Held

Advent devotions 2026

Timothy Lutheran Church · St. Louis

W E L C O M E

How to use this devotional

Each day of Advent has a two-page spread. On the left you'll find a reading and reflection. On the right, a piece of art and a prayer. Read slowly. Pray honestly. Come back tomorrow.

Families: read the reflection aloud at dinner and let each person add one name to the prayer.

Midweek Advent services

Wednesday, December 2

Wednesday, December 9

Wednesday, December 16

Soup supper at 5:30 pm, worship at 6:30 pm.

Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24, 4 and 10 pm.

W E E K O N E

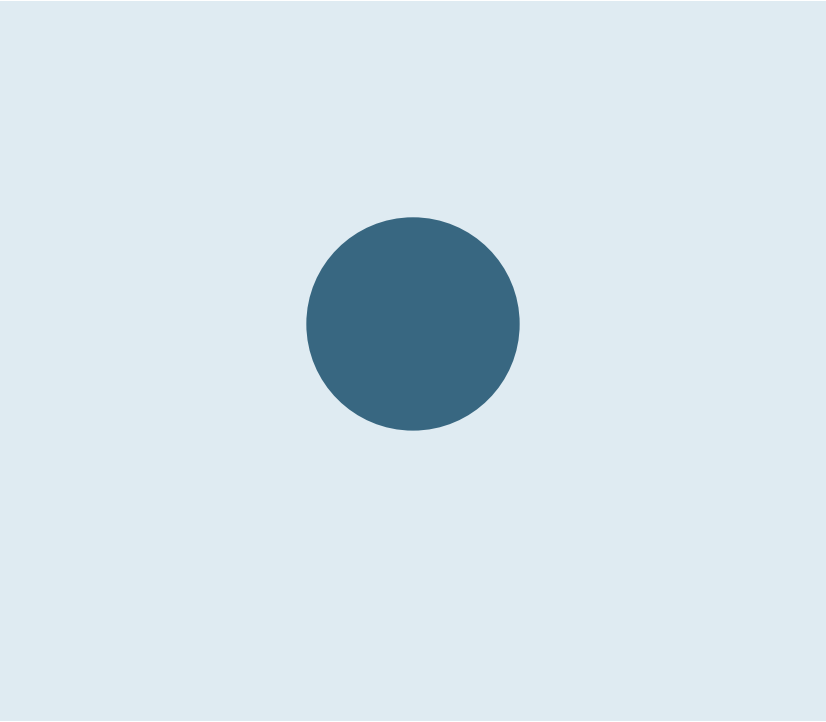
Sunday, November 29

The God who remembers

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 1 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K O N E

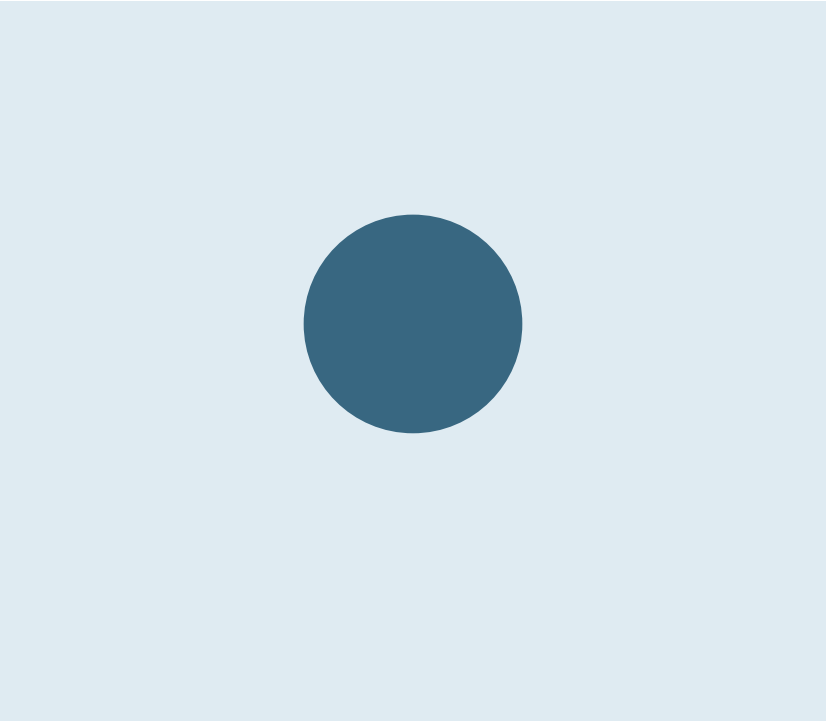
Monday, November 30

A name on his palms

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 2 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K O N E

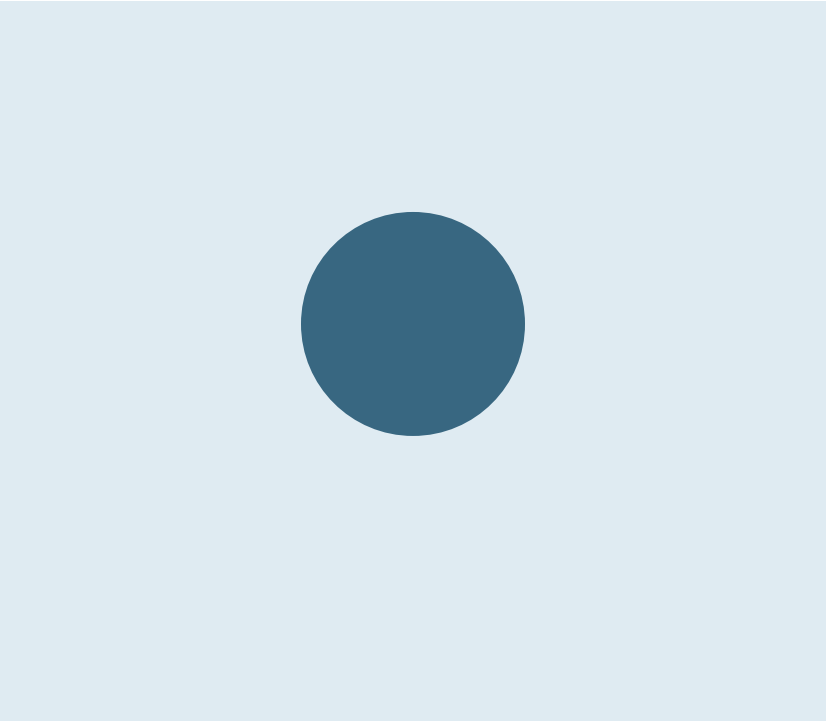
Tuesday, December 1

Not forgotten

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 3 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K O N E

