

# CHRISTMAS WEEK

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honour Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

*Isaiah 9:1-2*



## ACTIVITY: We Will Rejoice

Sing Happy Birthday in as many languages as you can. Celebrate with joy (and cake!). Listen to Handel's version of happy birthday for Jesus 'for unto us' – play it loud! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bR0cEOTpYSk> from 26:21- 30:04  
Potentially different family members could jump up on different words. Each family member could select a word/phrase – wonderful, counsellor, mighty God, everlasting Father, for unto us, a child is born – and when the choir sings that they could jump up and dance, mime or sing with the choir.

## READ

Isaiah 9:2-7

## DISCUSS

In our celebration we experience something of the joy of God and of the whole world (even though we didn't know it!) at the arrival of Jesus. This gift of God is truly the most precious gift we could receive. What would boundless joy be like?

Are there any words we don't know in the Isaiah passage? Discuss what they mean together. Talk about why those things are special or important.

## PRAY

***Jesus, you are wonderful. Thank you for coming to love us and bring us to friendship with God.***