Congratulations  
& Blessings to*

Brian & Victoria Fett  
 on the birth of their daughter  
**Xaylia Ruth Fett**  
 Born November 6

## *December Birthdays*



2 - Shelley Shultz  
 5 - Felipe Ramirez  
 5 - Mike Shultz  
 8 - Greyson Crowder  
 8 - Courtney Dack  
 12 - Dave Bosshart  
 14 - Grant Horwath  
 14 - Duane Meier  
 15 - Kyle Friesen  
 20 - Sheryl Helin  
 20 - Joel Peterson  
 21 - Trevor Hill  
 21 - Daniel Schwartz  
 21 - Michael Schwartz  
 23 - Paula Gaboury  
 24 - Michael Dunning  
 24 - Lynette Ramirez  
 28 - Chase Bosshart

## *December Anniversaries*



7 - Mike & Shelley Shultz  
 8 - Elwood & Virginia Ramsey  
 9 - Dale & Sally Rutherford  
 13 - Tom & Bev Parent  
 18 - Tony & Julie Cincotta  
 18 - Mike & Sandy Driscoll


Glendale UMC  
952-894-5394

Office Hours:  
Mon - Fri 8:30am - 12:30pm

glendalechurch@msn.com  
www.glendalechurchumc.org

# December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
K—Kitchen F—Fellowship Hall S—Sanctuary	L—Library Y—Youth Room D—Downstairs	<i>please check with the church office prior to scheduling activities</i>					
<b>Nov 27</b> <i>Advent #1</i> 6:00a Hispanic Church-L <b>9:00a Worship</b> <b>10:00a Fellowship</b> <b>10:20a Sunday School</b> 5:00p Hispanic Church-S	<b>Nov 28</b> <b>7:00p Journey-L</b> (Advent study)	<b>Nov 29</b> <b>6:00a Men's Grp-L</b>	<b>Nov 30</b> <b>9:00a Journey - F</b> (Advent study) <b>No Craft Circle today</b>  <b>6:20p Choir - S</b> <b>7:00p WBF - L</b> <b>7:30p Praise Team -S</b>	<b>1</b>  <b>7:00p Dixieland-S</b> <b>7:00p Education Committee-L</b>	<b>2</b>  <b>6:00p Hispanic Church-L</b>	<b>3</b> <b>10a-3p Russian Ed</b> (downstairs & library)	
<b>4</b> <i>Advent #2</i> 6:00a Hispanic Church-L <b>9:00a Worship &amp; Communion</b> <b>10:00a Fellowship</b> <b>10:20a Sunday School</b> 1- 4p Piano Recital-S/F (Tania Johnson) 5:00p Hispanic Church-S	<b>5</b>  <b>7:00p Quilters</b> (Gaboury's) <b>7:00p Journey-L</b> (Advent study)	<b>6</b> <b>6:00a Men's Grp-L</b>	<b>7</b> <b>9:00a Journey - F</b> (Advent study) <b>1:00p Craft Circle</b> (Rutherford's)  <b>6:20p Choir - S</b> <b>7:00p WBF - L</b> <b>7:30p Praise Team -S</b>	<b>8</b>  <b>6:30p GS #13676-D</b>	<b>9</b>  <b>6:00p Hispanic Church -L</b>	<b>10</b> <b>9:00a UMW mtg - F</b> <b>10a-1p UMW Holiday Cookie/Candy Sale</b> <b>10a-3p Russian Ed</b> (downstairs & library)	
<b>11</b> <i>Advent #3</i> 6:00a Hispanic Church-L  <b>9:00a Worship</b> <b>10:00a Fellowship</b> <b>10:20a Sunday School</b> 5:00p Hispanic Church-S	<b>12</b>  6:30p Girl Scout Leaders - F <b>7:00p Journey-L</b> (Advent study)	<b>13</b> <b>6:00a Men's Grp-L</b>	<b>14</b> <b>No Bible Study</b> (luncheon) <b>No Craft Circle</b>  <b>5:00p Caroling &amp; Potluck Meal - F</b> <b>6:20p Choir - S</b> <b>7:00p WBF - L</b> <b>7:30p Praise Team -S</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  5:00p Daycare Holiday party-K/F (Elena) <b>6:00p Hispanic Church -L</b>	<b>17</b> <b>8:30a Missions - L</b> <b>10a-3p Russian Ed</b> Holiday Party - K/F/S <b>4-7p Practice for Christmas program - K/F/S</b>	
<b>18</b> <i>Advent #4</i> 6:00a Hispanic Church-L <b>9:00a Worship &amp; Christmas Program</b> <b>10:00a Fellowship</b> <b>No Children/Youth SS</b> <b>10:20a Adult SS</b> 5:00p Hispanic Church-S	<b>19</b>  <b>7:00p Quilters</b> (Gaboury's) <b>7:00p Journey-L</b> (Advent study)	<b>20</b> <b>6:00a Men's Grp-L</b>  6:30p GS #16001-D <b>7:00p Book Club</b> (Joan Geyer)	<b>21</b> <i>Mustard Seed items due</i> <b>9:00a Journey - F</b> (Advent study) <b>1:00p Craft Circle</b> (Rutherford's)  <b>6:20p Choir - S</b> <b>No WBF</b> <b>7:30p Praise Team -S</b>	<b>22</b>  <b>6:30p GS #13676-D</b>	<b>23</b>  <b>6:00p Hispanic Church -L</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:</b> <b>5:00p Family Worship</b> <b>9:00p Traditional</b>	
<b>25</b> <i>Merry Christmas!</i> 6:00a Hispanic Church-L <b>8am-10am Prayer</b> <b>9:00a Worship</b> <b>10am-12pm Prayer</b> <b>10:00a Fellowship</b> <b>NO Sunday School today</b> 5:00p Hispanic Church-S	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>6:00a Men's Grp-L</b>	<b>28</b> <b>9:00a Bible Study - F</b> <b>NO Craft Circle today</b>  <b>WBF &amp; CHAOS at Feed My Starving Children</b> <b>6:20p Choir - S</b> <b>No Praise Team -S</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  <b>6:00p Hispanic Church -L</b>	<b>31</b> <b>New Year's Eve</b>	



**GLENDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am  
followed by Fellowship & Refreshments  
Sunday School (all ages): 10:20 am

**13550 Glendale Road  
Savage, Minnesota 55378**

**Phone: 952-894-5394  
Office Hours: M-F 8:30am -12:30pm**

**Church Email: [glendalechurch@msn.com](mailto:glendalechurch@msn.com)  
Pastor's Email: [pastortaylor\\_408@msn.com](mailto:pastortaylor_408@msn.com)  
Website: [www.glendalechurchumc.org](http://www.glendalechurchumc.org)**

### **Return Service Requested**

*Please notify us if you no longer  
wish to be on the mailing list*



### **The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem**

*May your Spirit, O Christ,  
lead us on our path,*

*May your Spirit grant us  
willingness, mercy and  
encouragement in our journey.*

*May your Spirit bring us together  
around your manger,*

*Where we may offer  
ourselves anew.*