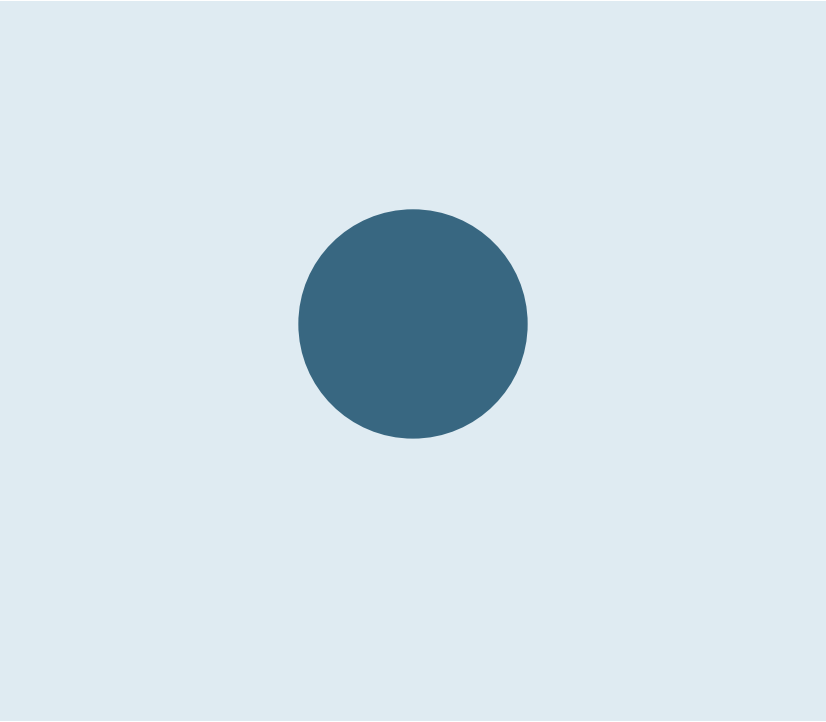
Wednesday, December 2

Seed in winter ground

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 4 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K O N E

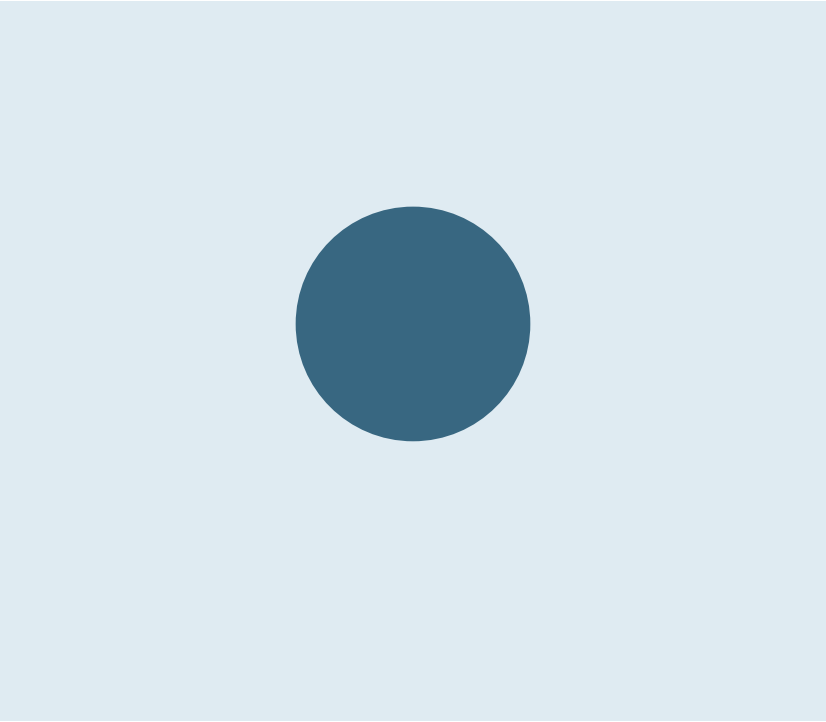
Thursday, December 3

The long memory of mercy

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 5 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

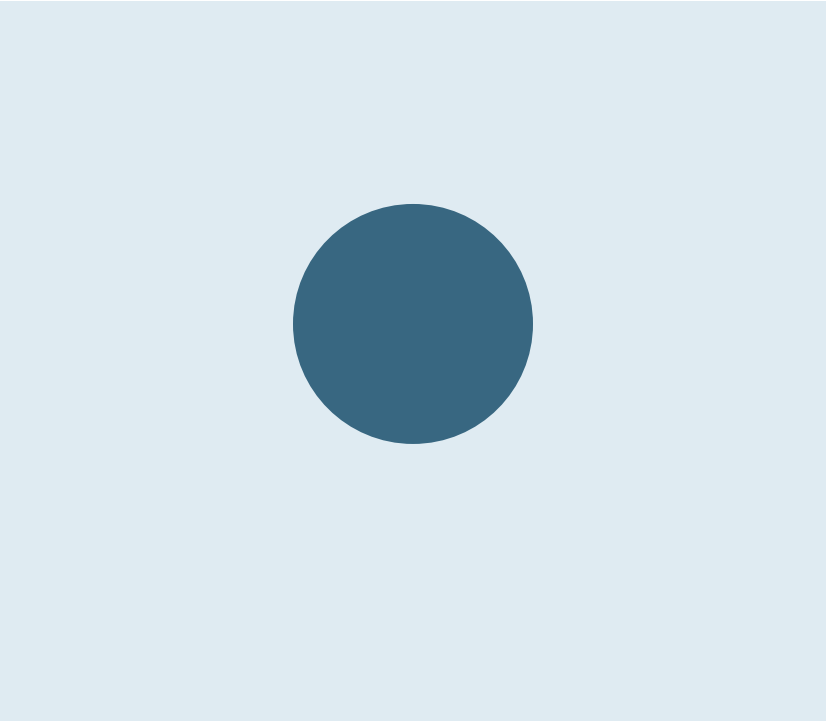
Friday, December 4

Rachel weeping

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 6 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K O N E

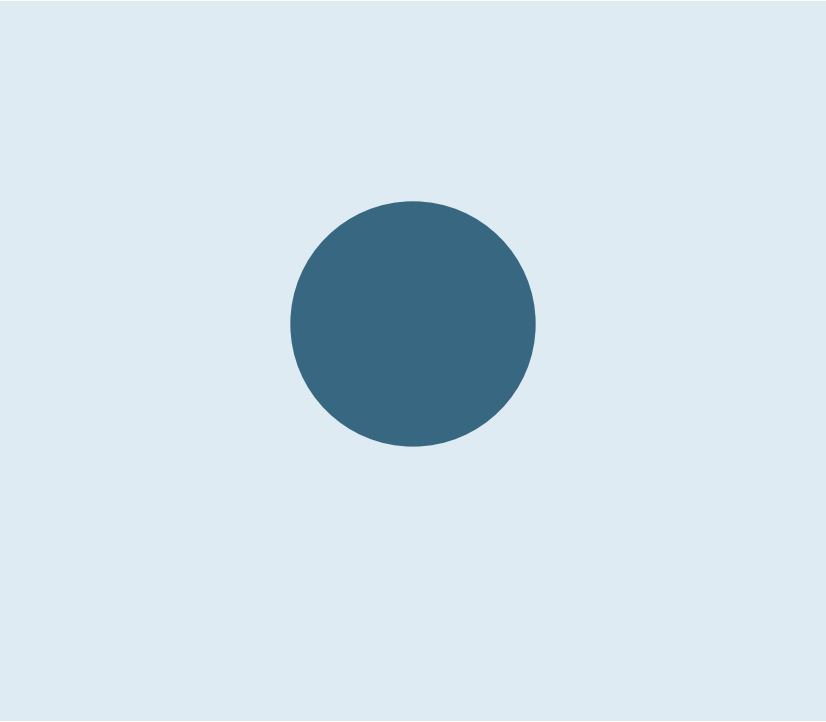
Saturday, December 5

Remember me

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 7 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T W O

