

# With



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*God is  
with us*

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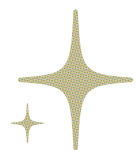
It can be a challenge to approach the Christmas season with intentionality. Often, we feel more distant from God at Christmas than any other time of the year!

Rarely are we engaged in any “bad” things, but isn’t it interesting how often the “good” aspects of this season distract us from experiencing the rest, peace, and joy Jesus offers?

Hopefully this booklet helps you experience that sort of life these next few weeks.

- ✦ *You will see that these pages are broken down into five sections—one for each weekend of our Christmas series, and an extra entry for Christmas Eve/Day.*
- ✦ *Bring the booklet with you to weekend services and take notes on the sermons.* The pastors will then give us an application point that relates to the “Mid-Week Invitation” of Silence, Prayer, and Action.
- ✦ *The “Mid-Week Invitation” can then be engaged at any time during the week following the message.* You can complete it in one sitting in about 15 minutes, either individually or as part of a group.
- ✦ *All the exercises in this booklet were crafted with kids in mind, as well.* If you do have young ones in your home, definitely invite them into the conversations and activities. It would be great for them to see how adults practice (and include children in) Silence, Prayer, and Action. Feel free to shorten the times listed for any of the exercises, depending on the ages of those taking part.

*God is with us this Christmas. We can be with him, too.*  
Amen.



*Week One*

SAT/SUN :: DEC 7/8



*Sermon Notes + Journaling:*



# *God has drawn near to me. Who is God calling me to draw near to during this season?*

## ***Silence:***

Spend 5 minutes in silence with God resting in his presence. Feel free to set a timer. To start your time, pray the phrase, *“God, you love the world. I want to love it, too.”*

## ***Prayer:***

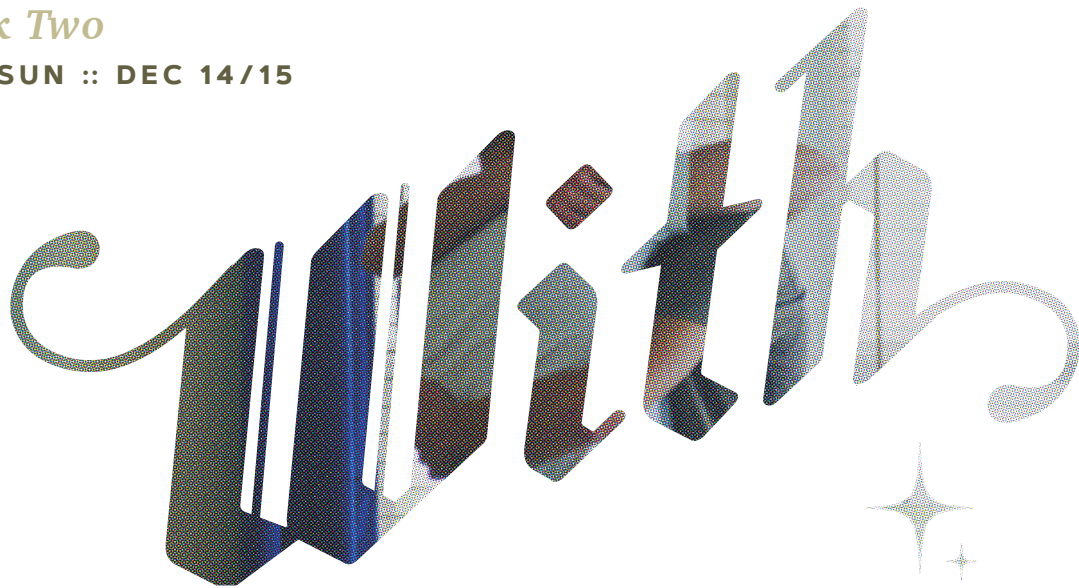
Spend 5 minutes in breathing prayer with God to remind you that he is your breath of life. As you breathe in, say the phrase, *“As you are with me, God...”* And as you breathe out, say the phrase, *“I can be with others.”* Whether you speak this out loud or in your head is up to you.

