

## Lesson Name: The Holy Family

### Opening Prayer:

While lighting the service candle.

The Light and Peace of Jesus Christ is with us. *Thanks be to God.*

### Scripture Lesson:

Luke 2:4-5-- Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

### Story:

Spread out the felt underlayment and place the card on it.

This Sunday is the time of the Holy Family. Do you see Bethlehem on the card, and the road? The Holy Family is on the way to Bethlehem and we are going with them.

Place the figures on the card as you announce them.

Here is the Mother Mary.

Here is the Father Joseph.

Here is the Donkey.

Mary was about to have a baby. It is very hard to walk when you are about to have a baby. Sometimes she could not take another step. Then she rode on the donkey. It is also hard to ride on a donkey when you are about to have a baby. When she couldn't ride another step, she got down and walked. She rode and she walked. They must have been the last people coming up the road to Bethlehem that night.

Light one Candle.

Here is the light of the Mother and the Father Joseph as they make their way to Bethlehem.

Light the other candles as appropriate for this week.

Advent I – This is the candle of the prophets.

Advent II – This is the candle of the Holy Family.

Advent III – This is the candle of the Shepherds. (rose candle)

Advent IV – This is the candle of the Wise Men.

After lighting the candles take a moment to enjoy them.

Let's enjoy the light.

Watch. Do you see how the light of the mother Mary and the father Joseph is in just one place? I am going to change the light so that it can be in every place.

Blow out the candles.

Do you see how the light is not gone? It is changed. It is not in one place. Now it is spreading out, getting thinner and thinner, to fill up the whole room. The room is filling up with the light of the prophets and with the light of the mother Mary and the father Joseph. Anywhere you go in this room you can come close to them today.

**Hymn:** #102 "Once in Royal David's City"

**Lord's Prayer:**

The Lord Be with You. *And also with you.* Let us pray.

**Our Father**, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Closing Prayer:** **Dear God**, as we travel our life journey, we don't always know what will happen next. Help us to trust you. Thank you for the family you have given us. Please show us how to help and care for each other. Show us your way of love. Amen.