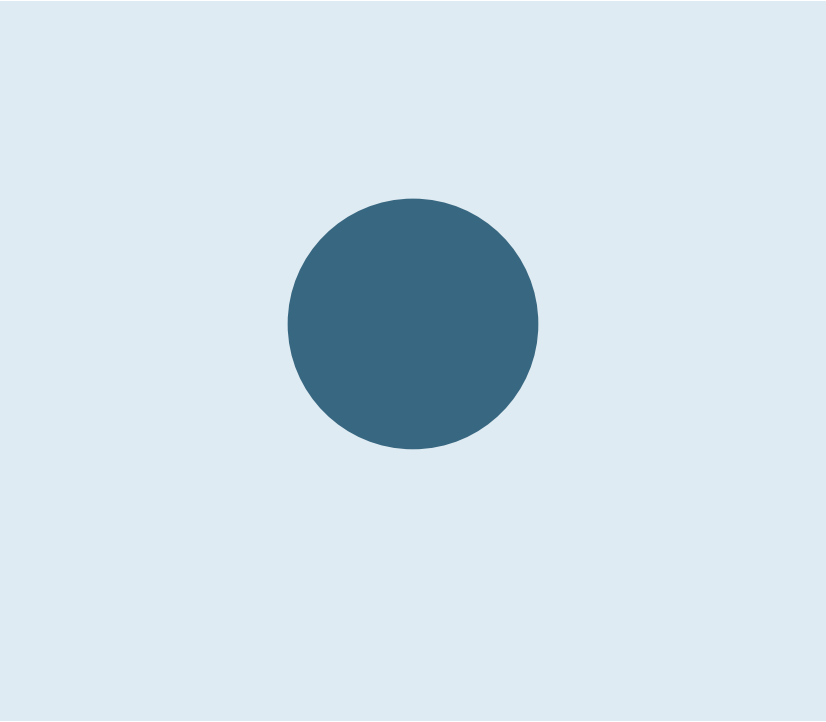
Sunday, December 6

Lifted from the pit

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 8 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T W O

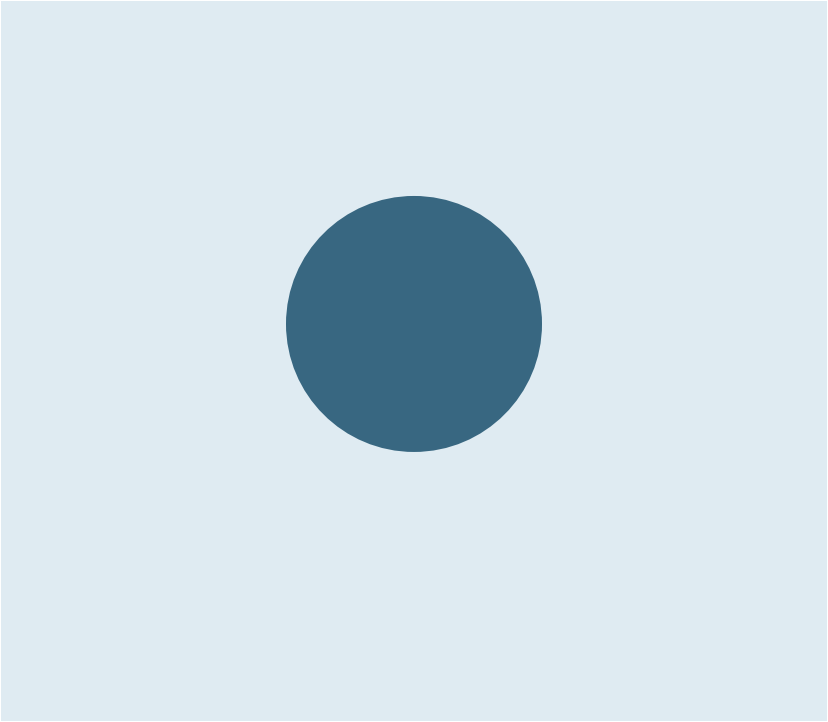
Monday, December 7

Every valley

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 9 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T W O

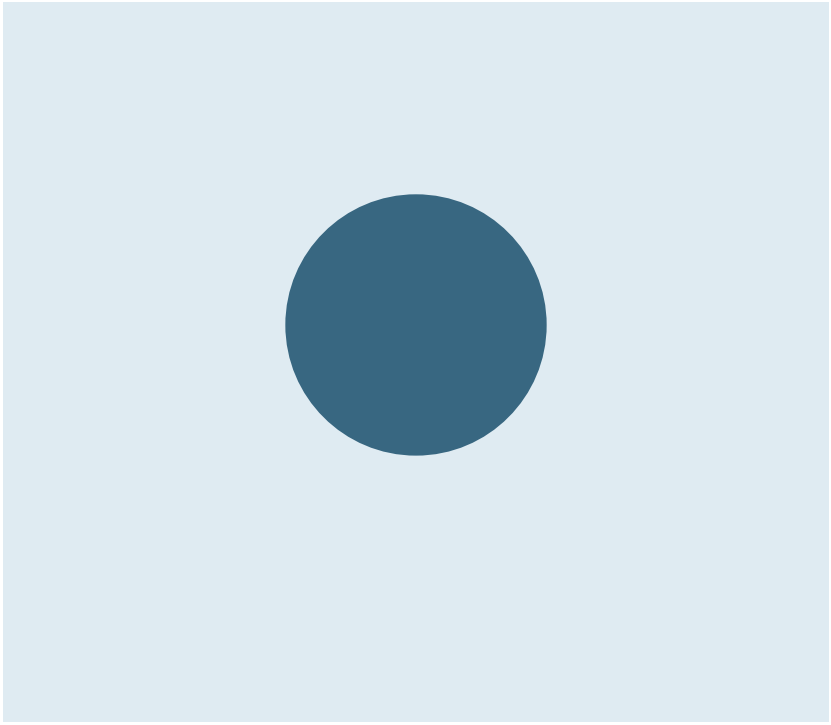
Tuesday, December 8

Eagles' wings

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 10 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T W O

