



# Growing FAITH at home

FIRST SUNDAY  
AFTER  
CHRISTMAS

YEAR B

We praise  
God for  
Christ's birth.



Grow Ministries  
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



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## CONVERSATIONS

Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

1. Tell about when you waited a long time for something. What was it like waiting and what was it like when the waiting was over?
2. What were Simeon and Anna waiting for (Luke 2:25-38)? How did they react to seeing baby Jesus?
3. Imagine yourself in the place of Simeon and Anna. What would you say?



## BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week.  
Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

<b>S</b>	<b>Luke 2:22-40</b>	Jesus presented in the temple
<b>M</b>	<b>Isaiah 61:10-62:3</b>	Rejoice in the Lord
<b>T</b>	<b>Galatians 4:4-7</b>	Adoption as God's children
<b>W</b>	<b>Ecclesiastes 3:1-15</b>	For everything a season
<b>T</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 6:1-10</b>	Now is the time of salvation
<b>F</b>	<b>Isaiah 43:16-21</b>	The Lord is doing a new thing
<b>S</b>	<b>Psalms 148</b>	All creation praises God

## VERSE OF THE WEEK

I have seen your salvation which you  
have prepared for all people.

LUKE 2:30-31



## CREATIVE RESPONSE

Take time this New Year's Eve to reflect on the past year with family and friends. As the evening proceeds, share memories together.

Consider using the following questions:

- What were some good things that happened this past year?
- What were some challenges you faced?
- What are your hopes and concerns for the coming year?
- What have you learned from your experiences this past year and how does it connect with your faith in the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem?
- What commitments would you like to make for reading the Bible and to prayer in 2021?

Finish this time of conversation with prayer for one another, asking God to bless and care for one another, the church, and world in the coming year. End with the Lord's Prayer.



## ACTION RESPONSE

In the temple in Jerusalem, Simeon and Anna encouraged and blessed two young, first-time parents, Mary and Joseph.

Contact parents with young children in your church or community and offer to carry out a household act of service. (e.g. Help out with cleaning, ironing or childcare so they can enjoy some time out together.)



## MEALTIME PRAYER

Praise the Lord all children, women and men, for God gives us food for our bodies and Jesus as our Saviour. Amen.



## PRAYER

Lord God, thank you for Jesus, through whom we are adopted as your children. Let all you have made praise you! Amen.



## BLESSING

May the Lord make you strong and wise, and bless you with God's saving grace.