

DECEMBER 22 TO DECEMBER 28

Joy

Who helped me reach the end of a wait this year?

| Joy is hope fulfilled.

This week adds the fourth and last layer. Joy is what happens when the walking finally gets somewhere, and joy like that is meant to be shared.

The week in one breath

December 22 to 24, you receive. Each day ends with an ornament: gold or yellow for each other person at home, red for someone outside it, white for what came from beyond anyone's grip.

December 25, you celebrate. It's Christmas. The fourth candle is lit from the third, and everyone reads the gold ornaments with their own name on them.

December 26 to 28, you give: time, then resources, then words.

Three pages this week: the ornaments you write, the celebration and your Plan, and what you gave.

Ornaments I Wrote

Write each ornament on paper first, the way the Guide shows, then jot it here in a few words. The gold ones hang on the tree, writing to the wall, until the Opening on December 25. After that, they belong to the people they name.

December 22 • Core • gold or yellow

Who in this house helped carry me to the end of a long wait this year?

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

Kids said ("What's something you waited a long time for this year? How did you feel when it finally happened?")

December 23 • Community • red

Who outside this house celebrated with me this year?

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

To _____ I thanked them for _____

Kids said ("Why do you think the travelers cheered for Pilgrim? Who cheers for you when something good happens?")

December 24 • Cosmos • white

What good news reached me this year from beyond anyone's grip?

To _____ I thanked it for _____

To _____ I thanked it for _____

Kids said ("If you had been one of the shepherds, who would you have run to tell first?")

Getting ready for December 25

- ☐ Set out the first three candles, a fourth for Joy, and the lighter.
 - ☐ Pick one of the two Christmas readings in the Guide's Day 4 (page 204) and mark it.
 - ☐ Check that everyone's gold ornaments from December 22 are on the tree.
 - ☐ If you made the Christmas agreement, keep those gifts together. They're opened after the gold ornaments.
- If something isn't ready, Christmas still works.