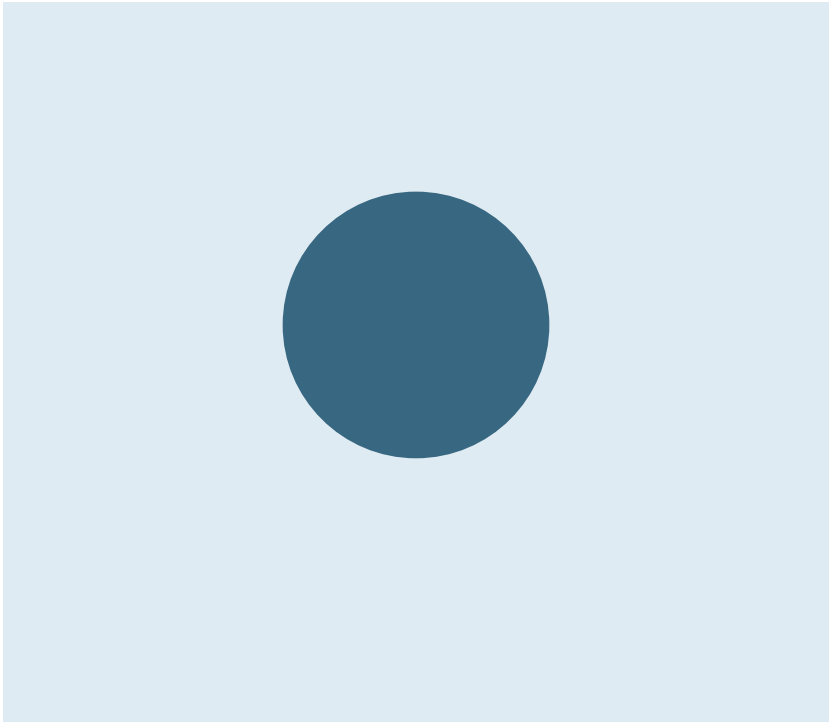
Wednesday, December 9

The lifter of my head

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 11 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T W O

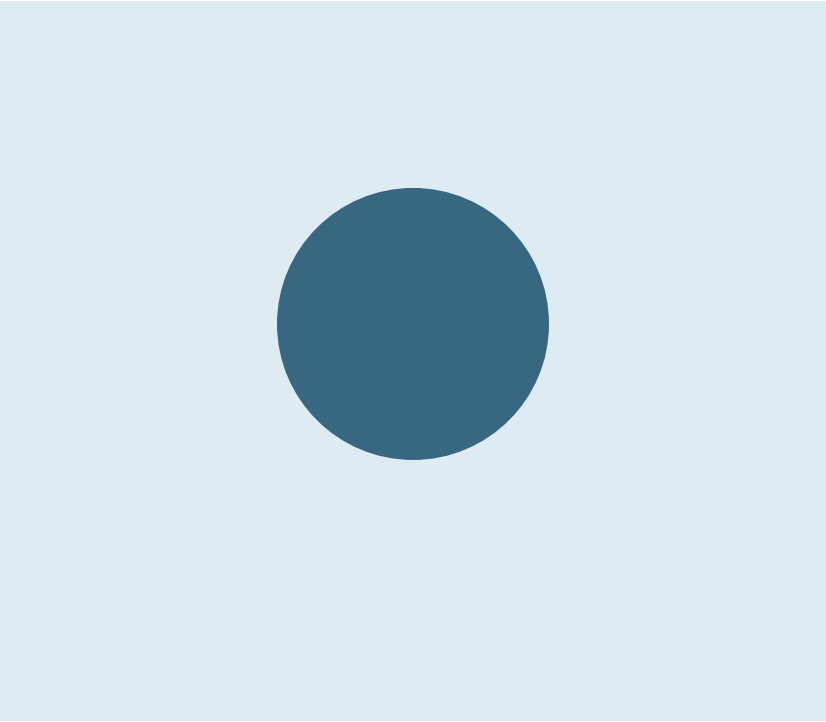
Thursday, December 10

Mary's song

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 12 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T W O

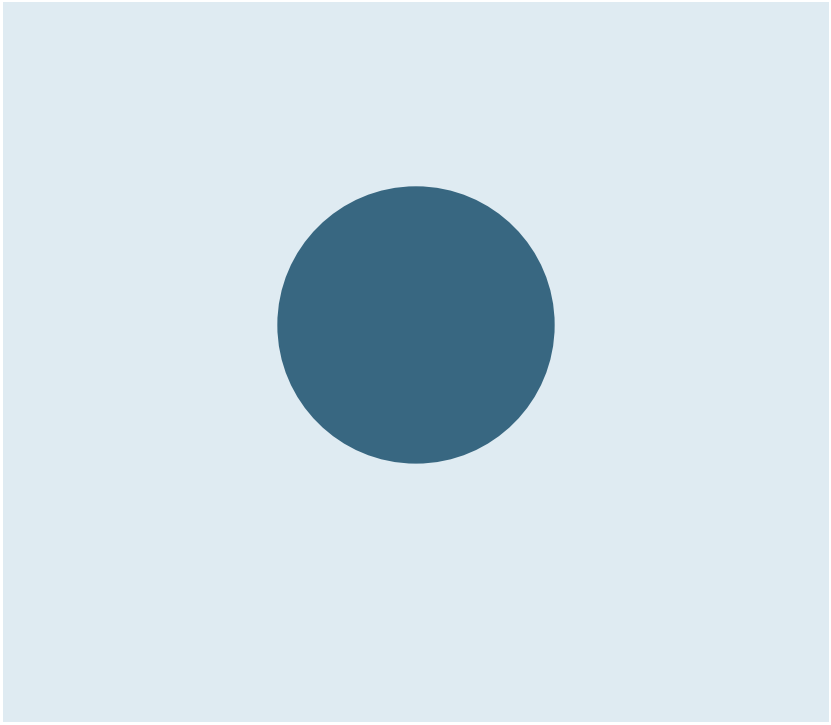
Friday, December 11

Raised up

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 13 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T W O

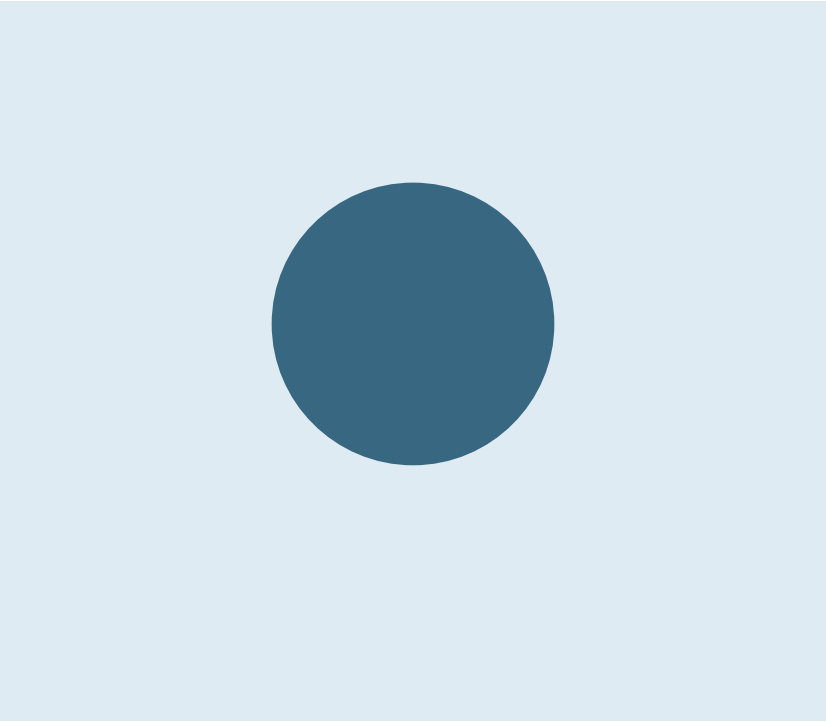
Saturday, December 12

The low places

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 14 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T H R E E

