

Jesse Tree Prayers and Reflections 2021

Day One - The Creation (World) 1st December



Watch Video Clip on

Reflect

The world God made is beautiful. What special thing in the world do you think is beautiful?

Find the window

Methodist Chapel right window , Darton Road

Prayer

Creator God, thank you for the earth under our feet; thank you for the sky above our heads; thank you for the animals and plants around us. Amen.

Day Two - Adam and Eve (Apple) 2nd December



Watch the video clip

Reflect

We all make wrong choices sometimes. Have you ever wished you hadn't done something wrong?

Find the window

Hilary's, Darton Road

Prayer

Loving God, we are sorry when we do wrong things. Help us to make wise choices in our lives. Amen.

Day Three - Noah (Rainbow) 3rd December



Watch the video clip

Reflect

The rainbow is a sign of God's promise to look after his world. Have you ever made a promise? Did you keep your promise?

Find the window Darton Road

Prayer

Faithful God, you always keep your promises. Help us to keep our promises to other people too. Amen.

Day Four - Abraham (Stars) 4th December



Watch the video clip

Reflect

Abraham and Sarah believed that God loved them and tried hard to love God back. Who loves you? Do you love them back?

Find the Window 5 Acres

Prayer

Loving God, you are like the best mother anyone could have. Help us to be the best children a mother could have. Amen.

Day Five - Jacob (Ladder) 5th December



Watch the video for the day

Reflect

Jacob dreamed that he was connected to God by a ladder. What's the best dream you've ever had?

Find the window 5 Acres

Prayer

Forgiving God, in our world it is sometimes hard to feel that you are nearby. Help us to feel connected to you and to those around us. Amen.

Day Six - Joseph (Coloured Coat) 6th December



Watch the video for the day

Reflect

Joseph's brothers fall out with him but get back together in the end. Have you ever been mean to a brother or a sister or a friend? Did you make up?

Find the window Stanhope Avenue

Prayer

Father God, help us to get on well with our brothers and sisters. Make us a happy family. Amen.

Day Seven - Miriam (Bullrushes) 7th December



Watch the video for the day

Reflect

If it hadn't been for Miriam's quick thinking and braveness, her brother Moses might have died. When have you been brave to save or help someone else?

Find the window Stanhope Meadows

Prayer

God of strength, help us to see the needs of other people and make us brave to help them.
Amen.

Day Eight - Moses (Burning Bush) 8th December



Watch the video of the day

Reflect

God called Moses to the Israelites on a long journey to a place of safety and freedom. Who makes you feel safe?

Find the window Stanhope Meadows

Prayer

Liberating God, wherever we go, be with us so that we feel safe and free. Amen.

Day Nine - Ten Commandments (Tablets of Stone) 9th December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

God gave the Israelites ten rules to follow to help them get on well with each other. What rule do you think is a good one?

Find the window Spencer Croft

Prayer

Guiding God, help us to follow rules that look after us and our world. Amen

Day Ten - Ruth (Basket) 10th December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

Ruth joins a family that is not her own. Do you have a friend that you wish was part of your family?

Find the window Stanhope Avenue

Prayer

Caring God, when Naomi needed help, Ruth looked after her. Thank you for the people who look after us. Amen.

Day Eleven - Samuel (Ear) 11th December



Watch the video for the day

Reflect

Samuel was good at listening out for God's wise words. Do you know anyone who is wise?

Find the window Orchard Terrace

Prayer

Wise God, help us to listen carefully to the wisdom of other people. Amen.

Day Twelve - David (Catapult) 12th December



Watch the video for the day

Reflect

David was only small but went on to do great things for God's people, the Israelites. Have you ever felt little, but still been brave and done something big?

Find the window Orchard Terrace

Prayer

Faithful God, thank you for giving us the strength to do big things for other people. Amen.

Day Thirteen - Elijah (Fire) 13th December



Watch the video for the day

Reflect

Elijah wanted God to be strong like a storm, like an earthquake or like a great fire; but he found God in a whisper. Spend a moment being really quiet – what can you hear that you had not noticed before?