## ***Action:***

Spend 5 minutes writing the names of anyone the Spirit brings to mind who would particularly benefit from experiencing the love of God through you this week. At the end of the 5 minutes, choose a single name and commit to connecting with them this week. Write out how you plan to be with them in the space below, then reach out to set up the interaction this week before you forget or your calendar fills up.

*Week Two*

**SAT/SUN :: DEC 14/15**



*Sermon Notes + Journaling:*



# *Sometimes I struggle to believe God will keep his promises. **How can I trust him to follow through?***

## ***Silence:***

Spend 5 minutes in silence with God resting in his presence. Feel free to set a timer. To start your time, pray the phrase, *“God, thank you for all the ways you’ve cared for me. I trust you desire good for me.”*

## ***Prayer:***

Spend 5 minutes in breathing prayer with God to remind you that he is your breath of life. As you breathe in, say the phrase, *“You give good gifts, God...”* And as you breathe out, say the phrase, *“I can count on all of your promises.”* Whether you speak this out loud or in your head is up to you.

## ***Action:***

Spend 5 minutes below writing down a handful of the most recent ways God has answered prayer or showed himself faithful to you. Then, list the current/future scenario that is causing you the most anxiety or frustration lately. At the end of the 5 minutes, commit to recalling the examples of faithfulness each time your specific instance of anxiety or frustration materializes this week.

*Week Three*

SAT/SUN :: DEC 21/22



*Sermon Notes + Journaling:*



# *Sometimes I feel like God is absent in hard times. How can I remember that he is always present?*

## ***Silence:***

Spend 5 minutes in silence with God resting in his presence. Feel free to set a timer. To start your time, pray the phrase, *“God, you are everywhere. I trust I am in your presence.”*

## ***Prayer:***

Spend 5 minutes in breathing prayer with God to remind you that he is your breath of life. As you breathe in, say the phrase, *“You suffered for me, God...”* And as you breathe out, say the phrase, *“I can trust you in my suffering.”* Whether you speak this out loud or in your head is up to you.

## ***Action:***

Spend 5 minutes below writing down recent examples of when you have felt alone in a trial or moment of doubt. At the end of the 5 minutes, pick at least one example and list the name of a person who knew you were going through that difficult time. This week, ask that person to share any ways they saw God at work in you during the suffering.

*Christmas Eve*

TUES :: DEC 24



*Sermon Notes + Journaling:*





*God went to great lengths to be with me. What does it mean to me to be loved that much?*

***Silence:***

Spend 5 minutes in silence with God resting in his presence. Feel free to set a timer. To start your time, pray the phrase, *“God, thank you for giving yourself for me. I am grateful for your love.”*

***Prayer:***

Spend 5 minutes in breathing prayer with God to remind you that he is your breath of life. As you breathe in, say the phrase, *“Thank you for Christmas, God...”* And as you breathe out, say the phrase, *“I love being part of your family.”* Whether you speak this out loud or in your head is up to you.

***Action:***

Have a wonderful Christmas!



*Week Four*

SAT/SUN :: DEC 28/29



*Sermon Notes + Journaling:*



# *Jesus has empowered his people with his Spirit. How can I walk in step with the Spirit more often?*

## ***Silence:***

Spend 5 minutes in silence with God resting in his presence. Feel free to set a timer. To start your time, pray the phrase, *“God, you are truth. I will follow your lead.”*

## ***Prayer:***

Spend 5 minutes in breathing prayer with God to remind you that he is your breath of life. As you breathe in, say the phrase, *“You are my helper, God...”* And as you breathe out, say the phrase, *“I will listen and obey.”* Whether you speak this out loud or in your head is up to you.