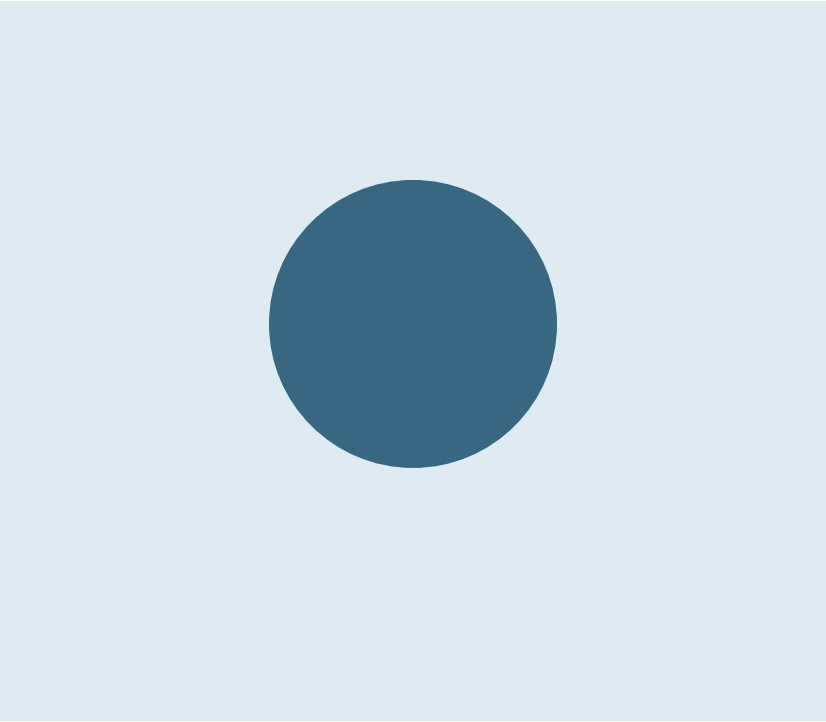
Sunday, December 13

Under his wings

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 15 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T H R E E

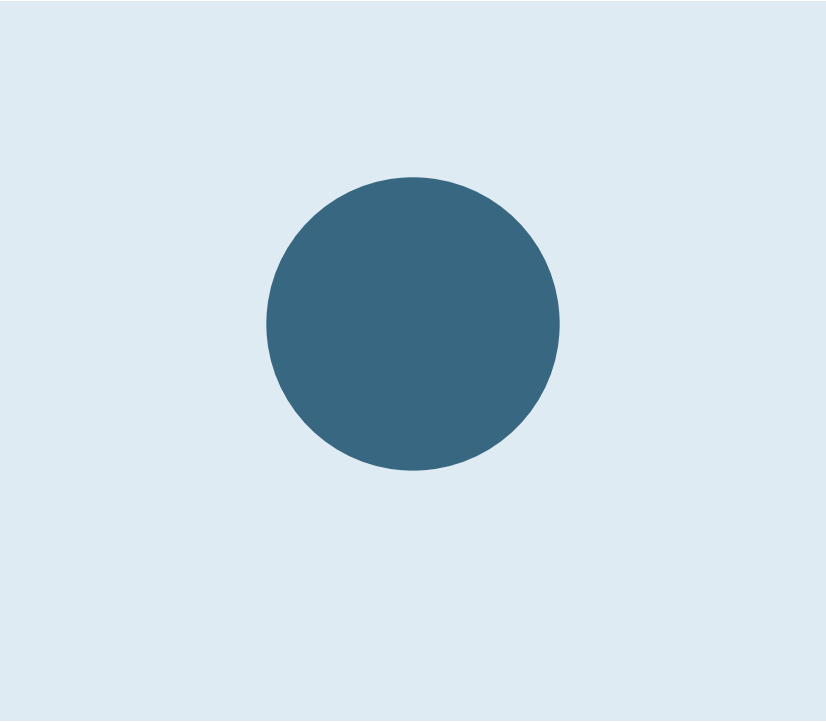
Monday, December 14

A cloak of righteousness

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 16 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T H R E E

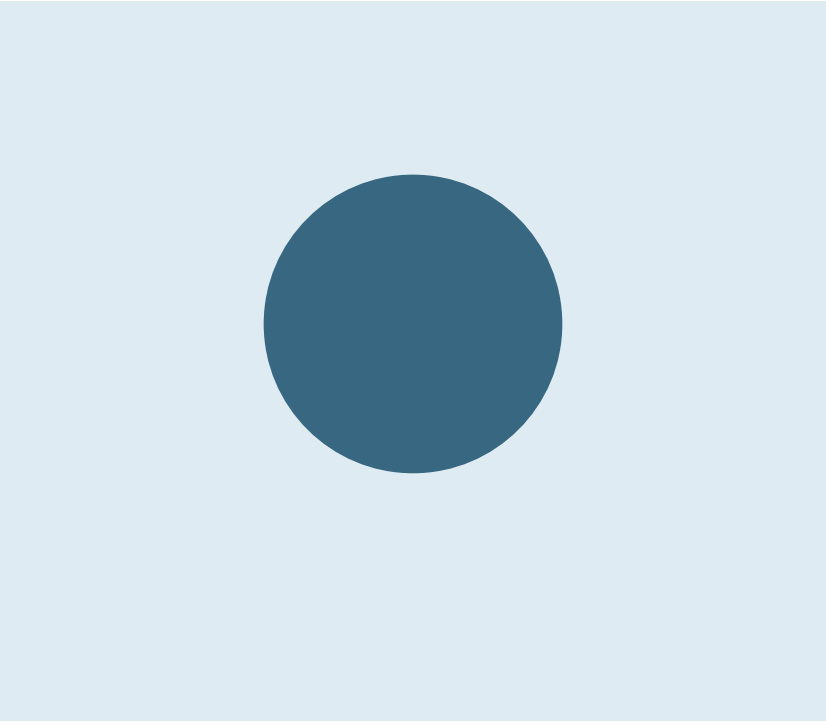
Tuesday, December 15

Shelter in the storm

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 17 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T H R E E