Find the window Gallery, Church Street

Prayer

Whispering God, help us to enjoy the company of people who are quiet as well as people who are loud. Amen.

Fourteen - Jonah (Fish) 14th December



Watch the video of the day

Reflect

Jonah went in the opposite direction from where God wanted him to go. Have you ever gone in the wrong direction – did you get lost, or find your way again?

Find the window Kirkfeild Close

Prayer

Directing God, help us to keep to paths that lead to good places and when we get lost, help us to find our way again. Amen.

Day Fifteen - Jesse Tree (Stump) 15th December



Watch the video of the day

Reflect

The Jesse Tree is Jesus's family tree. It identifies characters from the Old Testament who, because of their faith in God, are connected to Jesus. Do you know the names of any people in your own family tree?

Find the window St Julian's Mount

Prayer

Family God, keep us connected with you, with our family, with our friends and with our neighbours. Amen.

Day Sixteen - Zechariah (Pencil) 16th December



Watch the video of the day

Reflect

Zechariah and Elizabeth are surprised and delighted to discover they are going to have a baby. Do you know anyone who is having a baby? Are you excited?

Find the window St Julian's Way

Prayer

God of Surprises, open our eyes and ears to the little joys and delights that meet us in the world around us. Amen.

Day Seventeen - Mary (Heart) 17th December



Watch the video of the day

Reflect

An angel delivers the good news to Mary that she is to have a baby too. What good news have you ever told anyone?

Find the window St Julian's Way

Prayer

God of New Life, help us to discover good news in each and every day. Amen.

Day Eighteen - John the Baptist (Dove) 18th December



Watch the video of the day

Reflect

Elizabeth's baby is named John and becomes a famous person for baptising people with water in the River Jordan. Have you ever seen someone get baptised?

Find the window St Julian's Way

Prayer

Spirit of God, you name us and know us through and through. Thank you for your love. Amen.

Day Nineteen - Joseph (Hammer) 19th December



Watch the video of the day

Reflect

Joseph is a carpenter who made chairs and tables, cupboards and beds. What's the best thing you have ever made?

Find the window Alexandra Gardens

Prayer

Generous God, thank you for giving us different skills and abilities. Help us to appreciate each other's gifts. Amen.

Day Twenty - Journey to Bethlehem (Donkey) 20th December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

Jesus was born in a special town called Bethlehem. Do you know what town you were born in?

Find the window Hebdons, Tivy Dale

Prayer

Travelling God, thank you for journeying with us where ever we go. Amen.

Day Twenty-one - Shepherds (Sheep) 21st December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

The shepherds used to sleep under the stars at night. Have you ever looked up at the stars and been amazed by how many there are?

Find the window Comrades Club , Malkin Row

Prayer

Welcoming God, the shepherds were the first to hear about Jesus being born. Thank you for sending Jesus to ordinary people everywhere. Amen.

Day Twenty two - Birth (Manger) 22nd December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

After Mary gave birth to Jesus, she laid him in a manger in the stable. Can you guess what a manger was normally used for?

Find the window Hill Top

Prayer

God of all joy, with Mary and Joseph we delight to remember this Christmas that Jesus was born into the world. Amen.

Day Twenty three - Wise Men (Camel) 23rd December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

The wise men bring gifts to the baby Jesus. What's the best Christmas gift you've ever given to anyone?

Find the window Post Office

Prayer

Giving God, thankyou for the gift of your son, Jesus. Amen.

Day Twenty Four - Flight to Egypt (Angel) 24th December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

An angel warned Joseph not to go home because King Herod wanted to kill the baby Jesus. Can you imagine what it would be like to have no home?

Find the window Methodist Chapel , Darton Road

Prayer

Gentle God, look after all those people in our world who have no home this Christmas. Amen.

Day Twenty five - Brightest Star (Star of David) 25th December



Watch the video for today

Reflect

Jesus is the star at the top of the Jesse tree, a light for the world. Do you have a star at the top of your Christmas tree at home? Or an angel?

Find the Star Methodist Church, Darton Road

Prayer

Light of the world, in Jesus you show us that love is the secret at the heart of the world. Let love be our light, today and always. Amen.