## ***Action:***

Spend 5 minutes asking the Spirit to bring to mind times in the last year where you listened to him well, and also where you ignored his direction. Make sure you write down at least one example of each below. As a way to close out 2024 and begin 2025 on the right foot, connect with someone who cares for you to celebrate where you were obedient and confess where you were disobedient.

# Christmas Events



lincolnberean.org/christmas

(Scan this to learn more  
and register for events)

OUTREACH

**NOV 2 –  
DEC 1**

## Gifts of Love (City Impact)

Grab a gift tag, donate a gift (unwrapped) and make this holiday season brighter for other Lincoln families.

COLLEGE

**DEC 6**

7:00PM • YOUTH COMP.

## Glow Dodgeball (Christmas Party)

Create a team of four, dress in your best festive glow-in-the-dark outfit, and come ready to compete!

WOMEN

**DEC 7**

9:00AM • D300

## “A Thrill of Hope” Winter Event

An intentional time at the start of this Christmas season to settle your heart on the God of all hope! Come with women from your Life Group, bring a friend, or plan to make new connections. *(Brunch included, register online)*

**DEC 7/8**

SAT 7PM • SUN 9 + 10:45AM

## Weekend Services: Week 1

CHOIR CONCERT

**DEC 8**

6:30PM • MAIN AUD

## An Evening In December

Enjoy a festive and worshipful evening of beautiful Christmas music presented by Lincoln Berean choirs and ensembles.

CONCERT

**DEC 12**

7:00AM • MAIN AUD

## Chris Tomlin - A Night of Christmas Worship

Come experience a night of Christmas praise to bring in the joyful season this December! *(Purchase tickets online)*

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KIDS  
**DEC 13**  
5:30PM • YOUTH COMP.

**4th & 5th Grade Christmas Pajama Party**  
Celebrate Christmas with friends, games, pizza, a movie, and more! Wear PJs and bring a blanket, pillow, or stuffy for the movie! *(Register online)*

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**DEC 14/15**  
SAT 7PM • SUN 9 + 10:45AM

## Weekend Services: Week 2

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CARE  
**DEC 15**  
4:00PM • CHAPEL

**Blue Christmas**  
The holidays can be difficult for many reasons. If you are looking for comfort and hope, please join us for a reflective time of worship, acknowledging our losses as well as the healing and hope we find in the birth of Jesus.

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Mid-Week *With*  
**DEC 19**  
6:30PM • CHAPEL

This simple worship gathering is intended to encourage a rested heart and mind! Featuring scripture readings, sparsely arranged carols, opportunities for silence and prayer, and a brief reflective thought, we hope you'll tangibly experience God's presence.

*No childcare, but all ages are welcome. Stick around for a few minutes afterward to enjoy refreshments alongside your faith family.*

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**DEC 21/22**  
SAT 7PM • SUN 9 + 10:45AM

## Weekend Services: Week 3

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*Christmas Eve*  
**DEC 24**  
TUES 2PM • 4PM • 6PM

This Christmas Eve, we're reminded that God went to his greatest lengths to be with us by sending Jesus to walk with us on earth. What does it mean for us to be loved that much? Come learn and celebrate together!

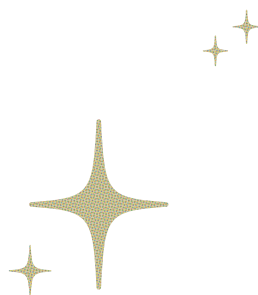
- Live music and videos begin 20 minutes prior to each service—come early to enjoy!
- Childcare available in all services: nursery - 3yrs
- ASL interpreter present at 2pm service

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**DEC 28/29**  
SAT 7PM • SUN 9 + 10:45AM

**Weekend Services: Week 4**  
*NOTE: There is no Kids programming for these services*

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[lincolnberean.org/christmas](http://lincolnberean.org/christmas)

LINCOLN BEREAN CHURCH // 6400 S. 70<sup>TH</sup> ST. // LINCOLN, NE