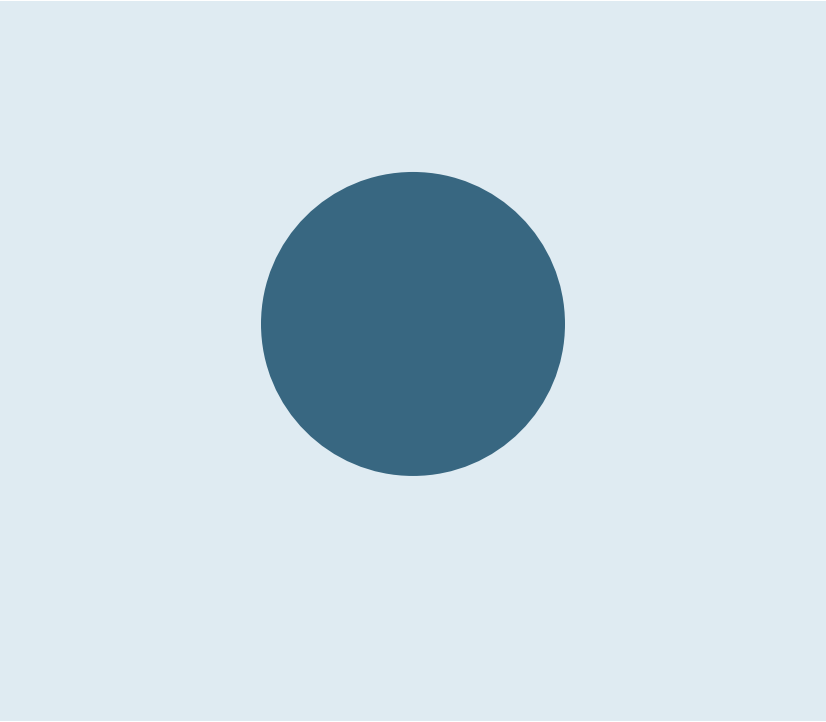
Wednesday, December 16

Overshadowed

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 18 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T H R E E

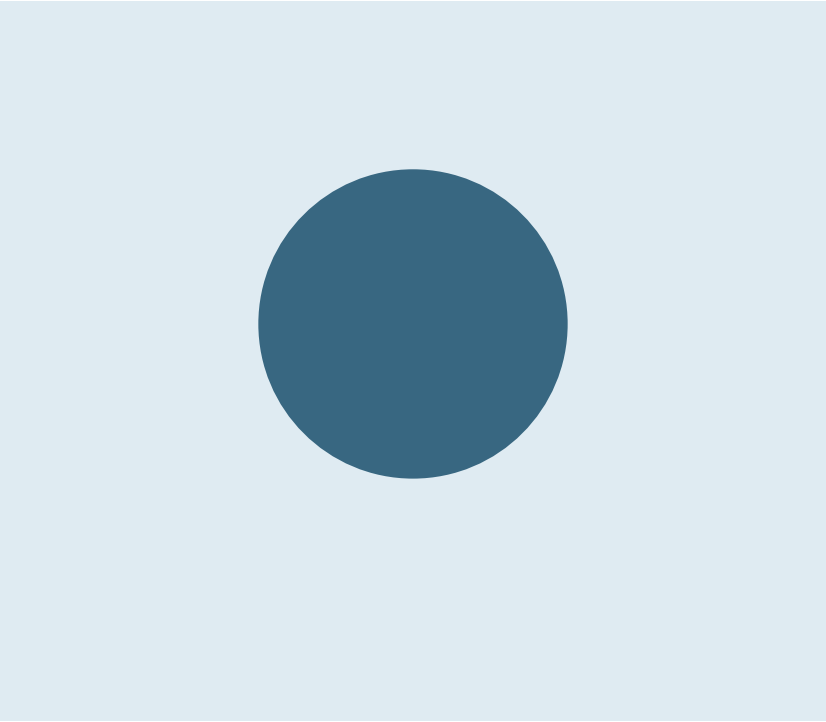
Thursday, December 17

The cloud by day

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 19 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T H R E E

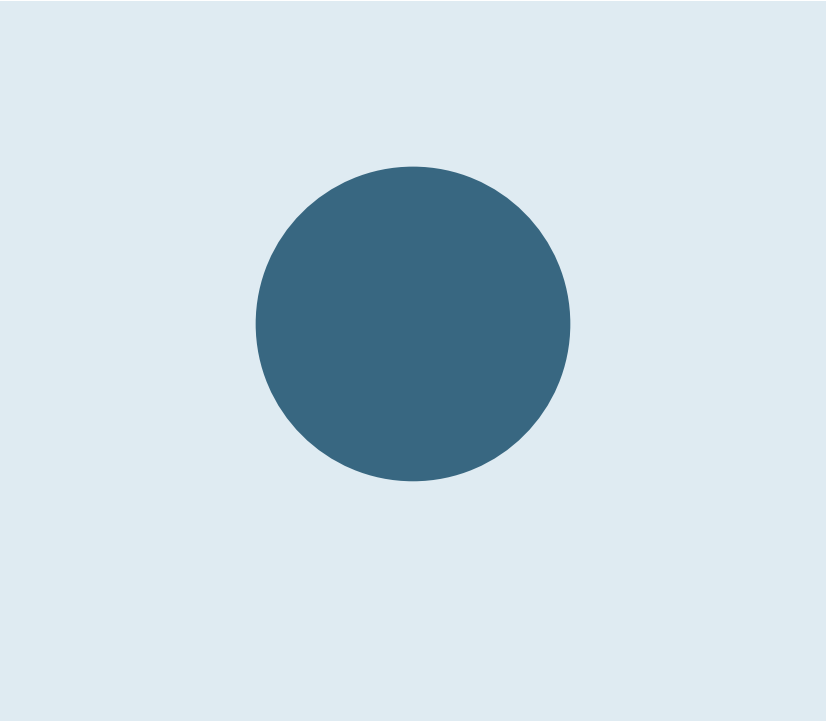
Friday, December 18

Clothed

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 20 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K T H R E E

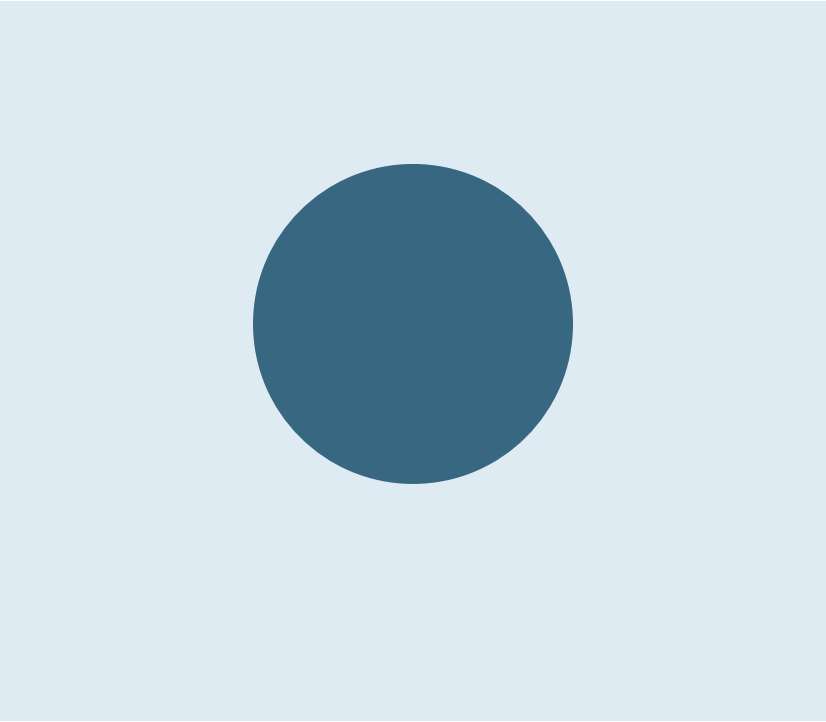
Saturday, December 19

Shepherd's arms

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 21 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K F O U R

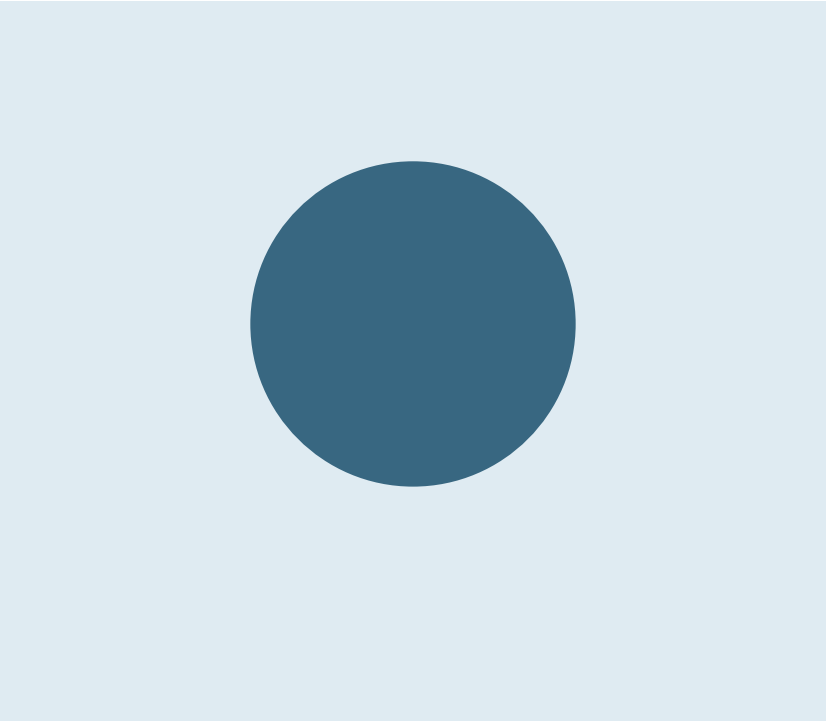
Sunday, December 20

Carried from the womb

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 22 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K F O U R

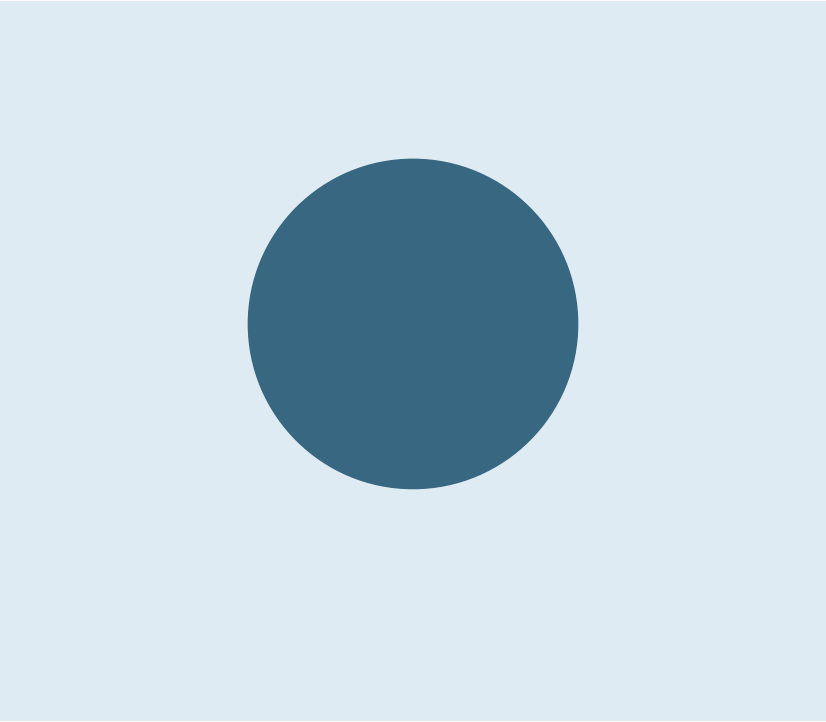
Monday, December 21

On his shoulders

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 23 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K F O U R

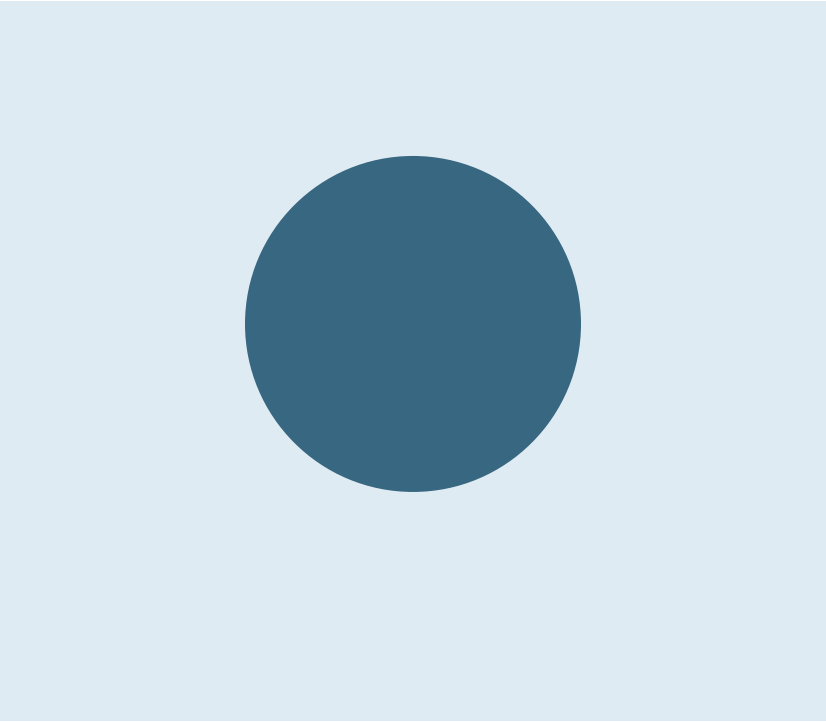
Tuesday, December 22

All the way home

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 24 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K F O U R

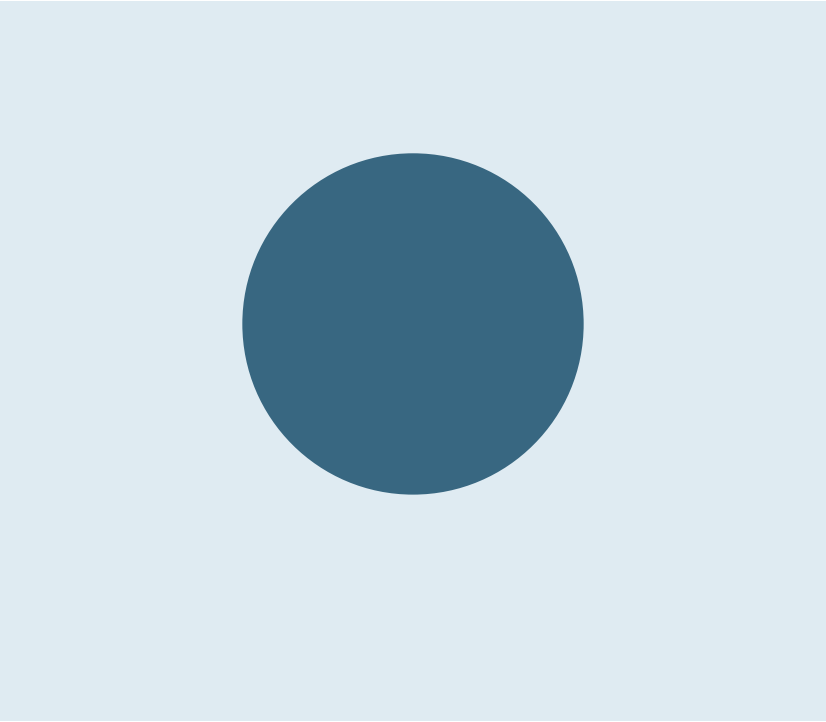
Wednesday, December 23

Borne along

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 25 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

W E E K F O U R

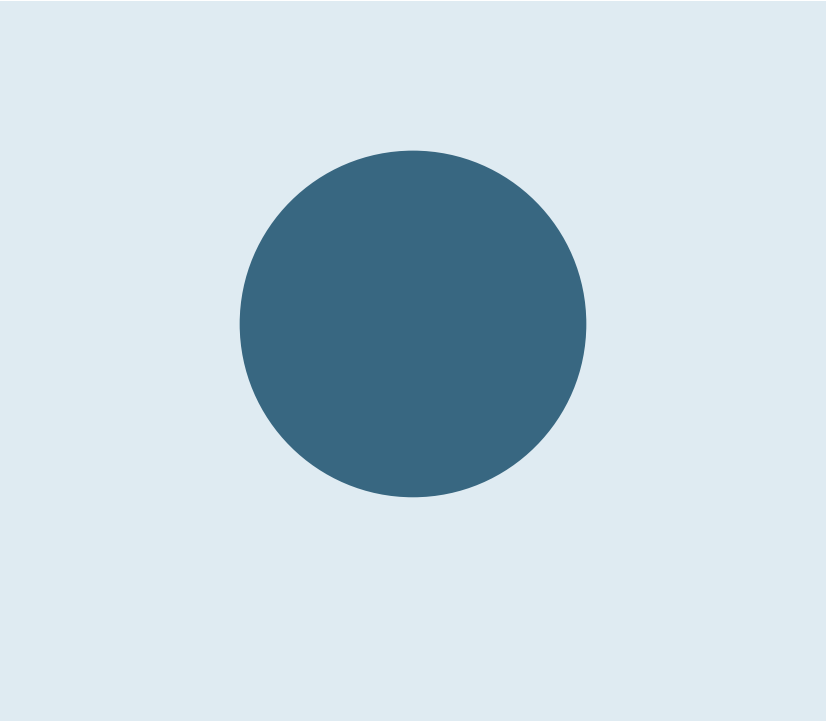
Thursday, December 24

Silent night, holy ground

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 26 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

C H R I S T M A S D A Y

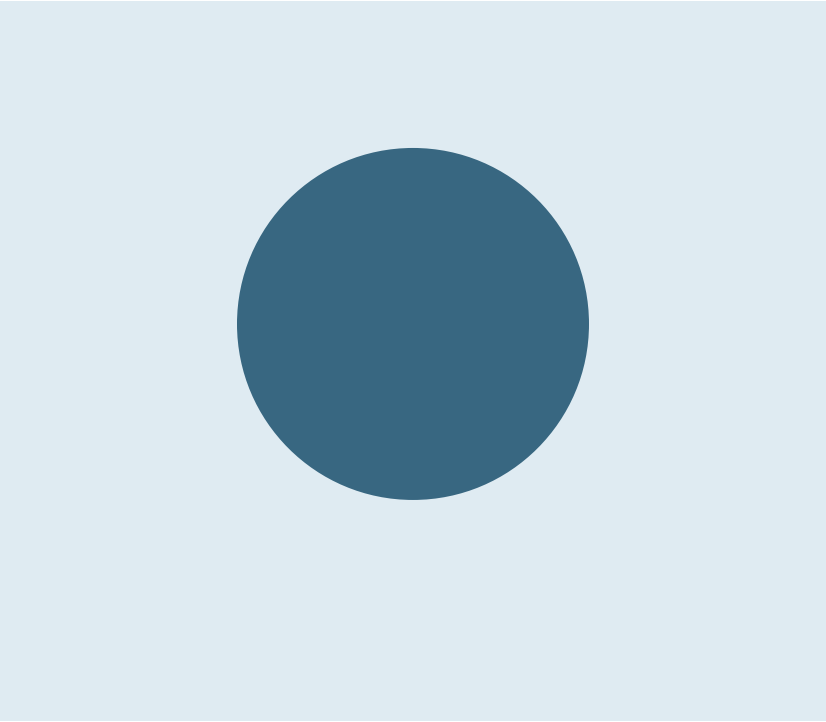
Friday, December 25

The Word became flesh

Read: Isaiah 49:14–16

Zion said, “The Lord has forsaken me.” But the God who carved your name on his hands has not misplaced you. This is day 27 of the stand-in booklet; the real reflection will replace this text.

Ask: Where do you feel forgotten this week? Where has God already been remembering you?



Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came near when we could not climb to you.
Hold us today as you held Mary and Joseph,
and keep us in your mercy. Amen.

Prayer list

About the art

The images in this booklet were made by members of Timothy.
(Stand-in text.)

Timothy Lutheran Church
timothystl.org